



**GREATER VANCOUVER  
BOARD OF TRADE**

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade  
World Trade Centre  
400 – 999 Canada Place  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6C 3E1  
T. 604-681-2111 F. 604-681-0437  
E. [contactus@boardoftrade.com](mailto:contactus@boardoftrade.com)  
[boardoftrade.com](http://boardoftrade.com)

President and CEO  
Hon. Iain J.S. Black, ICD.D

2018 – 19  
Board Executive

Lori Mathison	Chair
Kari Yuers	Senior Vice-Chair
Mary Anne Davidson	Vice-Chair
Evi Mustel	Vice-Chair and Policy Council Chair
Christopher Lythgo	Secretary-Treasurer
Todd Shewfelt	Finance and Audit Committee Chair
Robin Dhir	World Trade Centre Committee Chair
Anne Giardini, o.c., o.b.c., q.c.	Immediate Past Chair
Sue Belisle	Member at Large
Brent Cameron	Member at Large
Radha Curpen	Member at Large

2018 – 19  
Board of Directors

Bridgitte Anderson, ICD.D	Rita Andreone, q.c.
Kim Baird, C.M., O.B.C., ICD.D	Jim Bogusz
Colin Bosa	Barbara Brink, C.M., O.B.C.
Neal Cormack	Kevin Desmond
David Garofalo	Mark Hoag, CPA, CA
David Hoff	Kevin Howlett
Terence Hui	Michael McCarthy
Sarah McCullough	Jessica McDonald
Patricia Mohr	Meredith Powell
Elise Rees, FCPA, ICD.D	Craig Richmond
Lorne Segal, O.B.C.	Bruce Sprague
Kirsten Sutton	Vivian Zalkow

Council of Governors

2016 – 17	Robin Silvester, ICD.D
2015 – 16	Tim Manning, O.B.C., ICD.D
2014 – 15	Hon. Janet Austin
2013 – 14	Elio Luongo
2012 – 13	Ken Martin
2011 – 12	Wendy Lisogar-Cocchia, O.B.C.
2010 – 11	Jason McLean
2009 – 10	Sue Paish, q.c.
2007 – 08	Henry K.S. Lee
2006 – 07	Frank Borowicz, q.c.
2005 – 06	Daniel F. Muzyka
2003 – 04	Jeff Dowle
2002 – 03	Peter Legge, O.B.C.
2001 – 02	Carole Taylor, o.c.
2000 – 01	Harri Jansson
1999 – 2000	T. Richard Turner
1998 – 99	A. Allan Skidmore
1997 – 98	Robert A. Fairweather
1996 – 97	Brandt C. Louie, O.B.C.
1995 – 96	Wayne A. Nygren
1994 – 95	Jill Bodkin
1994	George F. Gaffney
1993 – 94	Iain J. Harris
1992 – 93	David G. McLean, O.B.C., LL.D, FICD
1989 – 90	L. I. Bell, O.B.C.
1988 – 89	P. H. Hebb
1987 – 88	R. E. Kadlec
1986 – 87	G. P. Clarke
1985 – 86	A. S. Hara, o.c.
1984 – 85	A. M. Fowlis
1978	D. C. Selman

Friday, February 8, 2019

**Greater Vancouver Board of Trade’s submission to the Canadian Transportation Agency regarding the investigation into possible rail service issues in the Vancouver area**

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade (GVBOT) submits this response to the Canadian Transportation Agency.

Greater Vancouver and British Columbia serve a crucial role in facilitating Canada’s Pacific Gateway. Ideally located to serve growing Asian markets, the region is a nexus of import-export activity for the entire country. As Canada continues to take advantage of free trade agreements with the fastest growing trade blocs around the world, the Gateway is poised to get Canadian goods to markets. There are, however, significant impediments to the growth of the Gateway.

The economic significance of the western trade corridor is undeniable and meaningful efforts must be made to sustainably grow the gateway sector and maintain its competitiveness. The [Regional Export Framework](#), produced by the World Trade Centre Vancouver - a subsidiary of the GVBOT, found that B.C’s Asia-Pacific Gateway is estimated to support over \$34.3 billion in Canadian GDP and nearly 307,010 jobs in Canada during 2016. Further, the economic footprint of the Asia-Pacific Gateway contributed over \$1.9 billion to the federal government, nearly \$1.6 billion to the province of B.C. and approximately \$261.7 million to municipal governments within the Greater Vancouver area.

This growth is forecast to rapidly continue. Cargo volume through Canada’s western ports is anticipated to grow in the foreseeable future. Overall, from 2015 to 2017, the Port of Vancouver saw the bulk sector had increased by 5% and the breakbulk sector had seen a 2% increase<sup>1</sup>. However, there are significant bottlenecks in our trade corridors that prohibit future growth and competitiveness of the Gateway.

The GVBOT and our Members have been pleased to see financial commitments towards ‘bottleneck-eliminating’ projects that impact our region, through the National Trade Corridor Fund. Making progress on stakeholder priority projects will go a long way to maximize potential benefits for the local, provincial and national economy. These investments will assist our region in remaining competitive. The GVBOT believes funding should be deployed where there is the greatest potential to facilitate additional export capacity.

The Pacific-Gateway is vital for the economic prosperity of the whole of Canada. Gateway industries are an essential asset in the economic development and future growth of our country.

<sup>1</sup> Port of Vancouver. (2017). Statistics Overview. Retrieved from <https://www.portvancouver.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2017-Stats-Overview-1.pdf>

Sincerely,  
**Greater Vancouver Board of Trade**, per;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Iain J.S. Black". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Iain" being the most prominent part.

Iain J.S. Black, ICD.D  
President and CEO