

# Media Backgrounder and Fact Sheet

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Pacific Gateway Branch  
Government of British Columbia

## ***PORT METRO VANCOUVER EXPANDS CAPACITY TO MEET FUTURE ASIA-PACIFIC TRADE***

Port Metro Vancouver is part of B.C.'s Southern Shipping Corridor, a well-established supply chain serving Asia and Vancouver and beyond to all major Canadian and American economic centres. The Port is expanding capacity to be in an even stronger position to serve as a world-class Asia-Pacific gateway.

- As the most diversified port in North America, Port Metro Vancouver operates across five business sectors: automobiles, break-bulk, bulk, containers and cruise.
- As the fourth largest tonnage port in North America, Port Metro Vancouver offers 28 major marine cargo terminals and connections to three Class 1 railroads, providing a full range of facilities and services to the international shipping community.
- The Port's deep-sea terminals offer virtually no draft restrictions, Super Post-Panamax capacity and extensive on-dock rail facilities.
- Port Metro Vancouver ranks first in North America for foreign export shipments and second on the west coast of the Americas in total cargo volume.
- The Port's jurisdiction includes deep-sea and river-based port facilities.
- China is Port Metro Vancouver's top trading partner for import and export tonnage in 2009.
- Public and private sector infrastructure investments totalling C\$4.2 billion will increase the shipping capacity of Port Metro Vancouver to six million TEUs by 2020.
- To accommodate increased container and bulk traffic, extensive road and rail improvements totalling C\$10.7 billion will reduce congestion, eliminate bottlenecks and add critical capacity.
- Canadian Pacific and CN are investing in major capacity and efficiency upgrades near Vancouver and along their routes to North American destinations.
- Port Metro Vancouver serves as homeport for the Vancouver-Alaska cruise industry.

### CONTACTS

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Port Metro Vancouver facilitates trade with more than 130 world economies and handled 115 million tonnes of cargo and 2.5 million containers in 2008.

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Canadian Pacific operates a transcontinental railway in Canada and the United States and provides logistics and supply chain expertise. CP provides rail and intermodal transportation services over a network of approximately 16,000 miles, connecting the ports of Vancouver, Montreal, New York and Philadelphia with distribution centers in Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Toronto and Calgary.

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CN is the only railroad which crosses the continent east-west and north-south, serving ports on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts while linking customers to all three NAFTA nations.

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A subsidiary of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation, BNSF Railway Company operates one of the largest North American rail networks, with about 32,000 route miles in 28 states and two Canadian provinces.

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Transport Canada is responsible for transportation policies and programs, and reports to the federal minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities. It ensures that air, marine, road and rail transportation are safe, secure, efficient and environmentally responsible. It works with its portfolio partners, other government departments and jurisdictions, and industry to ensure that all parts of Canada's transportation system work well.

### VISUAL RESOURCES

- Link to *Opportunity in Motion* video on the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure website: [http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/video/Opportunity\\_in\\_Motion\\_2/index.html](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/video/Opportunity_in_Motion_2/index.html)
- Visuals of the Pacific Gateway transportation infrastructure network – ports, rail, road and air – available from the validators above or Theresa Lumsdon – contact details below.

## WEB RESOURCES

- Port Metro Vancouver: [www.portmetrovancover.com](http://www.portmetrovancover.com)
- Canadian Pacific: [www.cpr.ca](http://www.cpr.ca)
- Canadian National Railway: [www.cn.ca](http://www.cn.ca)
- BNSF Railway: [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com)
- Pacific Gateway Branch, B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure: [www.th.gov.bc.ca/PacificGateway](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/PacificGateway)
- Transport Canada: [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca)
- Government of Canada Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative: [www.pacificgateway.gc.ca](http://www.pacificgateway.gc.ca)
- Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Trade multi-language website: [www.canadaspacificgateway.ca](http://www.canadaspacificgateway.ca)

## MEDIA COVERAGE

- **In Vancouver, Plugging In Before Setting Sail**, The New York Times, September 13, 2009: <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9803E5DF1F30F930A2575AC0A96F9C8B63&scp=2&sq=In%20Vancouver,%20plugging%20in%20before%20setting%20sail&st=cse>
- **More passengers cruise through Vancouver in 2009**, Vancouver Sun, October 12, 2009: <http://www.vancouversun.com/life/More+passengers+cruise+through+Vancouver+2009/2095436/story.html>
- **Disney Cruise Line's Vancouver base a major boost for port**, Vancouver Sun, September 11, 2009: <http://www.vancouversun.com/life/Disney+Cruise+Line+Vancouver+base+major+boost+port/1986788/story.html>
- **Canadian Pacific Seeking to Lure More U.S. Importers**, Journal of Commerce, Sep 24, 2009: <http://www.joc.com/node/413588>

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### **For assistance or more information:**

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