

**Administration**

Office of the Regional Clerk

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, PO Box 1042, Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Telephone: 905-685-4225 Toll-free: 1-800-263-7215 Fax: 905-687-4977

[www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)

---

May 28, 2018

***DISTRIBUTION LIST******SENT ELECTRONICALLY*****RE: Cross Border Travel Improvements  
Minute Item 13.1 CL 5-2018, April 12, 2018**

Regional Council at its meeting held on Thursday, April 12, 2018, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Niagara Region can play a role in facilitating cross border traffic;

WHEREAS Niagara has four bridges linking the Niagara Region to the United States critical to trade, tourism and travel;

WHEREAS the efficient and effective operations of Cross Border travel has a direct impact on the Region's economic well-being.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Niagara Region **SUPPORT** the following initiatives and pledge our support through targeted stakeholder meetings at AMO and FCM:
  - a) Advocate for the federal government to resource and manage the border crossings commensurate with their importance to Canada. In short, this means having inspection booths adequately staffed for traffic conditions to minimize border delays.
  - b) Encourage the federal government and Passport Canada to issue Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) enabled passport card along with the standard paper passport. This would match what the U.S. offers and allows for a wallet sized document that can be processed much quicker at the inspection booth by RFID readers already installed.
  - c) Promote the NEXUS trusted traveler program through the Niagara Region website and encourage web-site linkage where appropriate. The more people enrolled in NEXUS the more efficiently the border operates.
  - d) Encourage the Province of Ontario to promote enhanced driver's license. These licenses meet the requirements of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) and allow cross border travel without a passport.

2. That a copy of this resolution **BE CIRCULATED** to the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority, Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, all Niagara Municipalities, all Niagara MPP's and MP's, the appropriate Federal and Provincial Ministries, City of Buffalo, New York, City of Niagara Falls, New York, City of Hamilton, as well as all relevant partners with a shared concern in the safe, secure, efficient travel of people and goods between Canada and the United States.

Yours truly,



Ann-Marie Norio  
Acting Regional Clerk

CLK-C 2018-49

Distribution List:

M. Garneau, Federal Minister of Transport  
R. Goodale, Minister, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness  
K. McGarry, Minister, Transportation (Ontario)  
Buffalo and Fort Erie Peace Bridge Authority  
Niagara Falls Bridge Commission  
R. Caterini, City Clerk, City of Hamilton  
S. Oosterhoff, MPP, Niagara West – Glanbrook  
J. Bradley, MPP, St. Catharines  
W. Gates, MPP, Niagara Falls  
C. Forster, MPP, Welland  
D. Allison, MP, Niagara West  
C. Bittle, MP, St. Catharines  
R. Nicholson, MP, Niagara Falls  
V. Badawey, MP, Niagara Centre  
B. Brown, Mayor, City of Buffalo  
L. Vitello, City Clerk, City of Niagara Falls, NY