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## **Canada's Ports Positioned to Capitalize on New Opportunities**

*Innovative approach is taking our ports to another level*

**MONTREAL**, Que. – Canada's ports are continuing to push the limits and build on their success as they forge ahead in this technological age.

As the 57<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Association of Canadian Port Authorities (ACPA) wrapped up in Montreal this week, Canada's port authorities are well positioned to capitalize on global realities that include increased free trade, cyber security risks and more digital communication.

"Canada's ports have carved out a new vision for themselves in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and we are very excited about what the future holds," says Wendy Zatylny, President of ACPA. "The last few days have been very rich and full of content and activity and building new relationships. Together, we have pushed the limits of imagination, creativity, partnerships and how we look at the role of ports in the Canadian economy."

Canadian Port Authorities handle more than 60 per cent of Canada's waterborne cargo, worth more than \$400 billion annually. This activity supports 250,000 well-paying direct and indirect jobs. For every million tonnes of new cargo moved through these ports, 300 new jobs are created.

Over the two-and-a-half days of the conference, hosted by the Montreal Port Authority, delegates from across the country were engaged in discussions about the forces that are driving the future of logistics, adding value to Canadian ports, the challenges posed by energy, engaging on social media and expanding maritime trade opportunities.

"With several international trade agreements concluded or close, this is certainly an exciting time for Canadian ports," says Mario Girard, new Chair of the ACPA Board of Directors and President and CEO of the Port of Quebec. "Our ports are about so much more than just moving goods. We create wealth and jobs. We contribute in building communities. If you look at the wealthiest cities on the planet, with good quality of life and vibrant tourism, 85% of them have one thing in common: a port. It is an exceptional opportunity to have a port, and as a country we boast 18 of them. It is a significant asset."

The 58<sup>th</sup> annual ACPA conference will be held September 12-14, 2016, hosted by the Port of Thunder Bay.

Follow the Association of Canadian Port Authorities on Twitter [@ACPA\\_AAPC](https://twitter.com/ACPA_AAPC) and get updates from its Annual Conference [@MTLACPA2015](https://twitter.com/MTLACPA2015). For more information, please visit [www.acpa-ports.net](http://www.acpa-ports.net) or [acpa2015.ca](http://acpa2015.ca).

### **About the Association of Canadian Port Authorities:**

The Association of Canadian Port Authorities was founded in 1958 and groups together ports and related marine interests into one national association. ACPA represents all Canadian Port Authorities, various government entities and companies doing business in the marine sector. It is



the leading Association for the advocacy and advancement of the Canadian Port Industry. ACPA members contribute significantly to the local, regional and national economy of Canada, responsible for more than 250,000 direct and indirect jobs and handling more than \$400 billion worth of goods annually.

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