

# Overview of CBSA Programs to Enhance Canada's Borders

*Presented by  
Tamara Allard  
Canada Border Services Agency  
June, 2006*

# Outline

- ❖ Overview of Canada Border Services Agency
- ❖ The Business of Managing the Border
- ❖ Working With the United States
- ❖ Secure Flow of Goods – Commercial Program Highlights

# Canada Border Services Agency

- ❖ Part of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada (PSEPC) portfolio created in December 2003
- ❖ Provides integrated border management, bringing together functions previously spread among 3 organizations (Canada Customs, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and Canadian Food Inspection Agency)

# Canada Border Services Agency

- ❖ Administers about 90 Acts & Regulations on behalf of other departments and agencies
- ❖ Works with the United States, continuing to build on successes of the Smart Border Action Plan
- ❖ Approximately 11,500 employees serving 200,000 commercial importers and exporters and approximately 95 million travellers each year
- ❖ Operates at over 1,300 points of service across Canada and 39 locations abroad

# The Business of Managing the Border

- ❖ Ensure that all travellers coming into Canada are admissible and comply with Canadian laws and regulations
- ❖ Process all commercial shipments at ports of entry to ensure Canadian laws and regulations are adhered to, that no illegal goods enter or exit the country, and that related trade statistics are accurate
- ❖ Ensure that all applicable duties and taxes are paid
- ❖ Ensure food safety, and plant and animal health at the border, by identifying and interdicting high-risk, regulated commodities at air, land, and seaports
- ❖ Detain migrants who may cause a threat to Canada
- ❖ Remove persons who have been determined inadmissible to Canada

# The Business of Managing the Border

- ❖ Approximately 250,000 travellers processed into Canada daily
- ❖ Over 200,000 commercial importers and exporters served
- ❖ On average, 18,000 trucks enter Canada daily from U.S.
- ❖ In 2003, Canadian business imported \$335 billion, and exported \$380 billion in trade
- ❖ Over 80% of our exports are to U.S.
- ❖ Canada and U.S do **\$1.7 billion in daily cross-border trade**

# The Business of Managing the Border

## *Trade & Traffic Challenges:*

- ❖ Southern Ontario - largest trade corridor with over 60% of Canada/U.S. trade crossing 5 international bridges
- ❖ Must keep traffic moving and secure
- ❖ Infrastructure must keep pace with increase in trade

## *Perimeter Security Challenges:*

- ❖ Need to stop threats before they reach North America
- ❖ As global trade grows, risk-management capacities at seaports and airports must be strengthened to respond to demand

# Working With the U.S.

## *Smart Border Declaration:*

- ❖ Canada and U.S. signed the Smart Border Declaration in December 2001
- ❖ A collaborative 32-point Action Plan for identifying and addressing security risks while expediting legitimate flow of people & goods across Canada/U.S. border
- ❖ Four Pillars of Action Plan:
  - Secure flow of people
  - Secure flow of goods
  - Secure infrastructure
  - Coordination and information-sharing



# Secure Flow of Goods

## *Advance Commercial Information (ACI):*

- ❖ We receive advance cargo information electronically *before* containers are loaded on ships bound for Canada
- ❖ Use automated risk-assessment systems to scrutinize shipments requiring a closer look, while allowing low-risk shipments to move along quickly

## *Free And Secure Trade (FAST):*

- ❖ Streamlines border crossings for low-risk commercial shipments & driver, offering expedited clearance for eligible goods to pre-authorized importers, carriers & drivers at 19 high-volume land border crossings

# Secure Flow of Goods

## *Partners In Protection (PIP):*

- ❖ PIP is voluntary, enlisting co-operation of private industry through a goodwill agreement to achieve 3 main objectives:
  - to enhance security
  - to exchange information
  - to raise awareness
  
- ❖ Benefits to business:
  - quicker processing of shipments
  - improved security levels
  
- ❖ Currently 921 signed partners with an additional 478 in process.
  
- ❖ U.S. has similar program: C-TPAT

# Secure Flow of People

## ❖ NEXUS:

- Available at designated Air, Highway and Marine Ports of Entry
- Currently working on development of “global enrollment” and harmonizing most clearance programs with U.S.

# Secure Flow of People

- ❖ Business Traveller Immigration Requirements:
  - Work permits are not required if business travellers are coming to Canada:
    - ❖ For less than 5 days,
    - ❖ Primary source of remuneration and principal place of business remain outside of Canada,

# Concluding Messages

- ❖ Work with U.S. continues on current initiatives, and moving forward on future initiatives to further enhance security and facilitate legitimate trade and travel
- ❖ Processes are similar and being designed to be compatible to greatest extent possible

# For More Information

❖ Visit the CBSA Website:

❖ <http://www.cbsa.gc.ca>