

Media Release

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Minister Raitt Highlights the Benefits of New Gordie Howe International Bridge to a Capacity Crowd at Ec. Dev. Supplier Information Session

Windsor-Essex County, Ontario, - Thursday, June 25, 2015 – The WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation’s supplier information session held today was an overwhelming success with over 280 business people attending to hear about the potential opportunities for our local companies interested in supplying, building, maintenance and operation of the new Gordie Howe International Bridge.

Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA) representatives, **Michael Cautillo, President and CEO**, **Leslie Martin, Executive VP of Engineering and Operations** and **Heather Grondin, VP of Communications and Stakeholder Relations** were on hand to discuss the size and scope of the bridge project and what to expect in the next few months and beyond.

The **Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport** was the keynote speaker and in her remarks, the Minister stressed the importance of Canada-U.S. bilateral trade to Canada’s economic well being and how the new bridge will help strengthen trade between the two countries and how Windsor-Essex, as the host community for the new bridge, will benefit both during the construction and the operation of the new crossing.

“We are pleased to be part of today’s information session to help local businesses prepare themselves for what is the largest infrastructure project on the Canada-U.S. border,” said **Michael Cautillo, President and Chief Executive Officer** for the WDBA. “This project will offer significant opportunities to local businesses and will generate thousands of jobs.”

Sandra Pupatello, CEO WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation added, “We are so pleased that Minister Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport agreed to be our key note speaker. This gave our businesses in Windsor-Essex an opportunity to hear first-hand how this country’s mega infrastructure project can benefit them and ultimately our region.”

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