



1004 - 213 Notre Dame Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1N3
TF: 800.661.0253
Fax: 204.947.5195
www.wrla.org

Advocacy Bulletin

Requirements for truckers entering Canada

Dear WRLA Members;

The WRLA alongside 30+ other industry sector associations met in December to discuss the impacts the vast supply chain issues are having on each industry sector. As associations representing numerous sectors across the Canadian economy, we wanted to address the issues our members are facing as a result of a supply chain that is strained and not functioning efficiently.

The increasing cost of doing business is hurting our economic recovery and the group was assembled to discuss the effects a mandatory vaccination policy requirement for truck drivers would have on the various association members represented on the call.

Given current vaccination rates amongst truck drivers, the January 15th Canadian deadline for truckers to be vaccinated to cross the border poses serious risks for the resilience of our supply chain and will seriously aggravate the existing truck driver shortage and lead to price increases that will continue to hurt the Canadian economy and consumers.

We called on the government to delay the deadline for mandatory vaccination and work with businesses to find a revised timeline that minimizes supply chain impacts. In addition to the ask for delay, we did include two other asks which can be referenced in the Join Statement document included on the last 2 pages of this bulletin.

In response to our ask, the government has asked us to provide data on supply chain challenges which we need to collect in order to engage with policy makers.

In order to take this discussion to the next level the WRLA has been asked to provide metrics that will paint a solid picture of the issues and challenges that will be presented specifically to the logistics of trucking as a result of the mandatory vaccination requirement. To help support this effort, the WRLA has been tasked with collecting metrics from our members.

Please reach out to me directly with any metrics surrounding:

- Product shortages, increased lead times
- Price increases and escalation that has been experienced
- Order cancellations
- Any other metrics that will be relevant for us to provide to government and policy makers.

I can be reached at lkovach@wrla.org or 204.770.2416. The report will be provided to members once completed.

Thank you in advance for your help and I look forward to obtaining any information you are able to provide.

Liz Kovach
President WRLA

Joint statement by Canadian business associations on supply chain bottlenecks

Canada is a trade-dependent economy that relies on both exports and imports, as well as the efficient movement of goods within the country. As a result, well-functioning supply chains are critical to the welfare and economic vitality of the country. As associations representing numerous sectors across the Canadian economy, our members are facing the strain of a supply chain that is not functioning. The increasing cost of doing business is hurting our economic recovery. We ask for urgent action to address this situation.

Vaccination rules for truck drivers

Canadian businesses continue to support vaccinations as a critical tool in the fight against COVID. However, given current vaccination rates amongst truckers, the January 15th Canadian deadline for truckers to be vaccinated to cross the border poses serious risks for the resilience of our supply chain. It will also seriously aggravate the existing truck driver shortage and lead to price increases that will hurt the Canadian economy and consumers.

We call on the government to delay the deadline for mandatory vaccination and work with businesses to find a revised timeline that minimizes supply chain impacts.

Government of Canada – business task force on supply chains

Shipping container backlogs, labour shortages at various points of the supply chain, and extreme weather disasters are continuing to strain supply chains. While the remedies involve both short and long-term solutions, it is a complex situation. Partnership and dialogue between government and the private sector are critical to work through these complexities.

We call on the government to establish a joint task force with business leaders to identify and implement solutions that can increase supply chain resilience.

Protecting the business environment

As the engines of job creation and economic growth, businesses need to be able to operate within a competitive environment. However, lingering challenges remain over increased regulation that may hurt growth.

We call on the government to delay the implementation of any non-essential regulations that would strain the supply chain.

Our associations stand ready to work with the government to address these issues with the urgency necessary to ensure we successfully navigate through this recovery period and into a period of economic growth.

Association of Canadian Port Authorities

Canadian Food Exporters Association

Beer Canada

Canadian International Freight Forwarders Association

Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance

Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters

Canadian Produce Marketing Association

Canadian Cattlemen's Association

Canadian Propane Association

Canadian Chamber of Commerce

Canadian Society of Customs Brokers

Canadian Federation of Independent Business

Canadian Steel Producers Association

Canadian Toy Association

Medtech Canada

Canadian Trucking Alliance

Mining Association of Canada

Chamber of Marine Commerce

Petroleum Services Association of Canada

Fertilizer Canada

Pulse Canada

Food, Health & Consumer Products of Canada

Recreation Vehicle Dealers Association of Canada

Food Producers of Canada

Responsible Distribution Canada

Forest Products Association of Canada

Retail Council of Canada

Freight Management Association of Canada

Supply Chain Canada

Greater Vancouver Gateway Council

Western Retail Lumber Association

Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association of Canada

Wine Growers Canada