

Windsor-Essex Essential Canada-U.S. Border Traveler Petition

Petition to the Ministers of the Crown the Honourable Minister of Health and Honourable Minister of Public Safety

We the Undersign citizens of Windsor-Essex and the rest of Canada draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:

Windsor-Essex is home to diverse industry including a large Manufacturing sector (OEM's and supply chains) as well as two major Advanced Manufacturing clusters: Tool, Die, Mold and Gauging and Automation Manufacturers. These businesses are reliant upon a substantial customer base in the U.S. and are a vital corner stone to the entire manufacturing supply chain given their innovative and advanced products and services.

These diverse sectors within Manufacturing in Ontario and Windsor-Essex:

- Have a combined Canadian Manufacturing GDP¹ of \$30.8B (Motor Vehicles \$6.5B, Motor Vehicle Parts \$8.9B, Aerospace: \$8.2B and Automation (including Tooling): \$7.2B
- Manufacturing (OEM's and supply chains) provide 188,000 jobs²,
- The Tool, Die, Mold and Gauging and Automation Manufacturers combined provide over 58,000 well- paying and middle-class jobs across Canada and over 80% is exported to the U.S. which is currently at risk.
- Windsor-Essex generates³ \$3.3B in GDP alone, includes 1000+ Manufacturers, 90+ Auto and Parts Manufacturers including 2 OEM's and 250+ Machine, Tool, Die and Mold, Gauging Manufacturers. This does not include the businesses that service supply services to these organizations.
- This also includes thousands of Windsor-Essex Professionals, Technical and Business Owners with US Work Visas who generate over \$1B to the GDP annually in U.S. exports.
- Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) Manufacturing related COVID 19 Cases only amounts to only .065%⁴of the cases in all the Ontario workplaces.

This is assumed to be the same across Canada for US Border communities with different industry at varying degrees. These industries rely on access to the U.S. for both direct and in-direct service activity including: Business Development, Design & Engineering, Procurement, Technical and Service, Business Services, etc.

In 2020, this Windsor-Essex diverse industry was deemed “essential” by the Ontario Government under **Sec. 1 and 23 of Ontario OReg 82/20 (Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act)** and exempted from the travel ban at land crossings to the U.S.

These “business to business” organizations ship capital goods and technologies to the U.S., but must also send personnel to U.S. customers for sales and design, as well as hands on technical support. This also includes Professionals, Technical and Business Owners to service their U.S. Clients. For Windsor-Essex alone this amounts to ~300-500 industry personnel and their U.S. Client personnel as well as thousands of Canadian citizens who travel to the US to fulfill their employment obligations commuting both frequent and infrequently.

Contract negotiations in this vital sector of the economy are based on meetings for U.S. customers at our Canadian facilities for sales, design and equipment acceptance. Contractual obligations between Canadian entities and U.S. entities are no different than a Canadian citizen who resides in Canada that has employment obligations to fulfill in the U.S. therefore the same rights and privileges should be extended to these workers and companies that are bound to these contracts.

Denial of entry and inconsistent application of entry and isolation/quarantine rules at the border are costing these industries millions of dollars in lost revenue – and has and will continue to result in lost opportunities, jobs, economic growth and taxation in Canada.

WE IN WINDSOR-ESSEX:

“ARE THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THINGS THAT MAKE THINGS”

“TAKE PRIDE IN TAKING CARE OF OURSELVES”

¹ Ontario Trillium Network (April 14th, 2020)

² <https://www.unifor.org/en/canadas-auto-industry-fast-facts-2020-1>

³ Windsor Essex Economic Development Corp (WEEDC): <http://choosewindsor-essex.com/manufacturing>

⁴ Ontario Workplace Safety Insurance Board: <https://www.wsib.ca/en>

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THEREFORE, your petitioners request the Honourable Minister of Health and Honourable Minister of Public Safety and the unanimous support of government to:

- 1) Allow those who have legal access into the U.S. and Canada (**Visa with Invitation or Client Contractual Obligation**) for the Purpose of Essential Business only and who are deemed “Essential” as part of their respective Provincial Legislation (in Ontario - **Sec. 1 and 23 of Ontario OReg 82/20 Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act**) to:
 - a. **Exit and re-enter any Port of Entry on any frequency (regularly or intermittent) while meeting any of the following conditions (b) to (h).**
 - b. Be able to re-enter Canada with a valid Health Canada vaccine administered in Canada or the USA with a valid record of vaccination.
 - c. Agree to a Health Canada prevention measures with an approved quick test administered either
 - i. At the Canadian Port of Entry, or
 - ii. Self-administered Prior to Entering the Port of Entry
 - d. Self-Monitor, be exempt from any quarantine action and continue to follow current measures (isolation / mask / self-distancing, etc.) by: Health Canada, Provincial and Local Health Unit guidelines and requirements for essential workers
 - i. With a valid Vaccination, or
 - ii. Upon a negative quick test result
 - e. Quarantine with an adequate plan (as per Health Canada PHAC current measures)
 - i. when a positive quick test result, and
 - ii. Receive an immediate confirming PCR test upon re-entry
 - iii. With a positive PCR result
 - f. Any associated costs associated with the vaccine, testing and quarantine measures (through immediate access to the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit - CRSB) shall be borne by Canada
 - g. Allowed re-entry travel to and re-entry into Canada after any 14-day quarantine period.
 - h. For any disputes between an alleged essential traveler and the CBSA and these requirements the essential traveler shall be granted an appeal by the CBSA and shall direct the essential traveler to secondary for disposition by PHAC.

#	Signatures (Canadian citizens or residents only) (Please sign your name, do not print)	Addresses