



Joint Statement of the Leaders of the St. Lawrence–Great Lakes Maritime Corridor

The St. Lawrence–Great Lakes (SLGL) maritime corridor is the heart of the North American supply chain, connecting hundreds of millions of consumers with the most dynamic manufacturing hubs and global markets. As a major trade route between Canada and the United States, it plays a central role in strategic supply chains, economic security, and the resilience of North America.

However, this maritime corridor has not received the attention and investment that match its potential, resulting in the SLGL operating well below its capacity.

We, stakeholders in the logistics and transportation sectors of the corridor, affirm our commitment to strengthen the strategic positioning of this vital economic and logistical artery of North America.

Together, we reaffirm our determination to ensure its competitiveness, productivity, and sustainability in a rapidly transforming global context.

We also reaffirm our commitment to a tariff-free trade agreement among Canada, the United States and Mexico.

A Strong Commitment from the Industry

Aware of our collective responsibilities, we, the representatives of the maritime and logistics industry, commit to taking coordinated action to meet the challenges facing the future of the corridor:

- **Invest in Infrastructure:** The fluidity and performance of supply chains rely on modern, resilient, and integrated infrastructure. We reaffirm our intention to invest in assets and infrastructures that secure and extend the navigation season of the SLGL corridor, enhance the competitiveness of commercial fleets, modernize ports, improve rail and road connectivity, and promote digital transformation through increased use of data and artificial intelligence.
- **Accelerate the Energy Transition:** The industry is committed to intensifying its decarbonization efforts by adopting alternative fuels, electrifying port facilities, and fostering technological innovation. This energy transition is essential to meet the environmental expectations of our communities and ensure the corridor's sustainability and competitiveness in an evolving global landscape.
- **Prepare the Workforce of Tomorrow:** The success of this transformation depends on having a workforce skilled in the technologies and competencies of the future. We commit to supporting the ongoing training of our employees, promoting the attractiveness of our professions, and investing in the next generation to maintain a qualified and engaged workforce.
- **Support the Maritime and Shipbuilding Industry:** The modernization and sovereignty of our fleet require a robust industrial capacity. We recognize the need to strengthen the ties



between the maritime industry and shipyards to support innovation, maintenance, and the construction of vessels that meet the highest international standards.

A Clear Call to Governments

The success of this transformation requires a clear and sustained commitment from federal, provincial, state, and municipal governments. We urge public authorities to:

- **Ensure massive and sustainable strategic investments** in both physical and digital infrastructure, which are essential for the fluidity and competitiveness of the corridor.
- **Establish flexible, modern, and optimized policy and regulatory frameworks** that foster collaboration, decarbonization, and innovation while enhancing the productivity of maritime organizations and reducing their operating costs.
- **Actively support workforce development** through tailored training programs and strategies to attract both Canadian and foreign talent.
- **Strengthen the cross-border governance of the corridor**, ensuring effective coordination of actions across jurisdictions while respecting regional specificities and the distinct strategic roles of ports and maritime and logistics stakeholders. Harmonized but inclusive governance is essential to avoid overlaps, reduce regulatory disparities, and ensure optimal fluidity of the entire corridor.
- **Implement mechanisms that promote workforce stability and industrial peace**, to prevent long and costly labor disputes in collaboration with stakeholders.

Through this statement, the leaders of the St. Lawrence–Great Lakes maritime corridor reaffirm their determination to act proactively and responsibly. We call on governments to fully commit to a renewed partnership with industry. Together, we can make the St. Lawrence–Great Lakes maritime corridor an international model of performance, sustainability, and collaboration for present and future generations.