Office of the President and Chief Executive Officer

Cabinet du président et chef de la direction

July 8, 2014

Mr. Michael Rohrer
Director of Corporate Affairs
Continental Rail Gateway
3190 Sandwich Street
Windsor, ON N9C 1A6

Re: Support for the Continental Rail Gateway Tunnel

Dear Mr. Rohrer:

On behalf of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce I would like to extend our support for the Continental Rail Gateway Tunnel. Border crossings in the Windsor-Detroit region are vital economic gateways that link deeply integrated North American supply chains. Despite the vital role that the region plays as a major international gateway, there is a need to enhance the border crossing infrastructure in the region.

Both the Ambassador Bridge and the existing rail tunnel are aging and can no longer serve the needs of our modern economic partnership. Every day more than 22 freight cars pass through the current freight tunnel making it the second busiest international crossing in North America (after the Ambassador Bridge). While the existing tunnel is in good physical condition, it is unable to handle double-stacked containers and some of the newer multilevel rail cars used by shippers.

The construction of a high-clearance tunnel under the Detroit River will significantly add freight capacity and improve the efficiency of trade between Canada and the U.S. Additional investments in border infrastructure in the region will improve the competitiveness of importers/ exports especially manufacturers and agricultural shippers.

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The Canadian Chamber of Commerce would like to urge all levels of government to expedite the necessary approvals and begin the construction of the Continental Rail Gateway Tunnel.

Sincerely

Perrin Beatty

President and Chief Executive Officer
The Canadian Chamber of Commerce