

**PUBLIC ORDER EMERGENCY COMMISSION**  
**INSTITUTIONAL REPORT – GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA**

**1.0 DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**

**A. Organizational and Reporting Structure**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs (MINA) is the Honourable Mélanie Joly. MINA is one of three GAC ministers, working in conjunction with the Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development, the Honourable Mary Ng (MINT) and the Minister of International Development, the Honourable Harjit. S. Sajjan (MINE).

Each Minister is supported by Parliamentary Secretaries, as follows:

- MINA: Rob Oliphant and Maninder Sidhu
- MINT: Arif Virani
- MINE: Anita Vandenbeld

The institutional heads are as follows:

- Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marta Morgan
- Deputy Minister of International Trade, David Morrison
- Deputy Minister of International Development, Christopher MacLennan
- Associate Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cindy Termorshuizen  
(collectively, the DMs)

A complete organizational chart is set out in **Appendix I**.

**B. Responsibilities**

GAC is responsible for advancing Canada's international relations, including:

- consular services for Canadians abroad;
- overseeing a global network of missions abroad;

- assistance and support for foreign embassies and consulates in Canada;
- developing and implementing foreign policy;
- fostering the development of international law, international trade and commerce;
- providing international humanitarian, development, and peace and security assistance; and
- engagement in La Francophonie's institutions.

### **C. Relevant GAC divisions and offices**

With respect to the Ottawa occupation and border blockades, the U.S. Division was the key division from GAC, as it was the source through which GAC collected information from its various missions in the U.S. (as discussed further below). The Office of Protocol played a more limited role, and had some engagement with foreign missions in the National Capital Region throughout the time of the Convoy-related events.

#### **1. U.S. Division**

As part of its responsibilities, the U.S. Division gathers information from GAC's twelve consulates and one embassy in the United States. Where matters affecting Canada-U.S. relations reach beyond the two countries, the U.S. Division may also gather with GAC's other consulates and embassies abroad as necessary. This information is then analysed and incorporated into reports for the Ministers and the DMs.

Between Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the U.S. Division provided integrated reporting on the blockades and its impact outside Canada to Ministers, DMs and senior management across GAC, as well as to PCO, Public Safety and Transport Canada, based on reporting from Canadian missions in the U.S. and from Canada's global network.

The U.S. Division is headed by the Executive Director, who reports to the Director General for North America, who in turn reports to the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Americas. The organizational structure of the U.S. Division is set out in **Appendix II**.

## **2. Office of Protocol**

Canada is a host country to nearly 8,000 diplomatic agents, consular officials and their family members. These foreign representatives are stationed across 131 resident diplomatic missions, 485 consular posts and over 20 international organizations.

The Office of Protocol oversees the Diplomatic Corps Services Division (DCS), which provides necessary services to the diplomatic community in Canada in accordance with Canada's international and domestic legal obligations. The Chief of Protocol of Canada, Stewart Wheeler, is the Director General responsible for overseeing the DCS, among other divisions.

The DCS includes the Diplomatic Security Liaison Unit (DSLUI), which provides services with respect to the security and protection of both the premises of the foreign missions based in Canada and of their accredited personnel and family members. The DSLUI serves as a primary point of contact for foreign missions regarding security for their personnel and official events, though foreign missions also have direct lines of communication with the geographic divisions on the range of elements related to the bilateral relationship. The DSLUI also acts as a liaison between foreign representatives and Canadian police of local jurisdiction. The DSLUI also refers requests for specific protective policing services to the RCMP.

The DCS also provides services relating to diplomatic accreditation and manages a number of programs and services relating to the various privileges and immunities afforded to members of the diplomatic community under international laws, arrangements or agreements.

## **3. Canadian Diplomatic Missions**

Canada maintains 178 diplomatic and consular missions in 110 countries. Within the U.S., Canada operates an Embassy located in Washington, D.C. (WSHDC), and Consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle.

The Consulate General of Canada in Detroit (DTROT) played a particularly relevant role with respect to the blockades, given its proximity to the Ambassador Bridge.

The Head of Mission at WSHDC, Ambassador Kirsten Hillman, (the Ambassador) is Canada's chief representative in the United States. The Ambassador provides overall strategic direction to

the other Canadian consular offices in the U.S. network, as well as strategic advice to the Prime Minister and relevant ministers and deputy ministers in Ottawa. The Ambassador also engages with U.S. elected officials, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations to advance and protect Canadian priorities.

Within the Embassy, there are two Deputy Heads of Mission. The Deputy Head of Mission (Foreign Policy & National Security), Martin Loken, is most relevant for the purposes of GAC's role in the Convoy-related events. He provides strategic advice to the Ambassador. He also oversees GAC-led programs handling foreign and defence policy, intelligence liaison, energy and environment, among other responsibilities.

An organizational chart for the Canadian Embassy is set out in **Appendix III**.

Consulates General are typically located in a major city that is not the national capital city. A Consul General is the highest ranking officer at a Consulate General and is responsible for its operation. A Consulate General in the U.S. often holds responsibility for a number of contiguous states (e.g. DTROT holds responsibility for the states of Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana). Consulates General advance Canadian trade and political interests at both a regional and state level by meeting with elected officials, the private sector and non-governmental organizations as Canada's representative in the designated territory.

## **2.0 IMPACT ON TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

### **A. Monitoring of Blockades and Protests at Ports of Entry**

GAC monitored blockades and protests at ports of entry and impacts across the U.S. and around the world, mainly by receiving information from its various missions in the United States, including from DTROT and WSHDC.

Starting on February 8, 2022, WSHDC began producing daily media roll-up reports relating to the blockades and protests, and distributing to relevant GAC stakeholders and other departments and

border consulates within the U.S. network.<sup>1</sup> DTROT produced local media summaries and provided them to WSHDC to aid in this effort.<sup>2</sup>

DTROT also received information from various sources throughout the relevant period, focused in particular on activity relating to the three nearby border crossings: the Ambassador Bridge, Blue Water Bridge (Sarnia), and Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. A timeline of DTROT’s information gathering activities in this regard is set out in **Appendix IV**.

GAC’s Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) also monitored activities relating to the protests and blockades. The RRM was founded in 2017 to respond to efforts of foreign actors seeking to “undermine our democratic societies and institutions, our electoral processes, our sovereignty and our security.”<sup>3</sup> The RRM operates alongside the G7 RRM Coordination Unit housed within GAC. This unit acts as a secretariat, and coordinates efforts and information sharing among Canada and other G7 countries. RRM Canada conducts focused research to understand any potential foreign threats against Canada and to identify tactics and trends. The RRM also analyses social media in order to understand the disinformation landscape.

## **B. GAC Monitoring of U.S. Media Reports and Social Media Activity**

In addition to monitoring activity relating to status and impact of the blockades themselves, GAC also monitored U.S. media reports relating to the blockades. This was done through the WSHDC Media Relations team, whose core functions include the monitoring of U.S. media on a range of issues that affect the Canada-U.S. relationship, and detecting factually incorrect comments about Canada in U.S. media with a view to correcting the information where appropriate.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Media Relations team was closely monitoring U.S. media reporting on the impact of COVID as it related to the bilateral relationship. In late January 2022, following the announcements by both the Canadian and U.S. governments on a new vaccine mandate for cross-border truckers, the WSHDC Media Relations team generated twice daily roll-ups of key U.S. media coverage on the resulting in-person trucker protest in Ottawa.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For example, PB.CAN.00000045\_REL

<sup>2</sup> For example, PB.CAN.00000027\_REL

<sup>3</sup> [Rapid Response Mechanism Canada - Protecting Democracy \(international.gc.ca\)](https://international.gc.ca)

<sup>4</sup> For example, see PB.CAN.00000045\_REL

The cross-border vaccine mandate was one of several issues already being tracked by WSHDC Media Relations before the start of the Convoy and the port of entry blockades. The daily monitoring included highlights of the heavy U.S. media coverage of the unfolding situation in Ottawa, including noteworthy comments by U.S. officials, protestors and impacted Canadians, as well as media opinion pieces on the situation. At the top of the daily media roll-ups, WSHDC Media Relations generally provided a short snapshot summarizing the tone of coverage, and highlighted instances where views were particularly extreme in either direction.

In addition to news clippings, a selection of public comments on Twitter by members of Congress and influencers was included in monitoring reports. In some instances, the daily monitoring included specific Q&As from the daily White House press briefings, where then-press secretary Jen Psaki took questions from reporters about the U.S. federal government response, discussions with the Canadian government about what was unfolding, and the impact on bilateral trade.

As of February 17, 2022, RRM concluded, based on open data analysis, that a significant portion of engagement and activity relating to the protests and blockades comes from U.S. online communities, driven by key U.S. influencers, alternative media and political actors, with a clear interest among various U.S. communities. These comments included sympathising with protestors, conspiracy-minded groups, and ideologically motivated networks. RRM also reported that it had not identified any significant indicators of foreign state-sponsored interference as it relates to the “Truckers Convoy”.

On February 24, 2022, the WSHDC Media Relations team reported that U.S. media coverage of the protest had flat lined, with a significant drop in reporting and on Twitter. From that point forward, the twice daily roll-ups were discontinued and relevant articles were incorporated into regular daily morning clippings, an ongoing standard product produced by WSHDC Media Relations for the Embassy.

### **C. Detrimental Impact of Blockades on Cross-Border Trade and Business**

The blockade on the Ambassador Bridge had a major detrimental impact on cross-border trade and business activities. That blockade lasted from February 7, 2022 until late into the evening of February 13 and into the early morning of February 14, 2022. On February 11, 2022, the Ontario

Superior Court of Justice issued an injunction aimed to end the Ambassador Bridge blockade, but it did not disperse immediately.

The Ambassador Bridge connects Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan. It is a major trade artery and the busiest crossing between Canada and the United States. Through this trade channel, Canada trades with numerous states, including Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Texas and California.

Traffic volume on the Ambassador Bridge was driven to zero over the course of the blockade. This had a significant impact on trade and business. Canada and the U.S. have highly integrated supply chains, in particular with respect to each country's automotive industry, such that any disruption has immediate effects on both economies and workers on both sides of the border.

According to the Anderson Economic Group, the direct industry losses flowing from the blockade amounted to approximately \$300 million, including a \$155 million loss to automakers and \$145 million in lost direct wages due to auto plant shutdowns.<sup>5</sup> Major auto manufacturers, including Ford, GM, Toyota and Stellantis (formerly Fiat Chrysler) cut shifts at several plants in the U.S. and Canada as a result of the Ambassador Bridge blockade and resulting supply chain problems.<sup>6</sup> These impacts were not limited to plants in Michigan, and were reported to have impacted facilities in other states such as Kentucky and Ohio as well.<sup>7</sup>

This impact accords with the important role of the Ambassador Bridge in U.S.-Canada cross-border trade. A large share of the cargo carried on the bridge is automotive related and highly time sensitive. Other key sectors of trade such as agriculture also rely on this crossing. Michigan and Canada share a particularly highly integrated economy. Bilateral trade between the state of Michigan and Canada was \$59.6 billion in 2021, the largest amount of any U.S. state.<sup>8</sup> Michigan's

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<sup>5</sup> See [Ambassador Bridge closure cost auto industry millions of dollars. Who pays? | Crain's Detroit Business \(crainsdetroit.com\)](#). The Governor cited an earlier estimate of losses by the Anderson Economic Group in her public statements: see [ICYMI: Gov. Whitmer on Illegal Blockade of Ambassador Bridge: "We are pushing the Canadian government to resolve this swiftly and safely." \(michigan.gov\)](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Automakers cut production due to anti-vaccine Canadian trucker protest \(cnbc.com\)](#).

<sup>7</sup> [Toyota plant production affected by Canadian trucker blockade \(lex18.com\)](#);  
<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/oh-lorain/ford-ohio-assembly-plant-in-avon-lake-hit-hard-by-protests-at-border-semiconductor-shortage>; PB.CAN.00000056\_REL

<sup>8</sup> [State trade fact sheets - Michigan \(tradecommissioner.gc.ca\)](#)

top two import categories from Canada in 2021 were automobiles (\$10.0 billion) and motor vehicle parts (\$4.8 billion).<sup>9</sup>

#### **D. Significant Concerns Expressed by U.S. Politicians, Officials and Business Leaders**

Over the course of the border blockades, GAC received numerous communications from U.S. political representatives, officials and business representatives indicating their serious level of concern about the resulting impact on trade and business, and their support for a quick resolution of the blockades.

On February 11, 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau and President Biden discussed the ongoing blockades in Detroit/Windsor, Sweetwater/Coutts (Alberta) and Pembina/Emerson (Manitoba), and the President expressed his concern that U.S. companies and workers are experiencing serious effects as a result.<sup>10</sup>

On both February 10 and 13, 2022, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg of the United States Department of Transport spoke with Canadian Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra in relation to these same issues.

In addition to these discussions at the head of government and Cabinet level, a number of other U.S. politicians – including members of the House of Representatives, Senators and Governors – also directly communicated their serious concerns about the impact of the blockades and the urgency of resolving the situation. A timeline of some of these discussions is set out in **Appendix V**.

There were also regular, daily communications between various American and Canadian government officials at different levels and in different departments throughout the period where crucial border crossings were blocked.

Beyond hearing directly from U.S. politicians and officials, GAC officials, particularly those at WSHDC and DTROT, received direct communications from U.S. business and union leaders,

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<sup>9</sup> [State trade fact sheets - Michigan \(trade commissioner.gc.ca\)](#)

<sup>10</sup> [Readout of President Biden's Call With Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada - The White House](#)



stressing the detrimental impact of the blockades and the urgent need to resolve the situation. A timeline of some of these statements is set out in **Appendix VI**.

Finally, GAC monitored and noted public statements about the blockades made by U.S. political, business and labour leaders, including statements from the White House, U.S. Governors, members of Congress, labour unions, industry groups and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. A consistent theme in these statements was serious concern over the impact of the blockades and the need to ensure they were resolved quickly. A summary of some of these statements is set out in **Appendix VII**.

At the same time, some U.S. politicians and union officials expressed the view that, because of the blockades, the U.S. should stop relying on parts manufactured and transported through Canada. For example, in a string of tweets about the GM Lansing-Delta auto manufacturing plant, Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin (D-MI-08) wrote: “It doesn’t matter if it’s an adversary or an ally – we can’t be this reliant on parts coming from foreign countries... The one thing that couldn’t be more clear is that we have to bring American manufacturing back home to states like Michigan. If we don’t, it’s American workers like the folks at Delta Township who are left holding the bag.”<sup>11</sup> Mike Huerta, president of the UAW Local 602, is quoted as saying: "The fact is most of the folks inside that plant know we would never have those issues if those products, supplies and parts were built right next to us. The best way to stop supply chain issues is to not have a supply chain. Have it built right here in Michigan, right here in Lansing, right here in the United States, and then all of the sudden, these issues stop."<sup>12</sup> To state the obvious, if U.S. car manufacturers were to stop relying on Canadian auto parts manufacturers and suppliers, the resulting economic impact would be significant.

In addition, a number of U.S. politicians publicly expressed support for the blockade participants and opposition to public health measures associated with the government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Numerous statements of this nature occurred both prior to and in response to the invocation of the *Emergencies Act* on February 14, 2022.

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<sup>11</sup><https://twitter.com/RepSlotkin/status/1491603594008793094?s=20&t=0Ykue0KcAQXeQ7QoWsSEbg>.  
See also PB.CAN.00000023\_REL

<sup>12</sup> [Lansing-Delta Assembly Plant cancels shifts due to parts shortage \(lansingstatejournal.com\)](https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/news/lansing-delta-assembly-plant-cancels-shifts-due-to-parts-shortage)

### **3.0 IMPACT ON FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS**

#### **A. Foreign Diplomatic Missions in the National Capital Region**

Canada has international legal obligations under the *Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations* and the *Vienna Convention on Consular Relations* which include taking all appropriate steps to protect diplomatic missions, diplomatic agents and consular officials in Canada.

During the time of the Convoy's occupation and blockades, the Office of Protocol remained in contact with foreign missions in the National Capital Region (NCR) through the DCS and DSLU.

On January 28, 2022, DSLU sent a notice to the diplomatic corps to notify them of upcoming demonstrations and possible resultant impacts on their operations. On February 4, 2022, DSLU provided an update regarding the anticipated arrival of further occupiers and vehicles in the NCR. On February 9, 2022, DSLU provided a further security update to foreign missions in the NCR, but advised that the security situation regarding the occupation remained fluid.

During the Convoy's time in Ottawa, Canada received one formal diplomatic note from a foreign embassy about risk to staff and access to their diplomatic premises. The DSLU also communicated with members of the diplomatic corps from six foreign missions in response to complaints or concerns raised by those entities. The DSLU worked with the RCMP to advise the diplomatic community about applicable security protocols and arrangements, as well as to distribute information about checkpoints and police barriers during the occupation in the NCR.

Through these communications, the Office of Protocol was advised that the occupation and blockades in the NCR resulted in several foreign missions experiencing inconsistent access to their facilities, noise, diesel fumes and other nuisances that impacted their day-to-day operations. The impact of the blockades and protests on foreign missions was also relayed informally through colleagues in geographic divisions of GAC.

## **B. CANADIAN MISSIONS ABROAD**

The impact of the movement behind the Ottawa protests and border blockades was also felt at some of Canada's missions in the United States.

There were weekly protests from February 7 to March 2, 2022 in front of Canada's Consulate General in New York (CNGNY). A group called "Freedom Convoy of New York" staged a weekly protest in front of CNGNY in solidarity with the protesters in Ottawa. Protestors ranged between approximately 20-50 people per week (decreasing over time). In all cases, CNGNY was aware in advance of the planned protest, and was in communication with NYPD and Department of State Diplomatic Security Services (DSS) who were on hand to monitor and respond if required.

On February 16, 2022, the Dallas Consulate General's main phone number received two threatening voicemails from American citizens in support of the convoy. Diplomatic police in Dallas were informed and investigated the matter. Staff at the Dallas Consulate General were instructed to work from home on Feb.17, as a precautionary measure.

On February 22, 2022 a very small group of 5 demonstrators aligned with the "Freedom Convoy" protests held a short protest action just outside the downtown Detroit location of DTROT mission.



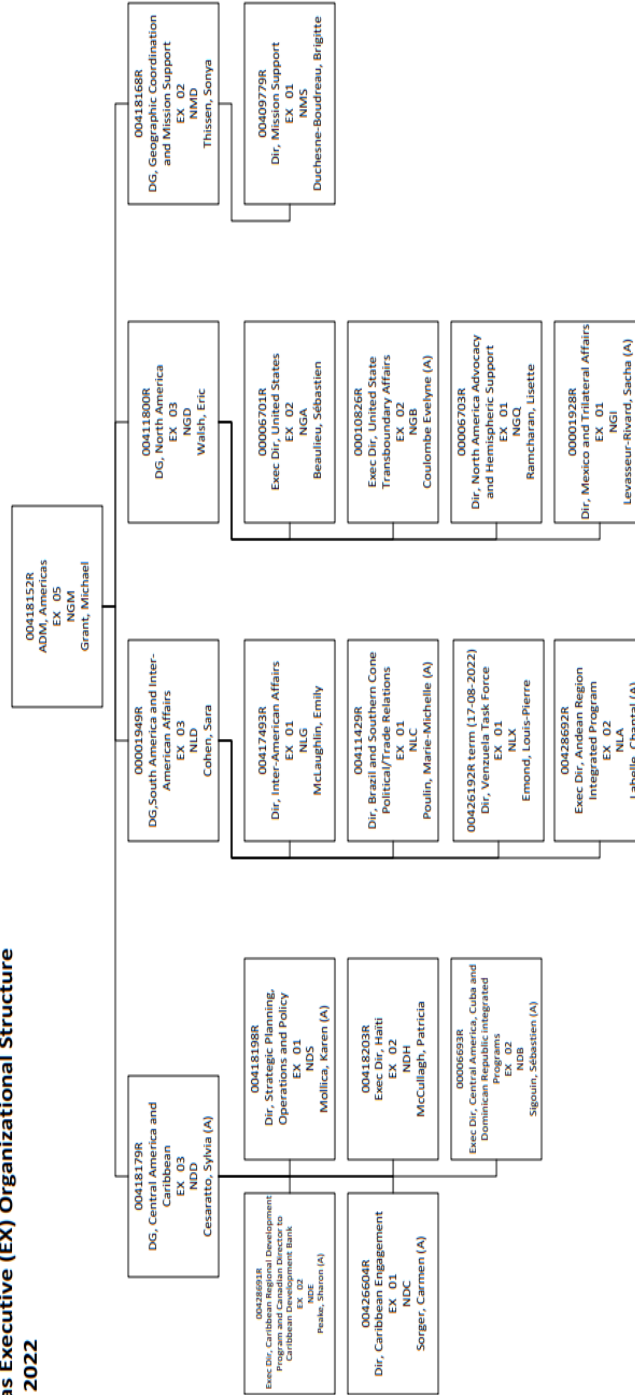
## **List of Acronyms in Appendix I**

ACM: Assistant Deputy Minister International Platform  
BFM: Assistant Deputy Minister International Business Development and Chief Trade Commissioner  
CFM: Assistant Deputy Minister Consular, Security and Emergency Management (Chief Security Officer)  
DCD: Corporate Secretary and Director General  
DMA: Associate Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs  
DME: Deputy Minister of International Development  
DMT: Deputy Minister of International Trade  
DPD: International Assistance Operations  
DSMO: Planning International Summits and Major Events  
EGM: Assistant Deputy Minister Europe, Arctic, Middle East and Maghreb  
HCM: Assistant Deputy Minister Human Resources  
IFM: Assistant Deputy Minister International Security and Political Affairs  
JFM: Legal Advisor  
JUS: Executive Director and General Counsel  
KFM: Assistant Deputy Minister Partnership for Development Innovation  
LCM: Assistant Deputy Minister Public Affairs  
MFM: Assistant Deputy Minister Global Issues and Development  
NGM: Assistant Deputy Minister Americas  
OGM: Assistant Deputy Minister Asia Pacific  
PFM: Assistant Deputy Minister Strategic Policy  
SCM: Assistant Deputy Minister Corporate Planning, Finance and IT  
TFM: Assistant Deputy Minister Trade Policy and Negotiations and Chief Trade Negotiator NAFTA  
USS: Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs  
VBD: Chief Audit Executive  
WGM: Assistant Deputy Minister Sub-Saharan Africa  
WPSA: Ambassador for Women, Peace and Security  
XDD: Chief of Protocol  
ZID: Director General, Inspection, Integrity and Values and Ethics

# Appendix II: U.S. Division Organizational Chart



## Americas Executive (EX) Organizational Structure July 31, 2022

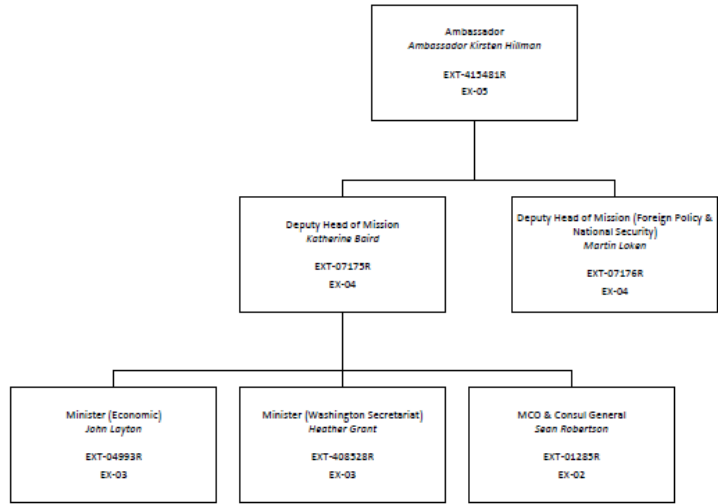


Sources of information: Human Resources Management System (HRMS)  
In some cases, adjustments have been made by HFR to reflect the most current employee or positional information

# Appendix III: Canadian Embassy Organizational Chart



Canadian Embassy GAC Senior Executive Organizational Structure



## Appendix IV

### DTROT Monitoring Activities During Protests and Blockades

DATE	EVENT
Feb 4, 2022	DTROT received information from Detroit-Windsor Tunnel border operator of possible convoy activity planned for the Windsor area based on social media posting. DTROT flagged same to the U.S. Transboundary Affairs unit within GAC, which confirmed that CBSA, U.S. CBP/DHS, Transport Canada, WSHDC and Public Safety were aware.
Feb 6, 2022	Local media reports closure of the Blue Water Bridge between Sarnia, ON and Port Huron, MI lasting several hours due to truck demonstration
Feb 7, 2022	DTROT outreach to Blue Water Bridge operator produces information that most of the vehicles were farm related tractors and machinery with only a few transport trucks were involved in previous day protest.
	Local emergency service notification and media coverage indicates Ambassador Bridge has closed. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) issued warnings about backups on freeways. DTROT confirms traffic status of Ambassador Bridge, Blue Water Bridge, and Detroit-Windsor Tunnel
Feb 8, 2022 (and following)	DTROT conducts daily monitoring of impacts to traffic on Michigan freeways, monitors situation at all three border crossings via social media. This continues to end of blockade. Delays on the Blue Water Bridge ebb and flow daily throughout the blockade, sometimes reaching over 4 hours
	Detroit-Windsor Tunnel reports U.S. CBP and CBSA have been very responsive with processing traffic and providing security under very heavy traffic conditions. DTROT remains in contact with tunnel operator throughout blockade



## Appendix V

### Communications with other elected U.S. officials regarding the impact of the blockades and protests

Date	Official/office
Feb 8, 2022	Governor Whitmer (Michigan)
Feb 9, 2022	Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence (D-MI-14)
Feb 10, 2022	Congressman Dan Kildee (D-MI-05)
Feb 10, 2022	Senator Gary Peters (D-Michigan)
Feb 11, 2022	Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI-12)
	Senator Sherrod Brown's office (D-OH)
Feb 15, 2022	Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence (D-MI-14)
Feb 17, 2022	Governor Greg Gianforte (R-MT)
Feb 17, 2022	Governor Doug Burgum (R-ND)

## Appendix VI

### Communications with U.S. business representatives regarding the impact of the blockades and protests

Date	Business
Feb 9, 2022	Ford
Feb 9, 2022	A major consumer packaged goods manufacturer, who provided information on a without attribution basis
Feb 9, 2022	U.S. National Association of Manufacturers
Feb 10, 2022	Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce
Feb 10, 2022	Scoular (commodities trader); Puris (pea protein processor)
Feb 11, 2022	Original Equipment Suppliers Association and Motor Equipment Suppliers Association
Feb 11, 2022	U.S. National Association of Manufacturers
Feb 14, 2022	General Mills

## Appendix VII

### Select public statements from U.S. officials, politicians, business and labour representatives regarding the impact of the blockades and protests

Date	Source	Statement
Feb 9, 2022	Jen Psaki (White House Press Secretary)	Psaki stated that the administration is “watching this very closely” and that the “blockade poses a risk to supply chains for the auto industry because the bridge is a key conduit for motor vehicles, components, and parts, and delays risk disrupting auto production.” She also mentioned that White House Homeland Security Advisor Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall convened a meeting about the Ambassador Bridge's blockade on the same day, and that “(t)he President is focused on this and we are working very closely with the team at DHS (Department of Homeland Security), with Canadian officials and others to do everything we can to alleviate the impact.” Finally, she indicated that the U.S. “support(s) peaceful protest, but we have concerns when those protests turn violent”, and that “it's important for everyone in Canada and the United States to understand what the potential impact of this blockage is on workers, on the supply chain and that is where we are most focused.” <sup>13</sup>
Feb 9, 2022	Detroit Regional Chamber	Chamber has called for “a swift and immediate clearing of the Windsor Detroit Ambassador Bridge blockade and a timely re-opening of the bridge.” <sup>14</sup>
Feb 9, 2022	Canada-U.S. Business Association	The Canada-US Business Association published a statement signed by several dozen chambers and groups from both countries calling for a swift and immediate clearing of the Windsor-Detroit Ambassador Bridge blockade and a timely reopening of the bridge: “Given the importance of ensuring that the supply of food, medical products and industrial goods can continue, the disruption at the Ambassador Bridge is an attack on the well-being of our citizens and the businesses that employ them. As our economies emerge from the impacts of the pandemic, we cannot allow any group to undermine the cross-border trade that supports families on both sides of the border.” <sup>15</sup>

<sup>13</sup> [Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jen Psaki, February 9, 2022 - The White House](#)

<sup>14</sup> [The Ambassador Bridge Closure and the Chamber Perspective \(detroitchamber.com\)](#)

<sup>15</sup> [Canadian, US Business Associations Call for Immediate Action to Open Ambassador Bridge | CUSBA – Canada – United States Business Association \(cusbaonline.com\)](#)

Date	Source	Statement
Feb 10, 2022	Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence (D-MI-14)	“I support peaceful protests and demonstrations. However, I’m concerned about the essential workforce that travels between the U.S. and Canada; emergency access for truck drivers and emergency personnel; and the delay of life-saving pharmaceutical drugs and other critical goods and services. I strongly urge our national and provincial Canadian leaders to reach a safe and quick resolution that allows for seamless commerce to continue on the Ambassador Bridge.” <sup>16</sup>
Feb 10, 2022	Congressman Dan Kildee (D-MI-05)	“Auto workers in my district have endured a tough year due to pandemic-related supply chain issues and semiconductor shortages. We must keep the border between the United States and Canada open to allow goods, including auto parts and agricultural products, to freely move between our two countries. I am in touch with the Canadian government to ensure that our border crossing is fully reopened as soon as possible.” <sup>17</sup>
Feb 10, 2022	U.S. Chamber of Commerce	“The disruptions we are seeing at the U.S.-Canada border — at the Detroit-Windsor Ambassador Bridge and at other crossings — are adding to the significant supply chain strains on manufacturers and other businesses in the United States. The business community is rolling up its sleeves to find workarounds and keep facilities up and running, but we are already seeing some production cuts, shift reductions, and temporary plant closures. The North American economy relies on our ability to work closely together, including our manufacturing sectors. We need to apply the same spirit of cooperation to tackle this problem. We respectfully urge the Canadian government to act swiftly to address the disruption to the flow of trade and its impact on manufacturers and other businesses on both sides of the border. We appreciate that the Biden Administration is engaged with the Canadian government, and we strongly encourage officials to continue efforts to resolve these blockages at the border.” <sup>18</sup>
Feb 10, 2022	International Brotherhood of Teamsters	“The Teamsters Union denounces the ongoing Freedom Convoy protest at the Canadian border that continues to hurt workers and negatively impact our economy. The livelihood of working Americans and Canadians in the automotive,

<sup>16</sup> [U.S. Rep. Lawrence Statement on Ambassador Bridge Blockade | Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence \(house.gov\)](#)

<sup>17</sup> [Statement by Congressman Dan Kildee on Canadian Border Blockade | Congressman Dan Kildee \(house.gov\)](#)

<sup>18</sup> [Business Leaders Urge Resolution of U.S.-Canada Border Blockade | U.S. Chamber of Commerce \(uschamber.com\)](#)

Date	Source	Statement
		agricultural, and manufacturing sectors is threatened by this blockade.” <sup>19</sup>
Feb 10, 2022	Gretchen Whitmer (Governor of Michigan)	Governor Whitmer emphasized that “[i]t is imperative that Canadian local, provincial, and national governments de-escalate this economic blockade. They must take all necessary and appropriate steps to immediately and safely reopen traffic so we can continue growing our economy, supporting good-paying jobs, and lowering costs for families.” <sup>20</sup>
Feb 11, 2022	Gretchen Whitmer (Governor of Michigan)	Governor Whitmer emphasized that “We cannot let another minute go by unnecessarily because this border is too important to our economy, to our homeland security, and as we grow our economy, it's a crucial moment [...] it's never been just a Canada issue. It's been hurting us in Michigan from day one... And we are pushing on the Canadian government to resolve this swiftly and safely because every minute this goes on it's been incredibly damaging to our economy and to our people.” <sup>21</sup>
Feb 11, 2022	Kathy Hochul (Governor of New York)	Governor Hochul indicated via a Tweet that her team was monitoring the Canadian truck protest situation on New York’s northern border. She stated that she had convened an interagency command centre to ensure the state was prepared for any impacts on New Yorkers.
Feb 11, 2022	Phil Scott (Governor of Vermont)	The Governor of Vermont sent a Tweet expressing his gratitude to the White House, the Secretary of Transport and the Secretary of Homeland Security for an update he and other northern border states had received on the situation at the Canadian border. The Governor stated that “keeping supply chains moving is a top priority.”
Feb 11, 2022	Auto Innovators	CEO John Bozzella stated that Auto Innovators “will continue to work with policymakers and stakeholders in the US and Canada to advocate for a swift and safe resolution on behalf of our employees, consumers and communities.”

<sup>19</sup> [TEAMSTERS DENOUNCE FREEDOM CONVOY BLOCKADE AT CANADIAN BORDER | Teamsters Canada](#)

<sup>20</sup> [Governor Whitmer Calls on Canada to Reopen Traffic on Ambassador Bridge \(michigan.gov\)](#)

<sup>21</sup> [ICYMI: Gov. Whitmer on Illegal Blockade of Ambassador Bridge: "We are pushing the Canadian government to resolve this swiftly and safely." \(michigan.gov\)](#)