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REPORT:

A. Border Related News Media

Canada-U.S. border back in spotlight as report reveals U.S. myths about Canada The Canadian Press – May 11, 2011

The Canada-U.S. border will once again be under intense scrutiny in the United States as a congressional hearing aims to push for tighter security measures along the much-maligned boundary. Sen. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, is holding a Senate hearing next week to prod federal officials for details about security initiatives along the border. Schumer said Tuesday that top officials from the Department of Homeland Security, formed after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, will attend the hearing to discuss proposals that include employing military-grade radar along the border to crack down on drug smugglers. News of Schumer's hearing before the subcommittee on immigration, refugees and border security came the same day that Canada's Fraser Institute released a report on U.S. congressional perceptions about Canada. The study suggests American politicians view Canada as little else but a stable source of energy with a border security problem. There's also scant appetite for freer Canada-U.S. trade unless it involves cheaper prescription drugs. According to congressional debates between 2001 and 2010, the report found that discussions about Canada primarily revolved around energy, including Alberta's oilsands. Most of those debates shone a positive light on America's neighbour to the north and there was little, if any, resistance to the oilsands. But legislators were also deeply concerned about Canada having a porous border that was leaving the U.S. vulnerable to terrorists slipping across the boundary to wreak havoc. There were "persistent and repeated" allegations from lawmakers that Canada is lax on terrorism, including claims that some of the 9-11 hijackers entered the U.S. over the northern border. The 9-11 myth is a diehard one in the U.S., with Frank McKenna, a former Canadian ambassador to the States, once calling it a "viral infection." It's now become almost a rite of passage for Canada's envoy to the United States to remind Americans it's not true; Ambassador Gary Doer had to do it in October, when a Tea Party candidate repeated the myth publicly. It's a message that doesn't seem to have reached many American legislators, the Fraser report suggests. "When discussing border security, American politicians tend most often to speak of the Canadian and Mexican borders in roughly the same manner," Moens wrote. "Their concern about the threat of terrorists staging attacks from Canada remains high." As for trade, Moens added: "Take cheaper drugs from Canada out of the picture, and the sentiment in Congress towards free trade turns negative." At least one senator suggested Tuesday he was swimming against the tide in terms of the perceptions of some of his congressional colleagues. "The closer you are to the border, the more you see and understand Canada's diverse importance to us," Vermont's Patrick Leahy — whose wife is from a French-Canadian family — said when asked about the report's findings. "In Vermont, we have the advantage of close proximity and many shared cultural and economic values. So much so that we good-naturedly refer to 'the giant to our north.'" Schumer's hearing takes place next Tuesday, a week after

homeland security czar Janet Napolitano told a Senate homeland security committee that the Canadian government and the Obama administration are discussing how to set up radar and sensor feeds along the border as part of a future perimeter security deal. Technology, she added, was the key to making the northern border more secure. "We are adding more systems up there that can detect low-flying aircraft," Napolitano said. The northern border has been on the hot seat in the U.S. since December, when the U.S. Government Accountability Office criticized security measures along the 6,400-kilometre boundary. The report, largely dismissed by one White House source at the time, says that an "acceptable level of security" exists on less than one per cent of the border — or about 51 kilometres. It concluded that the United States did not "have the ability to detect illegal activity across most of the northern border." As she did when it was first released, Napolitano took issue last week with the report, saying "some of the measures that are ongoing at the northern border ... I think are not captured." In February, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama announced a framework agreement on perimeter security. It focuses mostly on boosting information-sharing between the two countries and integrating border control.

Canadian court denies terror extradition appeal Buffalo News - May 6, 2011

A court denied an appeal Friday by the government to extradite a Canadian man indicted in the U.S. on charges he supplied al-Qaida with weapons. Abdullah Khadr, 29, was arrested in Canada on a U.S. warrant in December 2005, but released last summer after a judge refused to extradite him to the United States. The U.S. case against Khadr relied on a statement he made to the FBI and Canadian police in Pakistan, and information he gave upon arrival in Toronto in December 2005. Khadr's lawyers argued the statements made in Pakistan were the result of torture. Superior Court Justice Christopher Speyer ruled at the time the self-incriminating statement was "manifestly unreliable." The suit, filed by the Attorney General of Canada on behalf of the United States, argued that the original judge went beyond his jurisdiction in refusing to extradite him to the U.S. However, in an unanimous 3-0 decision, an Ontario Court of Appeal panel affirmed the judge's decision not to hand over Khadr because doing so would have meant Canadian courts were complacent with the abuse he suffered at the hands of U.S. officials. Khadr was indicted in February 2006 by a federal grand jury in Boston. Khadr's father, Ahmed Said Khadr, was an alleged al-Qaida militant and financier, killed in 2003 when a Pakistani military helicopter shelled the house where he was staying with some senior al-Qaida operatives. A brother, Omar Khadr, is the last Western detainee held at Guantanamo Bay. Omar is accused of killing an American soldier with a grenade during a 2002 battle in Afghanistan. Another of Khadr's brothers, Abdurahman Khadr, has acknowledged that their Egyptian-born father and some of his brothers fought for al-Qaida and had stayed with Osama bin Laden. The CIA paid Pakistani authorities a US\$500,000 bounty to detain Abdullah Khadr in October 2004. The U.S. alleges Abdullah Khadr bought AK-47 and mortar rounds, rocket-propelled grenades and containers of mine components for al-Qaida for use against coalition forces in Afghanistan. He allegedly bought the weapons at the request of his father, authorities said.

Canadian election should benefit North Country Plattsburgh Press Republican - May 7, 2011

The results of the 2011 Canadian general election should be good news for the North Country. Dr. Christopher Kirkey, director of the Center for the Study of Canada at Plattsburgh State, said the most significant outcome was a strong Conservative Party majority government. The Conservative Party won 167 seats in the House of Commons, followed by 102 for the New Democrat Party, 34 for the Liberal Party, four for the Bloc Quebecois and one for the Green Party. "I think it's fair to say this is one election result that will serve to benefit the North Country," Kirkey said.

BUSINESS FRIENDLY - Prime Minister Stephen Harper has said post election that he doesn't plan to move the country sharply to the right. Kirkey said that is most likely posturing and that Harper is likely to implement the Conservative agenda. The party is seen as business friendly. Even with its two minority

governments since 2006, the Conservatives were able to lower corporate and personal taxes. "I think they will continue that trend," Kirkey said. That should be good for the Canadian economy, which is dependent on exports. The United States is its largest importer, so a stronger Canadian economy helps the Clinton County economy. "I think Stephen Harper is very committed to working with the U.S., particularly in fostering business investment," Kirkey said.

FLUID BORDER - Numerous Canadian companies have facilities in this region, and that should increase if the Canadian economy grows. Kirkey said Harper has pledged to work on North American perimeter security issues. Harper is likely to work to harmonize regulations of the two nations and push for a more fluid border, both of which would benefit the North Country.

KEY AREAS - The Conservative strategy was to identify 50 key ridings (districts). It worked very well, especially in the Toronto area, usually a Liberal stronghold. Although there are some regions with little Conservative representation, this truly is a majority government with a national representation. It now has up to five years before it needs to call the next election, Kirkey said, though leaders usually schedule it around the four-year mark.

SOVEREIGNTY - It was surprising to see the decimation of the Liberal Party and Bloc Quebecois, Kirkey said, which dropped from 77 and 49 seats, respectively. Few have been able to identify why the New Democrats gained so many seats, as their platform remains virtually the same as it was in 2006. Kirkey said there is a clear correlation between the rise of the New Democrats and the drop of the Bloc Quebecois. He said some are suggesting that the decline of the Bloc Quebecois shows the Quebec sovereignty movement is dead. "I don't think that's necessarily true. That was never one of the main issues (in this election)."

QUEBEC NEEDS - Most Quebec residents are centrist or left of center, Kirkey said, and overwhelmingly supported the New Democrats in this election. The New Democrats captured 58 of the 75 seats available in Quebec, the Liberals won seven, the Conservatives captured six, and the Bloc Quebecois holds four. Even though the Conservatives have few seats in Quebec, he said, they need to pay attention to the province's needs. Anything perceived as an irritant would only strengthen the separatists. Party Quebecois still is doing well in provincial government polls and could emerge in control of the province after the next provincial election, Kirkey said. He doesn't think the federal election results in Quebec will affect the Quebec-New York relationship. "What matters is what happens provincially in Quebec. But, a stronger Conservative presence in Quebec would have helped the Quebec-New York relationship."

LIBERAL DEMISE - The Liberals won only four ridings west of Guelph, Ontario. Their poor showing led to the resignation of Liberal Party Leader Michael Ignatieff. Kirkey said Ignatieff and his predecessor, Stephane Dion, never resonated with voters. The party faces challenges to come up with a charismatic leader, revamp its platform and reorganize its party structure. Kirkey said that's hard to imagine after the party dominated the Canadian political scene for most of the 20th century. "I think the Liberals are in for a long period of minority status."

Canada jobless rate dips Buffalo News – May 7, 2011

Canada's economy created 58,300 jobs last month, bringing the unemployment rate down to 7.6 percent, matching the lowest jobless level since the early months of the recession, a reporting agency said Friday. Statistics Canada said most of the gains were in the service sector, and almost all of them were in Ontario. Although the jobs increase was dominated by part-timers, there were 17,200 new full-time jobs created in April. April's gains bring the year-over-year increase in employment to 283,000, enabling the recovery of all the full-time jobs that were lost in the 2008-09 recession. Economists had expected a more modest 20,000-job pickup following a weak March.

Crouse to test surgery robot for Canadian company Syracuse Post Standard – May 11, 2011

Titan Medical Inc., a public Canadian company, announced today it has entered into an agreement with Crouse Hospital in Syracuse to test and evaluate the company's Amadeus next generation robotic surgical

system. The company said Amadeus is a four-armed robotic surgical system that lets surgeons remotely manipulate surgical instruments. Robotic surgery has developed over the past 10 years into growing method of treatment. Titan said the global robotic surgical market size is approximately \$1 billion and is estimated to grow to \$5 billion by 2015 with potential for placement of 6,000 robotic surgical systems.

Canada's easyhome Ltd. settles into Irondequoit
Rochester Democrat & Chronicle – May 8, 2011

The Canada-to-Rochester retail connection is important to the economic future of both regions. Tim Hortons is a Canada-based retailer with a major presence in Rochester and western New York. But it is only the most obvious and extensive of an international relationship that has deepened over time. The most recent example is easyhome Ltd., Canada's largest merchandise lease-to-own company with its own financial services arm. Easyhome has opened a store in the Culver Ridge Plaza, 2255 E. Ridge Road, Irondequoit. The store is the company's first in the area. Easyhome leases brand-name home furnishings, including appliances and electronics, by the week or month. The company offers financial services, such as loans, prepaid cards and check-cashing. The company has 256 stores in Canada and the United States and operates 68 financial-service kiosks.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. For information, call (585) 266-0015.

OBPA leasing space to brokers
Watertown Daily Times – May 9, 2011

The brokerage firm Strader-Ferris will lease an additional 8,250 square feet of space at the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority's Commerce Park. John A. Rishe, OBPA director of commercial and industrial development, said the new agreement will expire July 31, 2012, and include a phased-in rental rate for the additional space, with no additional charge for the space through May 31. Starting June 1, there is an escalating fee that starts at \$1.10 per square foot and rises to \$2.20 per square foot from July 1 to 31 and \$3.30 per square foot from Aug. 1 to 30. Starting in September and lasting through the remainder of the agreement, Strader-Ferris will pay \$4.40 per square foot for the space. "They're investing \$50,000 to \$100,000 in improvements to turn it into an office area," Mr. Rishe said. Over the term of the agreement, Mr. Rishe said, the OBPA will receive \$46,000 more than it would have received under the company's previous lease. He said the space Strader-Ferris will be taking over has been difficult to fill because there was no access to a loading dock, something the brokerage firm does not need. In addition to taking on additional space, Strader-Ferris is giving up 2,380 square feet of space that the OBPA hopes to lease to another tenant. That space has access to a loading dock.

Canadian Company Files Real Estate Suit
Watertown Daily Times – May 12, 2011

A Canadian pharmaceutical company was close to buying the former Academy at Ivy Ridge property and a home on the St. Lawrence River last fall for \$2.2 million, but the sale was never finalized. Pegasus Pharmaceuticals Group Inc., Richmond, British Columbia, filed suit Tuesday against Londamerica Real Estate LLC, St. George, Utah, and Garlock Realty Corp., Alexandria Bay, seeking \$600,000, St. Lawrence County clerk's records show. The money, which was placed in an escrow account, was put down as a deposit for the properties. Clint Cheng, a Pegasus Pharmaceuticals spokesman, declined comment Wednesday on the lawsuit or the company's intent for the properties. Pegasus signed an agreement with Londamerica on June 4, 2010, to buy the 238-acre property at 5428 Route 37 and a home at 37-43 Fell Farm Road with 200 feet of frontage on the St. Lawrence River, county records show. Pegasus agreed to pay a \$200,000 deposit for the property, which was placed in an escrow account by Garlock Realty. The pharmaceutical company paid a second deposit of \$400,000 on Sept. 15, with the \$600,000 to be used toward the purchase price, the lawsuit says. The closing date for the sale was Oct. 29, but Pegasus alleges in the lawsuit that Londamerica and Garlock Realty were "unable to deliver and

warrant good title to all properties to be conveyed in accordance with the purchase and sale agreement." Matthew R. Garlock, owner of Garlock Realty, said Wednesday the \$600,000 can be returned to Pegasus Pharmaceuticals once both parties sign a release form. "We're willing to release the funds upon a mutually signed release of liability and legal issues," Mr. Garlock said. "We just can't return the money from the escrow account." The Ivy Ridge property is assessed at \$1.9 million and the Fell Farm Road home is assessed at \$175,000, according to county records. Londamerica bought the property and buildings housing the Academy at Ivy Ridge and the home on the river for \$2.8 million from New York Minute LLC, La Verkin, Utah, in April 2009. The former Mater Dei College campus in the town of Oswegatchie was sold to Robert Browning Lichfield Family Ltd., Toquerville, Utah, in August 2001 for \$1.23 million. The Academy at Ivy Ridge, a school for troubled youths, opened a few months later. The behavioral modification school had been under scrutiny by the state for several years. The state attorney general's office determined the school was making fraudulent claims that it was accredited and could issue high school diplomas. As a result of that investigation, Ivy Ridge agreed to pay \$1.5 million in refunds and fines. The school closed in March 2009. Pegasus Pharmaceuticals, formed in 1998, focuses on creating and developing "botanical drugs and natural health products as well as providing elite healthcare service," according to its website. Clayton attorney William F. Ramseier, representing Londamerica, declined comment Wednesday because he had not seen the lawsuit. The lawsuit was filed by Scott B. Goldie of the Canton office of the law firm Conboy, McKay, Bachman & Kendall. Mr. Goldie declined to comment, referring questions to Pegasus.

Cirque du Soleil's 'Totem' tackles the world's creation
Pittsburgh Tribune-Review - May 8, 2011

The large blue-and-yellow striped apparition that recently appeared on a Strip District parking lot is not a mushroom created by prolonged spring rains. It's Cirque du Soleil's way of announcing that the circus has come to town. The Montreal-based company will perform "Totem" beginning Thursday in its Grand Chapiteau (big tent) temporarily located on a parking lot near 20th and Smallman streets in the Strip District. "It's a nice site. I like the neighborhood. There used to be wholesale grocers, and, now, it's turned into lofts," says Sylvie Galarneau, the senior artistic director for show integrity and quality for Cirque du Soleil. "It's a fun location for the artists, and it's nice to see the river and the city." Known for creating its own brand of European-style circuses that are equal parts visual splendor and breathtaking feats of daring, Cirque productions employ traditional performers such as acrobats, cyclists, aerialists and jugglers, but no animals. It's been that way since Cirque's beginning, says Galarneau. "From the very beginning we wanted to put the focus on humans and artists. ... It's a different thing to have to take care of (animals), and you can't direct them," she says.

The show - Legends, myths and oral traditions of the world's creation or founding inspired writer and director Robert Lepage's "Totem" which uses the imagery and acrobatics to track the evolutionary progress of species. On a stage shaped like the back of a turtle, the characters of "Totem" evolve from primordial amphibians to humans who dream of soaring and flying though the air. Appearing as fish and frogs, scientists, lovebirds, businessmen, crystals and American Indians, the show's performers use trapezes, hoops, unicycles and feats of balance and timing to wow the audience and transmit their story. Other facts about "Totem":

- Premiered in Montreal on April 22, 2010
- Is Lepage's second collaboration with Cirque. He previously created "Ka" which plays at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas
- Is Cirque's first hybrid show. It was created so that it can play in permanent structures -- such as arenas - - and in the Grand Chapiteau.

The tent(s) - • Cirque du Soleil's mobile village includes a main tent, one large entrance tent, the box office, the kitchen, a school, offices and warehouses.

- The site takes eight days to set up and three to take down.
- Sixty-five trucks transport "Totem's" 1,200 tons of equipment.
- Between two and three generators provide electricity to the Grand Chapiteau. The complex is self-sufficient for electrical power.

- The canvas for Cirque du Soleil's main tent and its 11 tunnels weighs approximately 11,523 pounds.
- It's 66 feet high, has a diameter of 167 feet and is supported by four masts, each of which is 80 feet tall.
- A team of 80 people is needed to raise the main tent.
- The Grand Chapiteau can seat 2,500 to 2,600 people, depending on which configuration fits local ordinances.
- The main tent, the entrance tent, the artistic tent and the Tapis Rouge (red carpet) tent, which is used for hosting special events, are climate-controlled.

The company - In the early 1980s, a band of 20 street performers began roaming the streets of Baie-Saint-Paul, a small town near the Canadian city of Quebec. Founded by Gilles Ste-Crois, Les Echassiers (The Stiltwalkers) de Baie-Saint-Paul tottered atop stilts, juggled, danced, breathed fire and played music. Among those performers was Guy Laliberte, who went on to found Cirque du Soleil. In 1982, the performance troupe, now known as Le Club des Talons Hauts (The High Heels Club), organized La Fete Foraine de Baie-Saint-Paul, a cultural event that attracted street performers from other areas to meet, exchange ideas and enliven the local streets. Two years later, Quebec City solicited proposals for a show that would tour the province of Quebec as part of its celebration of the 450th anniversary of Canada's discovery by Jacques Cartier. Laliberte successfully submitted a proposal for a production he called Cirque du Soleil, which employed 73 people. Today, Cirque du Soleil has more than 4,000 employees worldwide, including more than 1,000 artists, who represent 40 nationalities and speak 25 languages. Touring shows have visited more than 250 cities around the world and nearly 100 million spectators have seen a Cirque du Soleil show. There are 21 Cirque shows available, with 10 on tour somewhere in the world. Another 11 perform at permanent locations: seven in Las Vegas and one each in Los Angeles, Tokyo, Macao and at Walt Disney World. "Zarkana," Cirque's 22nd show, will open on June 9 at Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

The numbers - 22: The different touring or resident shows Cirque is offering in Europe, Asia and North America during 2011

200 to 250: Meals served per day, six days a week by kitchen staff of "Totem"

52: Artists in the multinational cast of "Totem," who come from 18 countries

150: Minimum number of people hired in each city for jobs such as ushers, food and beverage attendants, box-office ticket sellers and janitors

2: Full-time teachers who travel with the company to teach young performers and the children of touring artists

4,500: Small mirrors and crystals that adorn the stretch-velvet leotard worn by the Crystal Man. The costume weighs eight pounds

8: Mineral-oil hydraulic motors that power the Scorpion Bridge as it rises, descends, extends, contracts and curls in on itself in imitation of a scorpion's tail

2,700: Weight in pounds of the turtle's skeletal substructure that serves as a scenic element and acrobatic equipment. The turtle shell serves a variety of artistic needs, rising as needed to the top of the tent or opening at an angle like a clam shell

2009: Year that Cirque founder Guy Laliberte took photos while aboard the International Space Station. The images are integrated into the show's visual effects

779: Costume pieces in the "Totem" wardrobe, including shoes, headpieces and accessories

33: Height in feet of the tallest duralumin perch pole used by the 10 acrobats who appear as businessmen attempting to get to the top

15 million: People expected to see a Cirque du Soleil show during 2011

0: Number of private or public grants the company has received since 1992

More, please - Can't get enough Cirque du Soleil? A second helping is coming next year. Cirque du Soleil will bring "Michael Jackson: The Immortal World Tour" to the Petersen Events Center in Oakland for three performances April 13 to 15. Aimed at the singer's fans and those experiencing the pop star's creative genius for the first time, the show uses Jackson's music and lyrics to explore his creative process and underscore his messages of love, peace and unity. Tickets ranging in price from \$50 to \$250 are on sale at www.cirquedusoleil.com/MichaelJackson and www.ticketmaster.com or 800-745-3000.

Buffalo News - May 12, 2011

During the summer of 1962, in a small makeshift theater inside a courthouse on Queen Street in idyllic Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., a lawyer by the name of Brian Doherty produced eight weekend performances of George Bernard Shaw's "Don Juan in Hell" and "Candida." He called the mini-festival a "Salute to Shaw," no doubt out of a desire to keep that monumental Irish playwright's boundary-breaking work and his eternally controversial ideas alive for new generations of theatergoers. In short order, Doherty's personal salute blossomed into a regionwide festival, which, when the curtain goes up on Shaw's epic play "Heartbreak House" on May 25, will usher in its 50th season. Across the half-century of its existence, the Shaw Festival's mandate has softened to allow works by Shaw's contemporaries, and more recently our own living playwrights, into the fold. But always at its heart has been a devotion to the work of Shaw, who was as interested in learning from the mistakes of the past as he was in demolishing the old order and establishing a new one. His work, as usual, takes center stage during this year's season, spread across four theater spaces in the picturesque lakeside village. But other pieces deal with topics Doherty could not have imagined and playwrights who hadn't been born when he made his first tentative steps to establish a festival that has grown in size and reputation -- and, as a recent study has it, an economic impact on the order of \$106 million -- ever since that 1962 summer. That's the modern-day Shaw Festival, under the artistic direction of Jackie Maxwell -- an endeavor that, like its namesake, looks back only in order to move forward. Here's a breakdown of what's on tap for the Shaw's 50th anniversary season. Many productions are now in previews, but the dates listed reflect the shows' official openings. For more information, check out www.shawfest.com. "Heartbreak House," May 25 through Oct. 7 in the Festival Theatre. If Shaw's own account is to be believed, he wrote this play during the crushing conflict of World War I. It takes place in a country house, where several family members assemble and a number of unexpected and altogether unsavory events occur -- having to do with marriage and money, at least on the surface -- all while a palpable sense of doom looms. Shaw called the play his "King Lear." "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," May 26 through Oct. 23 in the Royal George Theatre. This Tennessee Williams drama, inevitably described as "steamy" or "sultry," recently received a surprisingly chilly production from the Irish Classical Theatre Company, so local theatergoers are lucky to have a chance to compare directorial approaches to this production, helmed by Eda Holmes. The show, an examination of guilt and regret swirling with extremely detestable characters and set on a Southern plantation, is considered one of Williams' finest works. "Drama at Inish: A Comedy," May 27 through Oct. 1 in the Court House Theatre. It's a cliché, though true, that the theater can change your life. That very possibility lies at the heart of this little-known 1933 play by Lennox Robinson, a writer largely forgotten in North America. It centers on a small seaside town in Ireland, where the usual summer comedy troupe has been replaced with a repertory company performing great works of drama by Chekhov, Ibsen and Strindberg. This has an irreversible effect on the citizenry, which seems to take to the plays' lessons a bit too well. "Candida," May 28 through Oct. 30 in the Royal George Theatre. This comedy, wildly popular in its day and still often produced, is George Bernard Shaw's look at the love triangle. It centers on one Rev. James Morrell, who is deeply enamored of his wife, Candida. That stability is threatened with the arrival of the effete young poet Eugene Marchbanks, who has his own designs on the good reverend's wife. In the end, gentlemen that they are, they leave the decision up to her. "My Fair Lady," May 28 through Oct. 30 in the Festival Theatre. This musical, adapted from Shaw's "Pygmalion," has been hailed as one of the best pieces of musical theater of the 20th century. And for good reason: It combines Shaw's wicked sense of humor and ear for dialogue with music and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe and a story of transformation plucked from antiquity. The show follows Cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle as she falls under the tutelage of speech scientist Henry Higgins and their lives intersect in all manner of amusing ways. "On the Rocks," July 8 through Oct. 8 in the Court House Theatre. In a great deal of George Bernard Shaw's work, the themes and issues -- if not the dialogue that surround them -- are often searingly relevant. Sometimes, though, they can benefit from a little nudge. Which is just what Canadian playwright Michael Healey, who has "re-envisioned" Shaw's political play for a modern audience, does. The piece, set in 10 Downing St. after a disastrous speech from Britain's prime minister, explores the vagaries of politics through the mind of one particularly unhinged elected official. "The President," July 9 through Oct. 9 in the Royal George Theatre. This one-act, one-hour comedy tour-de-force, brought back

after its wildly successful run at the Shaw Fest in 2008, stars Lorne Kennedy as a motor-mouthed CEO who must solve a very peculiar problem in a very tight time-frame. If this repeat production is as good as the last one -- and with Kennedy in the starring role, there's no reason to believe it won't be -- Shaw fans will be in for a fast-paced treat. "The Admirable Crichton," July 9 through Oct. 29. The Shaw Festival website calls this play "Upstairs Downstairs" meets "Lost," and that's not a bad description for this comedy from J.M. Barrie, the beloved author of "Peter Pan." The show, part fantasy, part class analysis, examines what happens to an aristocratic family and its servants when they are all thrown together on a deserted island to fend for themselves. "Maria Severa," Aug. 5 through Sept. 23. This original musical by Jay Turvey and Paul Sportelli is the result of four years of work. It charts the life of Maria Severa, a onetime prostitute-turned-singer whose life and work came to define the Portuguese musical genre known as fado. This new musical follows Turvey and Sportelli's original 2007 musical "Tristan," a retelling of the legend of Tristan and Isolde. "Topdog/Underdog," July 19 to Aug. 27. Part of the Shaw Festival's new series of contemporary plays presented in the Studio Theatre (normally a rehearsal place), this play by Suzan Lori-Parks took home the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 2002. Its central characters are two brothers, Lincoln and Booth, whose story touches on issues of poverty, racism and, as Lori-Parks has said, "family wounds and healing." "When the Rain Stops Falling," Aug. 11 to Sept. 17. This new play by Australian writer Andrew Bovell, also part of the Shaw's contemporary series, begins in the year 2039, with a fish falling from the sky. It then zooms back and forth between the decades and across continents as it explores a complex and pained relationship among a father, mother and son, and that son's attempt to find the answers that have long eluded him.

Shaw Festival - To learn more about the Shaw Festival or for information on accommodations and packages, visit www.shawfest.com.

Tickets: \$32 to \$106 (Canadian) general admission; \$24 student matinees and \$41 senior matinees. Other special savings tickets are available. Tickets can be ordered online or by calling (800) 511-7429 or (905) 468-2172.

Directions: Enter Canada at the Peace Bridge, Rainbow Bridge in Niagara Falls or the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge. Take the QEW to Regional Road 55 (Exit 38) into Niagara-on-the-Lake. For a scenic drive, take the Niagara Parkway instead.

Don't forget: U.S. citizens need a passport, passport card, enhanced driver's license or NEXUS card to enter Canada.

Events to mark War of 1812 in Ontario The Niagara Gazette - May 7, 2011

A cannon-fire booming across the lower Niagara River, a heated exchange between Fort George and Fort Niagara. A re-enactment of the Fort Erie siege. The commander of the British forces dying on the slopes at Queenston Heights and some American militia refusing to cross the river to fight in Canada. That's only a few glimpses of the War of 1812 — from the Canadian perspective — which the Bicentennial Legacy Council is planning to commemorate with a series of special events next year. The council unveiled the signature events for Canada during a presentation Friday at the Queenston Heights Restaurant. About 50 people, including regional and local government officials, Legacy Council staffers, educators and the media, attended the briefing. A similar program will be held later on the U.S. side to outline border events, at Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, the Village of Lewiston and near Black Rock and Buffalo. "These six events (in Ontario) are going to be the larger-scale activities, amongst hundreds of event throughout 2012," said Brian Merrett, chief executive officer of the Legacy Council. Merrett said the VIP invitation list is expected to include Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and possibly President Barack Obama. John Johnston, chair of the Fort Erie Grand Parade, noted that Fort Erie was a major site in that war. "Were it not for the sacrifice of thousands of people, the conditions would not have been created whereby (decades) later, Canada was able to become an independent country," he said. The motto for the bicentennial observance in Fort Erie is "1812: Canada's First Step to Nationhood." Friday's program was held within a short walk of where Maj. Gen. Isaac Brock was killed on Oct. 13, 1812, as he tried to lead his troops up the hill in the legendary Battle of Queenston Heights. The general is buried in a vault beneath the 184-foot high

monument that bears his name. The structure is now maintained by Parks Canada as a National Historic Site. The Legacy Council is a cross-border not-for-profit organization established to commemorate the War of 1812 and celebrate 200 years of peace between the U.S. and Canada.

Mayer's Lake Ontario Winery is building War of 1812 memorial
Rochester Democrat & Chronicle – May 11, 2011

Work on the first of two area peace gardens commemorating the War of 1812 moved forward Tuesday with a groundbreaking at Mayer's Lake Ontario Winery. "This is an important day for Mayer's," said winery owner David Bower Jr. "There is so much history in this area, and people just don't know that much about it." The Bowers donated 11,500 square feet of land at their Hamlin-Parma Townline Road vineyard and tasting rooms facility to the garden effort. Materials and design were donated by Terry Tree and RM Landscape. Other funds for the project will be raised through donations. The Hamlin garden is part of a trail of Bicentennial 1812 gardens planned by the International Peace Garden Foundation to commemorate the war and celebrate the peace that has existed between Canada and the United States for the past 200 years. The garden trail runs primarily along Lake Ontario and the Niagara River on the American side and along Lake Ontario and sites in southwestern Ontario on the Canadian side. During the War of 1812, fought by the United States against the British Empire, parts of New York saw significant battle. There were hard-fought naval skirmishes along shoreline communities as the two sides grappled for control of Lake Ontario. Each garden along the trail will have a plaque describing the site's significance. Mayer's is also planning a nautical-themed tasting room that will feature 1812 artifacts and battle murals. "There are plans to install signs all along the trail, just like those all along the Seaway Trail," said Sharon Bronson, Hamlin International Peace Garden Foundation project coordinator. The project also aims to spur tourism. A fundraiser to help offset costs for the Hamlin garden will be held Thursday. Work will begin today on Monroe County's second 1812 garden, at the Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse in Rochester near the Genesee River.

Flood waters in Quebec continue to recede but residents can't go home yet
Plattsburgh Press Republic - May 9, 2011

Flood waters in Quebec continue to decline and authorities expect levels to drop about four centimetres a day in the coming week if the weather cooperates. But the Richelieu River south of Montreal still hasn't returned to normal in most areas and many residents are still waiting for the go-ahead to return home. Roughly 3,000 homes were flooded. Quebec provincial police are surveying the damage to make sure homes are safe. There is also a psychological support team on hand to help the roughly 1,000 who were forced from their homes. Nearly 800 Canadian soldiers are now working on the relief operation and they have laid down nearly 50,000 sand bags. The Quebec government has handed out \$1.1 million to assist flood victims while the Canadian Red Cross set up a fund to help those who need additional support. An usually heavy snowfall over the winter, combined with a week of steady rain, is blamed for the flooding.

B. Border Communications

U.S. Congress gives little thought to Canada other than as a stable source of energy with questionable border security -

<http://www.fraserinstitute.org/research-news/news/display.aspx?id=17492>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 10, 2011

SCHUMER TO CHAIR SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING ON NORTHERN BORDER SECURITY – WILL PRESS OFFICIALS FOR ANSWERS ON NORTHERN BORDER SECURITY FUNDING, ANTI-DRUG TRAFFICKING PROGRAMS, AND RADAR INSTALLATION UPDATES

Schumer Will Chair Hearing Focused On Border Security Initiatives That Are Essential For Anti-Drug And Anti-Terror Efforts In Upstate New York

At Committee Hearing Chaired By Schumer, Senator Will Ask Heads Of Immigration And Customs Enforcement And Customs And Border Patrol For Update On Key NY Border Initiatives

Schumer: Securing Our Northern Border Needs To Be A Top Priority For The Department Of Homeland Security

Today, U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer announced that he will chair a hearing of the Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees, and Border Security where he will ask key Department of Homeland Security Officials for updates and commitments on a series of border security initiatives that are critical to Upstate New York. Schumer called for the hearing, to be held on May 17th, which will feature testimony from Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Director John Morton, as well as Alan Bersin, Commissioner of Customs and Border Patrol. During the hearing, Schumer is expected to press the officials for updates on efforts to install radar to detect low-flying planes, future funding for Northern Border initiatives, passenger train screening projects and other priorities of importance to Northern New York.

“I called this hearing in order to get a comprehensive update on a number of key initiatives designed to enhance security along our Northern Border,” said Schumer. “I look forward to a complete report on all of the work being done to secure the Northern Border, discussing where we must do better, and ensuring that future security priorities will have the backing and support of the federal government.”

At the hearing, Schumer will discuss DHS’ potential support of Operation Stonegarden grants to be used along the Northern Border. The program provides grants to border state, local, or tribal governments in order to augment Border Patrol’ staffs efforts to secure the border. A Government Accountability Office report concluded that the program has significant benefits for border security, but the Administration’s FY2012 Budget Proposal does not currently allow Northern Border states to utilize the funding. Schumer will seek DHS’ support for his efforts to use this funding in support of Northern New York border security initiatives.

Schumer will press for an update on his effort to speed up the inspection process for trains coming into Upstate New York across the Canadian border. Currently, passenger travel on the Quebec to New York City corridor is delayed for significant periods of time as incoming trains are stopped at the border for an arduous, two hour inspection and screening process. The delays associated with crossing the border could be substantially reduced if Customs and Border Patrol established a passenger prescreening process at the Montreal train station, rather than in the middle of transit. Last month, Schumer called on Customs and Border Patrol to establish a pre-

trip inspection point to cut down on travel delays, and offered any necessary legislative assistance to help the agency create the inspection point.

Schumer is also seeking an update on progress being made after Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano announced that she would deploy military-grade radar technology to the Northern Border to combat rampant drug smuggling. The announcement came at Senator Schumer's urging, after a February Government Accountability Office (GAO) report showed that only 32 of the nearly 4,000 miles that make up the US-Canada border are considered secure. In conjunction with President Barack Obama's and Prime Minister Stephen Harper's announcement to improve border security, Schumer sought to implement radar technology that specializes in tracking low-altitude planes that can be used to smuggle drugs over the border. At a previous Judiciary Committee hearing, Secretary Napolitano announced that DHS will deploy such radar technology, which will help combat the devastating effects of drug smuggling on border communities. The radar technology has already undergone a test near the Spokane, WA section of the border where it proved to be an effective tool in the fight against drug smuggling from Canada.

###

Slaughter Announces \$60 Million for High-Speed Rail Projects Along Upstate's Empire Corridor

Fourth Track to be Constructed in Albany, Additional funding for Rochester Intermodal Station. Almost One-Fifth of Florida's Rejected Funds to Come to New York.

WASHINGTON – Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) today announced almost \$60 million has been awarded to New York State for two rail projects that will advance high-speed rail projects along Upstate's high-speed rail corridor. Today federal funding turned down by Florida Governor Rick Scott was reallocated to New York benefiting the Rochester Intermodal Station to the tune of \$1.4 million and building a fourth track in the highly congested Rensselaer station in Albany with an additional \$58 million awarded today.

Today federal funding turned down by Florida Governor Rick Scott was reallocated to New York benefiting Rochester Intermodal Station to the tune of \$1.4 million and building a fourth track in the highly congested Rensselaer station in Albany with an additional \$58 million. Further details on the projects are included below.

“Every time federal high-speed rail money is available, millions of dollars have come to New York,” said Slaughter, founding Co-Chair of the Bicameral High-Speed & Intercity Passenger Rail Caucus. **“Because New York is willing to embrace the vision that other states have rejected, we will be able to create one of the largest international trade corridors placing Upstate New York's cities squarely in the middle of economic activity. When other states have rejected the vision of a high-speed intercity network, I have made sure New York has been willing to move ahead and not repeat their mistakes.**

Thirty-four states were competing for Florida's allocated funding. New York's upstate and downstate projects together received almost one-fifth of Florida's rejected funds.

“I'm particularly pleased to see funding for the Rochester Intermodal Station which will make high-speed rail accessible to tourists and business commuters who come to Rochester,” said Slaughter. **“I'm also pleased that we are laying track and relieving one of the Empire Corridor's**

most significant bottlenecks in Albany. The tracks around Albany have been congested for years and the construction of this fourth track is long overdue.”

On February 16, the same day Florida’s governor rejected \$2.4 billion in federal funding, Slaughter wrote to U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood requesting that a portion of the funding be given to New York’s high-speed rail program. The full text of the letter is available below.

Slaughter is the founder and Co-Chair of the Upstate Congressional Caucus and founding Co-Chair of the Bicameral High-Speed & Intercity Passenger Rail Caucus.

Last week, for her work advocating for a national high-speed rail network that includes Upstate New York, Slaughter was awarded the Golden Spike Award from the National Association of Railroad Passengers (NARP). NARP President and CEO Ross B. Capon said, “Through her leadership over many years, and this year in the creation of the bicameral High Speed and Intercity Rail Caucus, Congresswoman Slaughter has shown the steadfast political courage it will take to create a modern passenger rail system, bringing the many benefits of trains to Americans across the nation.”

For more on Slaughter’s work to bring high-speed rail to Upstate New York, [click here](#).

Summary of Projects

- **New York – Rochester Station and Track Improvements** – \$1.4 million for a preliminary engineering and environmental analysis for a new Rochester Intermodal Station on the Empire Corridor, connecting passengers with additional transit and pedestrian options.
- **New York – Empire Corridor Capacity Improvements** – \$58 million to construct upgrades to tracks, stations and signals, improving rail operations along the Empire Corridor. This includes replacement of the Schenectady Station and construction of a fourth station track at the Albany - Rensselaer Station, one of the corridor’s most significant bottlenecks.

Slaughter’s Letter to Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood

February 16, 2011

The Honorable Raymond H. LaHood

Secretary

U.S. Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We are writing to request that New York State receive a portion of the \$2.4 billion in high-speed rail funds that the state of Florida was awarded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As you know, this morning Governor Rick Scott announced his decision to reject the funds for the Orlando high-speed rail project. New York State is committed to implementing high-speed rail because we understand that an improved transportation system is vital to our national security.

While we are aware of the resistance among some to spend money in our current economic environment, the truth is that only bold investments in our nation’s infrastructure will help us build a foundation for a

stronger future, compete in the global economy and improve national security. The ability to ensure the safety of our citizens is tied directly to our ability to rebuild and retool our transportation networks and our economy that relies on these networks for success. A national high-speed rail system would serve as a modern network to move both civilian and military personnel at a moment's notice, while freeing our freight rail lines to move goods and supplies.

Continuing high-speed rail efforts in Upstate New York, will directly benefit the thousands of rail workers in the state, just as it would in regions throughout the country. Once completed, a high speed-rail line would continue to create expanded opportunities for economic growth. In Western New York, completion of an Empire Corridor high speed rail line would reduce travel time significantly, and expand the Western New York labor market to 955,562 workers. This would make the Buffalo-Niagara Falls-Rochester metro area the 26th largest in the nation.

It would also open Canadian markets to the United States. A high-speed rail line between the two countries would serve as an international gateway tying together knowledge hubs like Montreal, Toronto and New York City with the skilled and talented labor of Buffalo, Rochester and Niagara Falls. It also would break down the east-west barrier of current American train travel, by providing access to Boston to the east, and Detroit and Chicago to the west- a notion that is unheard of today.

Thank you for your consideration and for your strong leadership in the Administration's historic and bold initiative to modernize our nation's infrastructure with high-speed rail.

Sincerely,

Louise M. Slaughter (NY-28)

Paul Tonko (NY-21)

CSG/ERC Canada-U.S. Relations Update...

Businesses Seek Cross-Border Improvements

Business interests are making their voices heard in response to the Obama Administration's promise to seek greater coordination of border issues with Canada. Pleas for more consistent and streamlined regulations have emerged from a broad range of corporate players.

Responding to a Commerce Department request for input, retailer Target Corp. said conflicting consumer safety rules threaten its ability to provide the same products in both markets at low cost and asked for "greater regulatory coherence".

Campbell Soup Co. urged action on a number of regulatory issues, including inconsistent food nutrition rules, container size requirements, and commercial vehicle weight rules. Others sought harmonization of rules governing medical devices and pharmaceuticals, agricultural inspections and visa requirements.

In February, President Obama and Prime Minister Harper announced a major new initiative designed to improve management of the shared border and better coordinate trade rules, declaring they intend to "pursue creative and effective solutions to manage the flow of traffic between Canada and the United States."

Bersin Outlines CBP Priorities

U.S. Customs and Border Protection head Alan Bersin told a trade group last month that border security measures have made cargo clearance procedures too cumbersome and expensive.

Speaking at the annual conference of the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America, Bersin said CBP is reviewing its border clearance programs with an eye toward streamlining procedures to better facilitate trade. Bersin also said he believes the cost of customs transactions can be reduced by 10 to 15 %.

Bersin said programs such as the Container Security Initiative, advance manifest filing and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism should be managed in a way that both help prevent terrorist attacks and facilitate trade. He touted the yet to be completed International Trade Data System which is expected to provide a single portal for traders to interact with multiple agencies.

Bersin said his priorities for CBP also include improving the agency's relationship with the international trade community and making progress on development of the Automated Commercial Environment.

Newfoundland and Labrador Sees Budget Surplus

The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador is contemplating a budget surplus of \$485-million in 2011, bucking the trend for many states and provinces. The province's economy grew at a rate of 5.6 per cent last year and is expected to expand 3.0 per cent in 2011.

Newfoundland and Labrador have seen an uptick in revenues from a boom in oil prices and other commodities. It also benefits from exports of hydroelectric power and nickel and a growing tourist trade.

According to government reports, the province's population is also increasing following years of decline.

Canada Institute

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Welcome to the May 12 edition of "Canada Institute News." Our biweekly brief e-mail messages will keep you informed not only about what is happening at the Canada Institute but also in the Canada-U.S. relationship. Thank you for your continued interest and support--please feel free to pass this along to those who might be interested in the programs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Temporary Migrant Careworker Programs in Canada and the European Union: Models for the United States?

Tomorrow, Friday May 13, 2011, 9:00am- 1:00pm

This conference, hosted in cooperation with [United States Studies](#) and the [Mexico Institute](#) of the Woodrow Wilson Center, addresses the impact of current U.S. careworker practices on migrants and their families and considers legal and policy implications of temporary programs, while looking at Canada and the EU as possible models for U.S. policy. [More information](#) and [RSVP](#).

EVENTS OF INTEREST

Fences, Walls, and Borders: State of Insecurity?

Tuesday, May 17- Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 8:30am- 7:00pm ([see full program](#))

The event will be held at the [Université du Québec à Montréal](#)

This timely 2-day conference on border relations addresses the "walls" along the Mexico-U.S. border and in Israel-Palestine, and the role of border walls in the context of security and friendly relations. [Read more information](#), [view the conference website](#), and [RSVP](#).

RECENT EVENTS

"Any Changes Coming? Implications of the May 2 Canadian Federal Election for Canada and Canada-U.S. Relations"

(May 4, 2011)

The Canada Institute and the [Canadian American Business Council](#) hosted a [lively discussion](#) of the surprising election results. [Watch the event](#). Also, [read more about why the federal election didn't garner much attention in the United States](#).

"Canada Crude to China? Prospects and Barriers of Increasing Chinese Imports of Canadian Oil"

(May 5, 2011)

[Read a summary](#) of China's current push to diversify its sources of oil imports and how Canada could potentially be an important supplier. [View event video](#) and [powerpoints](#).

NEWS

Meeting of the Arctic Council

The [8 Arctic member nations of the council met](#) in Nuuk, Greenland, yesterday and today to [sign an international treaty on search-and-rescue](#) operations in the region. Today's discussions are also expected to focus on [offshore drilling, the threat of potential oil spills and other environmental concerns](#). The first U.S. Secretary of State to attend an Arctic Council meeting, [Hillary Rodham Clinton, represents the United States' increased interest](#) in the region; she is expected to [push for an oil spill response committee](#). Follow coverage from the [Arctic Council](#) and [NYT](#).

Québec Government Unveils "Plan Nord"

On May 9 [Premier Jean Charest launched](#) the Québec Government's [large-scale project for the sustainable development of Northern Québec](#), an area almost twice the size of Texas. The several billion dollar project has the potential for long-term investment and job opportunities for both sides of the border. [Read more information](#) and [follow the project on Twitter](#).

Follow the Canada Institute!

Focus 2011: Business at the Border

Monday, June 6

- 8:00 to 8:45 Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:45 to 9:00 Welcome
- Robert Horr, Executive Director, Thousand Islands Bridge Authority
 - Howard Kelly, Director, The Capital Corridor
- 9:00 to 10:00 The Business of Bi-National Trade
A high-level look at the Canada-US trading relationship
- Marta Moszczenska, Consul General, Consulate General of Canada, Buffalo, NY
 - Sue Saarnio, Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, U.S. Embassy, Ottawa, Ontario
- 10:00 to 10:30 Break & Networking
10:30 to 11:45 The Business of Tourism
The importance of cross-border travel to regional tourism
- Gary S. DeYoung, Director of Tourism, Thousand Islands Regional Tourism Development Corporation
 - Peter Pantuso, President & CEO, American Bus Association
- 11:45 to 1:00 Lunch & Networking
- **Special Guest Speaker: Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand, (D-NY) (invited)**
- 1:00 to 2:15 The Business of Energy
Wind, Solar, Bio-fuels - where are we going?
- Darrell Veres, Plant Manager, GreenField Ethanol, Johnstown, Ontario
 - Linda Dickerson Hartsock, VP, CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity & Executive Director of the Clean Tech Center, The Tech Garden, Syracuse, NY
- 2:15 to 2:45 Break & Networking
2:45 to 4:00 The Business of Agriculture
More than just dairy
- Steve Conaway, Owner, 1000 Islands Winery, Alexandria Bay, NY
 - Tom Lawler, Owner, Eagle Point Winery, Mallorytown, Ontario
 - Jeff Pierce, VP, Morris Northstar Hatchery, Watertown, NY
- 5:00 Shuttle boat leaves Edgewood dock for Reception at Boldt Castle on Heart Island.
5:30 to 7:30 Boldt Castle Reception
7:30: Shuttle returns to Edgewood

Tuesday, June 7

- 7:30 to 8:30 Registration & Hot Buffet Breakfast
8:15 to 8:45 Special Guest Speaker: Gord Brown, Member of Parliament for Leeds-Grenville
8:45 to 10:00 The Business of Transportation
Highways, Borders and Corridors
- Mark Seymour, President & CEO, Kriska, Prescott, Ontario
 - Jacques Rochon, Executive Director, Gateway Policy, Transport Canada, Ottawa, Ontario
 - Pat Jones, CEO, International Bridge, Tunnel & Turnpike Association, Washington, DC
- 10:00 to 10:30 Break & Networking
10:30 to 11:45 The Business of the Military
The economic impact of bases on the regional economy
- Colonel Rick Fawcett, Base Commander, Canadian Forces Base, Kingston Ontario
 - Michael Richardson, Community Plans Specialist, Fort Drum, NY
- 11:45 to 1:00 The Business of Regional Economic Development
Job attraction and retention - a regional emphasis
- Dave Paul, Director, Economic Development, City of Brockville, Ontario
 - Michelle Capone, Deputy Comptroller, Development Authority of the North Country, Watertown, NY
 - Jim Fayle, Empire State Development, Watertown, NY
- 12:30 to 1:30 Lunch, Networking & Conference Wrap Up



howardkelly@thecapitalcorridor.com

Focus 2011: Business at the Border

June 6 & 7 – The Edgewood Resort, Alexandria Bay, NY

Directions to The Edgewood

- Exit 50N from I-81
- Follow Route 12 towards Alexandria Bay
- Edgewood entrance on your left just past Sunoco station

Conference Discussion Topics

- The Business of Bi-National trade
- The Business of Tourism
- The Business of Energy
- The Business of Agriculture
- The Business of Transportation
- The Business of the Military
- The Business of Regional Economic Development

Conference Hotel

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Edgewood Resort & Conference Center. Mention the Capital Corridor to get the special rates. The block will be available until May 28.

www.theedgewoodresort.com
(315) 482-9923



For further information: howardkelly@thecapitalcorridor.com (315) 482-2501

Registration Form

Fax Registration Forms to: The Capital Corridor@ (315) 482-6064

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E-Mail

Method of Payment

Checks (Payable to TIBA)

VISA

MasterCard

Card Number

Expiration Date & Security Code

Signature

Conference Fee: \$125

Includes 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, Boldt Castle Monday Evening Reception

I will/will not (please circle one) travel to the Boldt Castle reception on Monday evening

Embassy: Canada's Foreign Policy Newsweekly - <http://www.embassymag.ca/>

C. Editorials/Columns

Harper's Conservatives: Canada shifts Pittsburgh Tribune Review - May 7, 2011

The Conservative Party's triumph in Monday's parliamentary elections is an epochal moment in Canadian politics -- a Reaganesque reordering of power rewarding conservative policies. Head of a minority government since 2006, Prime Minister Stephen Harper now will have four years heading a strong majority government. His Conservatives won 167 of 308 House of Commons seats as long-dominant Liberals took huge losses and New Democrats gained at the expense of the separatist Bloc Quebecois. Mr. Harper won't impose anything considered "radical." But he will stay his existing rightward course -- one that has led him to reduce sales and corporate taxes, reject Chicken Little climate alarmism, boost military spending and extend Canada's military role in Afghanistan. Yes, he did pledge his commitment to Canada's socialized health care system. But he knows Canadian politics better than do U.S. conservatives -- and even with socialized health care and his Conservatives in the minority, his leadership helped Canada weather the recession far better than America has. Canadian voters' tilt toward Harper's Conservatives means America has a stronger, better ally on its northern border. Hopefully, it's a portent of a comparable shift among the U.S. electorate.

Monday's commentary: Rep. Louise Slaughter challenges CSX to be a reliable partner in high-speed rail Syracuse Post Standard – May 9, 2011

It was with great dismay that I read “Faster High-Speed Rail: Albany should heed CSX’s legitimate concerns,” published on April 26. First, let me be clear that I agree wholeheartedly with the editorial board’s declaration: “there’s no doubt that high-speed rail would be good for New York.” A report by the United States Conference of Mayors estimates at least 21,000 new jobs and \$1.1 billion in new wages can come to New York as a result of high-speed rail. Already in the Syracuse metropolitan area, an estimated 1,300 individuals are employed in businesses supporting the rail industry. Meanwhile, the CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity has identified 96 manufacturers and service providers for the passenger rail industry in our state, many of which operate in Central New York. High-speed rail will indeed be good for New York. This is why I have worked closely with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), New York state, Amtrak and CSX on the development of a plan to accomplish this goal while ensuring freight rail remains reliable and cost efficient. With this in mind, New York state needs a reliable partner in CSX, and many of the comments put forward earlier need to be addressed. As Amtrak riders know, passenger and freight rail share two tracks across Upstate, resulting in passenger trains, not CSX freight, being forced to pull over on the busiest corridor in the nation. Our goal is to eliminate the current co-mingling of freight and passenger rail altogether, improving the speed, frequency and reliability of passenger trains and freeing up current tracks for freight rail. Because this line previously housed four tracks, the current right of way already has unused space. To be clear, New York does not want to operate passenger rail on CSX’s track and is studying all options for constructing a dedicated third track for high-speed passenger rail in the existing right of way. CSX, Amtrak and FRA are all participating in this ongoing study to be completed within the year. It is particularly disturbing that prior to the completion of the joint study, CSX has arbitrarily predetermined that any new passenger track, with few exceptions, must be built 30 feet from their tracks. How did CSX magically arrive at 30 feet before the study was completed? In a letter to CSX in May 2010, FRA, whose purpose is “to promulgate and enforce rail safety regulations,” made it clear that many issues, not only distance, must be considered as part of a comprehensive approach to shared corridor safety. I share, along with New York state, a commitment to safety. Yet, all four other major high-speed rail corridors across the country have agreements between the states and the Class I freight haulers. In fact, the recent agreement that was reached for the Chicago-St. Louis Union Pacific corridor stated that a 20-foot track center would be maintained where possible at passenger train speeds of 110 mph trains. Why is CSX the only Class I freight hauler unable to reach an agreement? I ask them to honor the

commitment made in their May 2010 letter to FRA. "We reiterate our willingness to explore actively exceptions and solutions on a case-by-case basis where safe and appropriate," they said. We must work together to bring high-speed rail to Upstate. It will develop one of the largest economic trade corridors in the world, linking Upstate to Toronto, Montreal, New York City and Chicago. High-speed rail is a win-win situation for passenger rail, freight rail and New York. The improvements to existing track and the third track are in CSX's best interest and I encourage CSX to get onboard. - ***Rep. Louise Slaughter is the chairwoman and founder of the Upstate Congressional Caucus and the Bi-Cameral High-Speed & Intercity Passenger Rail Caucus. A Democrat, she represents portions of Rochester, Niagara Falls and Buffalo.***

**Keep jobs here - Encourage foreign entrepreneurs to invest in U.S.
Watertown Daily Times – May 13, 2011**

American-trained foreign engineers and high-tech workers, who immigrated here in search of opportunities, are returning home to establish their own companies and taking not only their skills but hundreds of jobs with them. An affordable labor force, lower cost of living, American limits on visas and a favorable economic climate are drawing them back to their native lands that will benefit from their research, innovation and development of new products and services rather than the United States. Visa issues prompted Kunal Bahl to return to India to found his company SnapDeal in 2007. The business, which sells travel packages and consumer goods online, has become the No. 1 e-commerce site in India, USA Today reported. The company, with annual revenue of \$20 million, now has 400 workers and is hiring 70 employees a month. It is an example of what President Obama was referring to when he said last month that if we bring high-skilled immigrants here, "why wouldn't we want them to stay? They are job generators. We don't want them starting an Intel in China or France. We want them starting it here." While there are no firm numbers of returning workers, the Chinese Ministry of Education estimates that nearly 135,000 Chinese returned home last year, a 25 percent increase over 2009. The founders of the foreign start-up firms are competing with their former U.S. employers for skilled workers as well as experienced engineers. Improved economic opportunities in China and India are making it more difficult to recruit workers here. "It is super hard to hire talent in the U.S.," said Sabrina Parsons, CEO of Palo Alto Software, which serves small businesses. But it is not just overseas countries benefiting. Canada is, too, with American-based companies relying on engineers in offices just across the border. To encourage U.S. development, Sens. John Kerry, D-Mass., and Richard Lugar, R-Ind., have drafted the Startup Visa Act of 2010, which gives immigrant entrepreneurs two-year visas if they have support from a U.S. investor. "We want to establish a way for the smartest and most entrepreneurial individuals in the world to come to the United States and create jobs," Sen. Lugar said. Immigration reform can begin with legislation to accomplish that goal.

D. Citizens Views (write-in letters)