

14 December 2022

Att. Members, Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities

Dear Members of Parliament:

We are writing on behalf of the membership of the Canadian International Freight Forwarders Association ([CIFFA](http://www.ciffa.com)) to compliment you on the report of your Standing Committee on Transport's report: "Improving efficiency and resiliency in Canada's Supply Chains." This is a complex and critical issue in public policy and the committee's diligence in examining it was much appreciated by the people who are living this situation every day.

Your recommendations provide the government with several valuable proposals which we believe should be acted upon.

1. We have long argued that the lack of a coherent strategy guiding investments – public and private – is a serious deficiency in a competitive international marketplace. We therefore endorse your recommendation that a National Supply Trade and Corridors strategy be established with the goals of strengthening strategic local, national and international trade corridors and ensuring long term investments in needed infrastructure. This initiative should be supported by making permanent the National Trade Corridors Fund.
2. The supply chain situation is challenging for all parties because so many different actors are involved, including a number of government agencies whose mandates are not necessarily focused on speed and efficiency. Accordingly, we support your recommendation that a "Supply Chain Commissioner" be named with a mandate to recommend actions to improve supply chain efficiency, safety and reliability. This position should work with a permanent consultative group among a cross section of key supply chain stakeholders.
3. One of your most important recommendations concerns the need for greater data sharing among participants in the supply chain, including government agencies. This approach has the potential to reduce significantly the administrative burden borne by shippers and thus add efficiency to the system. It is not a simple file, however, with important questions to be answered regarding privacy, ownership of data and disclosure requirements all to be considered and negotiated. Nonetheless, we

appreciate the direction and vision the committee has crafted, and we hope the government moves quickly to implement it.

The crisis of the supply chain in recent years reminded us of the importance of coordination and cooperation among the many participants in our import/export industries. We applaud the Committee's work in drawing on the input of so many witnesses, and drafting a report with some very valuable recommendations.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rodgers          Executive Director, CIFFA



Julia Kuzeljevich          Director, Policy and Regulatory Affairs, CIFFA



*The Canadian International Freight Forwarders Association (CIFFA) represents some 300 regular member firms including freight forwarding, freight brokerage and drayage companies. CIFFA member companies employ tens of thousands of highly skilled international trade and transportation specialists. As a vital component of Canada's global supply chain, member firms of the Canadian International Freight Forwarders Association (CIFFA) facilitate the movement of goods around the world. We provide a vital link in Canada's global supply chains, enhancing export capabilities and assisting in the delivery of competitive solutions to Canada's importing and exporting communities.*