

Port Windsor Acting Now to Prepare for Climate Change

(Windsor, Ontario)

Port Windsor is taking initial steps to prepare and fortify its waterfront harbour infrastructure against the impacts of climate change. Higher lake levels and more severe storm events will require a different response in the design and maintenance of marine terminals.

On behalf of the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, Mr. Irek Kusmierczyk, Member of Parliament for Windsor-Tecumseh, today, announced funding of **\$140,630** to the Windsor Port Authority under the **Transportation Assets Risk Assessment (TARA) Program**.

Taking action to protect our infrastructure from the effects of climate change is critical because our communities depend on transportation. The project that the Port of Windsor will undertake will help us understand the climate change risks and improve the resilience of our local infrastructure.

(Irek Kusmierczyk, Member of Parliament for Windsor-Tecumseh)

The Windsor Port Authority's *Climate Change and Risk Assessment Plan* will identify the risks related to climate change and its impact on the current and future conditions of the port's assets. This project will provide a thorough and detailed analysis to provide the port with information necessary to plan and mitigate for the future impact of climate change on its assets, and to allow for continuity of operations. Furthermore, the project data will be contributed to a regional effort led by the Essex Regional Conservation Authority (ERCA).

If we accept climate change to be the new norm, then we can no longer accept the former normal planning assumptions to be acceptable. Port Windsor is committed to ensuring that our critical infrastructure is resilient to higher water levels and increasingly more severe storm events. This resiliency is essential to preserve the 2400 jobs dependant upon Port Windsor and the \$200 million in annual economic activity.

(Steve Salmons, President and CEO, Windsor Port Authority)

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The project will be managed by Dillon Consulting using field assessments and modeling to identify the probability and severity of climate impacts. It will address risk identification, risk analysis, and risk treatment for the assets of Windsor Port Authority. Project outcomes will include site specific baselines, lifecycle analysis and remediation measures for assets. This will assist Port Windsor to make more informed decisions regarding capital investment priorities.

Not all properties within Port Windsor are crown lands controlled by the Authority. Private terminals will also be offered the opportunity to participate in the study to ensure Port Windsor is climate resilient, regardless of location and ownership.

Background: Port Windsor

Ontario's third largest port, each year the Port Authority receives more than 600 ships, delivering more than 5 million tonnes of aggregate, salt, steel and grain to Windsor-Essex, and ports across the Great Lakes, and into Europe. It also hosts Ontario's largest ship fueling depot.

The Windsor Port Authority is a federal Corporation under the Marine Act (1999) as one of just 17 national ports established to promote the growth, competitiveness and prosperity of Canada's economy.

Background: Dillon Consulting Limited

Dillon Consulting is a proudly Canadian, employee-owned professional firm specializing in planning, engineering, and environmental science since being founded in 1946. Dillon has been working on a range of sustainability and climate related services for the past 20+ years. Dillon is an Envision certified company. Envision is a sustainable rating system for infrastructure projects that has been developed by the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure.

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