

**Atlantic Provinces Transportation Forum – May 30, 2007**  
**“The Impact of an Atlantic Gateway on Transportation Systems in Newfoundland and Labrador”**

**EVALUATION FORM**

(41 forms returned)

- A. The forum helped me obtain a better understanding of the issues involved with the proposed Atlantic Gateway.  
Neither Agree nor Disagree: 2  
Agree: 29  
Strongly Agree: 10
- B. The speakers were well informed and presented their information in an interesting fashion.  
Disagree: 1  
Neither Agree nor Disagree: 2  
Agree: 30  
Strongly Agree: 8
- C. The forum was well organized, with a good balance between presentations and audience participation.  
Neither Agree nor Disagree: 3  
Agree: 30  
Strongly Agree: 8
- D. The afternoon discussion session was interesting, relevant and well organized.  
Neither Agree nor Disagree: 7  
Agree: 29  
Strongly Agree: 5
- E. I am confident that the recommendations arising from the session will be followed up and will be brought to the proper authorities.  
Disagree: 1
- Some of the issues. Those that the Labrador Institute feels meet their objectives.  
Others will not get due attention such as fixed link.
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 16  
Agree: 20  
Strongly Agree: 4

F. The forum allowed sufficient time for Q&A.

Disagree: 1

Neither Agree nor Disagree: 3

Agree: 30

Strongly Agree: 7

G. The room was well arranged and comfortable, and the food was good.

Neither Agree nor Disagree: 1

Agree: 25

Strongly Agree: 15

H. One thing which was not discussed or which was not sufficiently emphasized during the forum was:

- Other background info etc... on other gateways; ie, B.C.
- “Atlantic Gateway to the North” concept should have been discussed more on the agenda: 2
- We would like to see more emphasis on the relationship between road and vessel transportation
- Representative from St. Pierre et Miquelon as presenter
- Regional concerns and commonalities
- Clarity regarding the boundaries around Atlantic Gateway
- Specifics of what the gateway is
- Explanation of what gateway can include
- Next steps
- Go forward strategy
- The promotion of NL as the premier gateway to NAFTA (to and from Europe)
- Gateway to Canada’s eastern Arctic and Greenland/Iceland could have been emphasised more. Northwest passage opportunities as well
- Provincial government representatives were too passive. No passion or vision on their part
- Linkages to other opportunities – perhaps a smaller session to review/identify technology opportunities from new transportation systems
- More focus should be placed on fixed links: 2
- Interprovincial cooperation (with attention to Halifax). We need this approach
- Existing trade routes and potential business for NL
- The unbridled heavy traffic loads being subjected to vast stretches of our highway system at what will increase both from a fiscal standpoint as well as a highway fatality standpoint. The avoidance of this could be curtailed substantially by the

upgrading of and insisted use of parts having adjacency attachments as well as historical attachments located in the proximity of the mining locations in question.

- We haven't talked much about the potential ports of Placentia Bay, ie; Argentia, Come By Chance, Marystown
- A lot of emphasis by presenters on the "island" and NL. Don't forget Labrador
- More could have been done regarding air traffic, both passenger and cargo
- Trade opportunities
- No speaker from air industry. While air access discussed, no real focus on air sector.

I. One thing the forum organizers should do differently next time is:

- Representation from other Atlantic ports and eastern seaboard
- Look at all types of transportation: marine, air, road (fixed link) to eliminate problems identified with marine Atlantic. Capacity, weather, labour disputes.
- For the province of NL major emphasis should be on our access to central and western Canada through a cheaper more efficient route (fixed link)
- Invite officials from Provincial Innovation, Trade and Rural Renewal, Department of Foreign Affairs, International Trade Canada and Transport Canada to speak on cabotage policies.
- Good job, well organized
- Involve press to larger extent to bring awareness of the issues
- Have coffee/tea and snacks available at beginning of forum and not wait until mid-morning break: 2
- Like to know the difference of roads verses vessels cost in the overall picture on a chart
- More time allocation for discussion groups. This creates more involvement for participants: 3
- More time for break out groups
- Really tight schedule. Maybe decrease number of speakers so more time for audience interaction so doesn't feel so jam-packed
- A short one-page with some background on Atlantic gateway to registered delegates ahead of time
- More background and general info
- To the extent possible, cut down on speakers' introductory remarks on their respective organizations and focus in on key issues
- Introduce all in attendance at the outset (brief intro)
- Improve quality of wireless microphones
- Have speakers/presenters form Aboriginal groups

J. Overall, the forum met my expectations.

Neither Agree nor Disagree: 1

Agree: 31

Strongly Agree: 7

No Answer: 2

Comments:

- Negative aspects to some recommendations from organizers and I feel those will not get adequate attention. Only hear what they want to hear. I feel many already have the final report written. Unfortunate that I was made to feel this way after talking to some of the officials (government and Labrador Institute) in the room