



CANADA

✈ Porter Airlines launches first international flights from Hamilton



Source: Porter Airline Images

Porter Airlines is expanding its network from John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport (YHM), with new international, nonstop service to Florida and Mexico. First up are flights to Orlando (MCO) and Fort Lauderdale (FLL), taking off today and tomorrow, respectively. Both routes will start with three roundtrips weekly. Later this month, inaugural flights from Hamilton to Mexico are departing. Cancun (CUN) begins Dec. 17, 2025 with up to four weekly roundtrips, and Puerto Vallarta (PVR) begins Dec. 18, with two weekly roundtrips.

Porter Airlines launches first international flights from Hamilton, December 12, 2025, www.flyporter.com

✈ Porter preps for start of five sun routes from Ottawa

Porter Airlines is inaugurating its winter schedule from Ottawa International Airport (YOW), bringing the National Capital Region closer to five southern destinations in Mexico, the Caribbean and

Costa Rica. Beginning this week, travellers can fly non-stop from Ottawa to Puerto Vallarta (PVR), Nassau (NAS), Cancun (CUN), Liberia (LIR) and Grand Cayman (GCM), with all routes starting within the next seven days. Notably, Porter is now the only airline offering nonstop service from Ottawa to Grand Cayman and Liberia, providing exclusive access to these exciting destinations.

Porter preps for start of five sun routes from Ottawa, December 12, 2025, www.flyporter.com

✈ Porter takes off to Grand Cayman with first flights from Toronto



Source: Porter Airline Images

Porter Airlines is inaugurating nonstop service on December 16, 2025 between Toronto Pearson International Airport and Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, with up to three times weekly frequency. This route is complemented by twice weekly non-stop flights operating from Ottawa beginning Dec. 19, 2025.

Porter takes off to Grand Cayman with first flights from Toronto, December 16, 2025, www.flyporter.com

✈️ Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons announces first-time air transport agreement with the Republic of Albania

On December 15, 2025, the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, announced that Canada has secured a new air transport agreement with the Republic of Albania. The new agreement allows for: 1. Multiple airlines to operate scheduled services between Canada and Albania; 2. Up to 14 passenger flights per week per country; 3. Up to 10 all-cargo flights per week per country; and 4. Access to any point in each country's territory, Airlines can begin offering services under this agreement immediately.

Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons announces first-time air transport agreement with the Republic of Albania, December 15, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca

✈️ Air Canada Prepares to Welcome More than 2.3 Million Customers Onboard this Holiday Season



Source: Air Canada

'Tis the season for making memories, and for more than 2.3 million Air Canada customers, that starts the moment they arrive at the airport. Between December 18 and January 4, the airline expects to welcome close to 130,000 customers a day in one of its busiest travel weeks of the year. The highlights expected are: 1. Airline bringing festive cheer to customers on more than 18,000 flights to over 180 destinations worldwide over the holiday season; 2. Air Canada teams across the world are ready to go above and beyond to make journeys as smooth as possible, with extra attention for customers with accessibility needs and minors travelling unaccompanied; and 3. Air Canada will provide additional airport support, including personalized care and seasonal surprises, combines with digital tools to make travel easier and more enjoyable

Air Canada Prepares to Welcome More than 2.3 Million Customers Onboard this Holiday Season, December 18, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

✈️ Air Transat's parent company reports \$12.5M loss in latest quarter



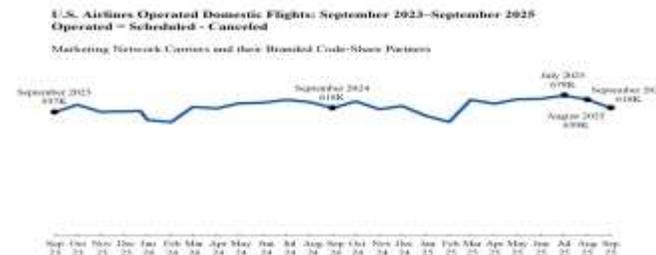
Source: CBC News

The parent company of Air Transat reported a loss of \$12.5 million in its latest quarter, compared with a profit of \$41.2 million in the same quarter last year. Transat A.T. Inc. said the loss amounted to 52 cents per diluted share for the quarter that ended Oct. 31, compared with a profit of \$1.05 per diluted share one year earlier. Revenue in what was Transat's fourth quarter totalled \$771.6 million, down from \$788.8 million a year ago, when it benefited from compensation related to Pratt & Whitney GTF engine issues. Excluding the impact of this lower compensation, Transat said revenue increased by 1.5 per cent compared with a year ago.

Air Transat's parent company reports \$12.5M loss in latest quarter, December 18, 2025, www.cbc.ca

US/WORLD

✈️ Airline Service Quality Performance Data – September 2025



Source: BTS

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on December 12, 2025 released its Airline Service Quality Performance data compiled for the month of September 2025 for on-time performance, mishandled baggage, mishandled wheelchairs, and scooters. For additional information and interactive charts on transportation's role in aviation,

please visit BTS' [Aviation Facts and Figures](#). BTS regularly updates [TranStats](#), with both [Marketing Carrier On-Time Performance \(Beginning January 2018\)](#) and the [Reporting Carrier On-Time Performance \(1987-present\)](#).

Airline Service Quality Performance Data – September 2025, December 12, 2025, www.bts.gov

✈️ Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Launches First-Ever National Advanced Air Mobility Strategy to Unlock the Future of Flight



Source: DOT

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 17, 2025 unveiled the nation's first ever Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) National Strategy setting an ambitious roadmap to accelerate American aviation innovation and transform our skies for the better. The Strategy and accompanying action plan outline 40 recommendations to safely and efficiently support AAM operations. The Strategy will also help advance President Trump's "America First" agenda—unleashing America's economic strength and ensuring the U.S., and not our adversaries, remain a global leader in next-generation aviation.

Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Launches First-Ever National Advanced Air Mobility Strategy to Unlock the Future of Flight, December 17, 2025, www.dot.gov

✈️ US Airlines net profit was \$1.6 billion in third quarter 2025, a decrease in profit over third quarter 2024

Net Profit for the 3rd Quarter of 2025: \$1.6 billion

↓ \$0.5B from the 3rd Quarter of 2024 (\$2.1B)



Scheduled Passenger Airlines

Source: BTS

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines reported a third-quarter 2025 after-tax net income of \$1.6 billion and a pre-tax operating profit of \$2.7 billion. One year earlier, in the third quarter of 2024, the airlines reported an after-tax net income of \$2.1 billion and a pre-tax operating profit of \$3.1 billion.

US Airlines net profit was \$1.6 billion in third quarter 2025, a decrease in profit over third quarter 2024, December 17, 2025, www.bts.gov



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Transportation's Top Stories

Rail Transport Updates

CANADA

Ottawa-Montreal chosen as first leg of high-speed rail project



Source: National Post

The first leg of the federal government's planned high-speed rail project will connect Ottawa and Montreal. Construction of the high-speed rail line is expected to start in 2029. Transport Minister Steven MacKinnon made the announcement Friday, December 12, 2025 morning alongside several Ottawa politicians and Martin Imbleau, CEO of Alto, the crown corporation overseeing the project. "We want to begin construction of this major project, one of the largest public works ever contemplated in the history of our country," MacKinnon said. Construction is expected to begin in 2029. MacKinnon said the Ottawa-Montreal segment, spanning approximately 200 kilometres between the two cities, was the most logical place to start the project. The span is relatively short and straight, he said, providing an opportunity for construction teams in Ontario and Quebec to develop the skills they need to build out the rest of the network to the east and west. The route between the cities is not yet set in stone, but will include a stop in Laval, Que., which neighbours Montreal to the northwest.

Ottawa-Montreal chosen as first leg of high-speed rail project, December 12, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

Via Rail CEO stepping down as Crown corporation faces increasing scrutiny



Source: CBC

President and CEO of Via Rail Mario Pélouin will be stepping down in January 2026 as the Crown corporation has faced heightened scrutiny in recent years. Pélouin will be retiring in mid-January, according to a news release from Transport Minister Steven MacKinnon's office. "I would like to thank Mario for his dedication and commitment to VIA Rail over the past two-and-a-half years, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavours," MacKinnon's statement said. *Via Rail CEO stepping down as Crown corporation faces increasing scrutiny, December 16, 2025, www.cbc.ca*

Railway carloadings, October 2025



Source: Statcan

In October 2025, the volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways reached 33.2 million tonnes, down slightly (-0.9%) from October 2024. Nevertheless, total freight carried in October 2025 was on par with the five-year average for the month of October (33.0 million tonnes). Large increases in carloadings of wheat and other cereal grains helped to offset lower shipments of canola as well as the continuing decline in freight traffic from US rail connections.

Railway carloadings, October 2025, December 18, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

US/WORLD

Inland rail connectivity key to Port of Long Beach growth: new CEO



Source: JOC

Expanding the Port of Long Beach's intermodal infrastructure and expediting the handoff of containers from marine terminals to trains will help the port expand its share of the discretionary cargo up for grabs among both West and East coast ports, Long Beach's incoming CEO says. Noel Hacegaba, now the port's chief operating officer, was confirmed earlier this week by the Board of Harbor Commissioners as Long Beach's next CEO, effective Jan. 1 upon the retirement of current

chief Mario Cordero. Long Beach is devoting \$2 billion of its \$3.2 billion capex program over the coming decade to rail infrastructure. *Inland rail connectivity key to Port of Long Beach growth: new CEO, December 12, 2025, www.joc.com*

How the US freight rail industry got dirtier than coal power plants



Source: AJOT

BNSF Railway, one of the crown jewels of Warren Buffett's sprawling Berkshire Hathaway conglomerate, calls itself an environmental leader in the U.S. rail industry with the cleanest locomotive fleet in North America. "When you see our orange locomotives' and freight cars' steel wheels moving on steel rails, think green," BNSF says in its latest sustainability overview. But the company is the largest player in an industry that has a pollution problem: U.S. freight railroads are a major source of pollution, chuffing out more nitrogen oxide, the primary component of smog, than all the nation's coal-fired power plants combined, according to a Reuters calculation using government data. U.S. railroads together produced about 485,000 tons of nitrogen oxide in 2024, compared to 452,000 tons emitted by U.S. coal-fired power plants, according to a Reuters calculation of reported annual fuel consumption multiplied by the EPA's 2023 weighted-average emission rates. BNSF, the nation's largest freight railroad, accounts for about a third of that total, producing 161,500 tons of smog-causing nitrogen oxide in 2024, according to the data. "We don't dispute your number. BNSF is the biggest Class I railroad by volume," BNSF said in an email. BNSF's position as largest in the rail industry, as well as its profitability, will be challenged if regulators approve the planned \$85 billion merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern, which would create the first U.S. coast-to-coast freight rail operator, Morningstar railroad analyst Greggory Warren said.

How the US freight rail industry got dirtier than coal power plants, December 15, 2025, www.ajot.com

AAR: Downward U.S. Rail Traffic Trend Continues in Week 50



Source: Railway Age

Total U.S. carload and intermodal traffic for the week ending Dec. 13, 2025, dipped 1.4% from the same point last year, marking the 10th consecutive week of fall offs, according to the Association of American Railroads' (AAR) latest report, released Dec. 17, 2025. Total carloads for the week ending December 13 were 224,620 carloads, down 1.7 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 294,284 containers and trailers, down 1.2 percent compared to 2024. Three of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They were miscellaneous carloads, up 764 carloads, to 9,514; metallic ores and metals, up 501 carloads, to 19,269; and coal, up 345 carloads, to 61,733. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included nonmetallic minerals, down 1,919 carloads, to 27,814; grain, down 1,321 carloads, to 22,944; and chemicals, down 858 carloads, to 32,013. Canadian railroads reported 91,707 carloads for the week, down 0.02 percent, and 66,869 intermodal units, down 1.4 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 50 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 8,102,247 carloads, containers and trailers, up 2.2 percent.

[AAR: Downward U.S. Rail Traffic Trend Continues in Week 50, December 17, 2025, www.railwayage.com](https://www.railwayage.com)



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Marine Transport Updates

CANADA

PRPA Announces New Interim President

The Prince Rupert Port Authority (PRPA) announced on December 12, 2025 that Kurt Slocombe has been appointed by the Board of Directors as Interim President effective January 1st, 2026. Mr. Slocombe joined PRPA in 2019 as Vice President, Operations, Planning and Infrastructure. He has an extensive background in gateway operations.

PRPA Announces New Interim President, December 12, 2025, www.rupertport.com

Port of Vancouver operations remain fluid amid heavy rainfall in B.C.

Heavy rainfall from a series of atmospheric rivers continues to affect coastal areas in British Columbia, prompting a travel advisory for parts of the Fraser Valley. The Ministry of Transportation and Transit said some major highways have been impacted, but terminal and rail operations at the Port of Vancouver remain fluid and operational. The region is expected to see continued precipitation in the coming days. The port said it is working closely with terminal operators, railways and all levels of government to monitor conditions and will provide updates as they become available. For the latest information on road conditions and closures, drivers are advised to visit DriveBC.

Port of Vancouver operations remain fluid amid heavy rainfall in B.C., December 16, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca

US/WORLD

US freight industry enters 2026 with low growth expectations



Source: JOC

US freight demand enters 2026 with import container volumes in retraction and surface freight demand in a three-year slump. Container volumes will be flat to down next year, according to forecasts from S&P Global Ratings and Moody's, while truckload and less-than-truckload (LTL) operators steel themselves for another so-so year. US air cargo growth is declining, with volumes down on a year-over-year basis for six straight months through October, according to the International Air Transport Association. Intermodal growth, meanwhile, has notably fared well. Despite negative headlines on unemployment and retail confidence, economists expect the US economy to muster on, most likely avoiding a recession.

US freight industry enters 2026 with low growth expectations, December 15, 2025, www.joc.com

House reauthorizes FMC and adds to its oversight powers



Source: JOC

Congress has reauthorized the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) for another four years while adding new powers to the agency for monitoring shipping exchanges and non-US ocean carriers. The House of Representatives voted on December 16, 2025 to fund the FMC through 2029, with the agency's annual budget set to rise from \$49.2 million currently to \$57 million over the next four years. Along with the funding, the reauthorization codified new responsibilities for the FMC under the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (OSRA-22). The FMC will now be expected to report on whether ocean carrier business practices create trade imbalances. The bill now goes to the Senate, but there is no timeline for when it will vote.

House reauthorizes FMC and adds to its oversight powers, December 16, 2025, www.joc.com

Carriers look to higher rates, fewer sailings on key Asia-US route



Source: Freightwaves

Deep in the heart of the slow shipping season and as they prepare for New Year contract negotiations, ocean container carriers have yet to find a good way to re-synch demand and capacity on the trans-Pacific. Rates on the benchmark Asia-U.S. trade lane diverged in the latest week, according to analyst *Freightos*. Capacity reductions and an array of announced blanked sailings on the trans-Pacific have so far failed to bolster recent general rate increases (GRIs). "Last week West

Coast rates retreated 6% from a start of the month GRI bump, to \$1,963 per FEU (forty foot equivalent unit)," said *Freightos* Head of Research Judah Levine, in a note to clients. "Prices to the East Coast increased 8% to \$3,150 per FEU this week, but are down 15% from a month ago. Despite that sawtooth profile, "carriers have succeeded in keeping rates above October lows of \$1,400 per FEU and \$3,000 per FEU, respectively, likely with benefits of higher rates for short periods in between the dips."

Carriers look to higher rates, fewer sailings on key Asia-US route, December 16, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

Port of Los Angeles on track for third best cargo year on record

The Port of Los Angeles processed 782,249 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) in November, a decrease of 12% compared to last year's elevated cargo levels. With one month left in the year, the Port has handled 9,447,731 TEUs, 1% more than 2024. "Even with all the trade uncertainty, we'll finish 2025 north of 10 million TEUs, putting this year firmly in our top three of all time," Port Executive Director Gene Seroka said at a media briefing. "All that cargo moved without congestion and not a single ship backed up. "That's a credit to our longshore labor, truckers, terminal operators, rail partners and every stakeholder who keeps this complex system running smoothly," Seroka added. "That kind of reliability is why 200,000 importers and exporters each year continue to choose Los Angeles – and trust us in any market condition." Joining Seroka for the briefing was Constance Hunter, Chief Economist at the Economist Intelligence Unit. Hunter discussed the impact of tariffs on trade and the economy, as well as the outlook for 2026. November 2025 loaded imports came in at 406,421 TEUs, 11% less than last year. Loaded exports landed at 113,706 TEUs, an 8% drop compared to 2024. The Port handled 262,122 empty container units, 13% less than last year.

Port of Los Angeles on track for third best cargo year on record, December 16, 2025, www.ajot.com

ONE returns to Red Sea with new service



Source: Freightwaves

Ocean Network Express plans a return to the Red Sea with the launch of the new RCS (Red-Sea China Service). The announcement comes as part of a slot charter agreement with Regional Container Lines – and several other carriers – on its RCL China Red Sea Service inaugurated in November. “This new service has been introduced to meet the demand between China and Red Sea ports, allowing us to better serve our customers with optimized network coverage and reliable shipping solutions,” Singapore-based ONE said in a release. Interest in a return to the Red Sea has picked up following a ceasefire in the Gaza war. Yemen-based Houthi rebels said they would end attacks on shipping as long as the ceasefire holds.

ONE returns to Red Sea with new service, December 17, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

Port Houston volumes dip in November



Source: AJOT

Port Houston’s handled 4,186,264 short tons in November, which was down 15% compared to the same month last year, but remains up 4% in total tonnage year-to-date, with 50,383,531 short tons. Container activity also slowed. TEUs through the public terminals were down 9% for the month, with a total of 335,275 TEUs. Loaded imports softened with a 12% decline, and loaded exports dipped 2% in November 2025.

However, resin and other Gulf-region manufactured goods continue to support strong export activity, resulting in a year-to-date increase of 8% in loaded exports. Through November 2025, Port Houston has handled 3,971,643 total TEUs, a solid 5% year-to-date gain that keeps Port Houston on track for another record container year.

Port Houston volumes dip in November, December 17, 2025, www.ajot.com

Port of Long Beach on course to achieve busiest year

Goods moved before tariffs started earlier this year helped put the Port of Long Beach on course to have its all-time busiest year, exceeding the record-setting 9.6 million cargo containers moved in 2024. The Port of Long Beach achieved its second-busiest November, when dockworkers and terminal operators moved 817,561 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of cargo, down 7.5% from the record set in November 2024. Imports declined 7.5% to 400,505 TEUs and exports decreased 7.5% to 110,122 TEUs. Empty containers moving through the Port were down 8.2% to 306,934 TEUs.

Port of Long Beach on course to achieve busiest year, December 18, 2025, www.ajot.com



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Road Transport Updates

CANADA

Manitoulin opens two new terminals in eastern Canada



Source: Today's Trucking

Manitoulin Transport has opened new terminals in Va- d'Or, Que., and Wabush, Nfld., strengthening its presence in eastern Canada. The Val-d'Or opening marks the fleet's eighth terminal in Quebec. It features 11 cross-dock doors and covers 6,000 sq.-ft. "The opening of our Val-d'Or terminal is a direct investment in the success of our customers operating throughout Quebec," said Jeff King, president, Manitoulin Transport, in a release. "This new terminal underscores our commitment to providing the most comprehensive LTL network in Canada." It also opened a newly upgraded terminal in Wabush, Nfld., expanding its service offering in Labrador City and surrounding areas. It more than doubles Manitoulin's capacity in the region, features 12 dock doors and 16,920 sq.-ft. of operational space.

Manitoulin opens two new terminals in eastern Canada, December 15, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

Urban public transit, October 2025



Source: Statcan

In October 2025, 142.6 million passenger trips were made on urban transit networks in Canada, down 3.6% from October 2024, representing 5.4 million fewer trips. This was the sixth consecutive year-over-year decline. In October 2025, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) totalled \$362.7 million, an increase of 2.9%, or \$10.1 million, from the same month the previous year.

Urban public transit, October 2025, December 16, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

Project Long Haul results in transport theft arrest

Hamilton Police Service and Peel Regional Police Service combined efforts to make an arrest in an organized truck theft scheme spanning southern Ontario. Project Long Haul targeted the theft of commercial transport trucks. Between January and May of 2025, the accused was alleged to have participated in the thefts and attempted thefts of multiple Freightliner trucks from secured trucking facilities. The thefts totalled more than \$1 million, Hamilton police said in a news release. The accused, a Brampton man who police did not name, is charged with several occurrences of: break and enter; vehicle theft and

attempted vehicle theft; possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000; and failure to comply with release order. Police say the accused is alleged to be a member of an organized criminal group involved in transport truck thefts through southern Ontario and “has multiple matters before the courts.

Project Long Haul results in transport theft arrest, December 16, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

Canada, Ontario and the Region of Waterloo invest in public transit improvements

Canada, Ontario and the Region of Waterloo are investing more than \$291 million through the Public Transit Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to increase access to public transit, reduce emissions and improve service and accessibility for commuters in Waterloo Region.

Canada, Ontario and the Region of Waterloo invest in public transit improvements, December 17, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

Fuel Transport launches \$8M AI transport optimization initiative



Source: Today's Trucking

Montreal-based Fuel Transport has announced an \$8-million investment in transport optimization, a new AI-driven initiative aimed at improving pricing, quoting and carrier selection across its North American operations. The company said the project was developed in collaboration with Scale AI, Vooban, CRIM, Geloso Group and Les Camions Fuel, and is designed to enhance daily processes in its Canadian, U.S. and Mexican operations through deeper AI integrations and harnessing predictive intelligence. Robert Piccioni, CEO of Fuel Transport, in a release said “At Fuel, we believe true progress happens when intelligent technology works hand in hand with human instinct.

With this initiative, we are not only elevating operational efficiency, but also redefining what it means to lead with insight, agility, and responsibility in the logistics sector.”

Fuel Transport launches \$8M AI transport optimization initiative, December 17, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

Manitoulin opens new Quebec terminal, expands capacity in Labrador

Manitoulin Transport has opened a new terminal in Val-d'Or, Que., and unveiled a newly upgraded facility in Wabush, Nfld., expanding capacity and service coverage in both regions. The Val-d'Or facility, Manitoulin's eighth terminal in Quebec, is located at 1520 4e rue and features 11 dock doors and 6,000 square feet of space. The terminal adds 65 new service points to the company's network and is integrated into Manitoulin's national infrastructure of 85 terminals and more than 7,100 direct service points. “The opening of our Val-d'Or terminal is a direct investment in the success of our customers operating throughout Quebec,” said Jeff King, president of Manitoulin Transport. “This new terminal underscores our commitment to providing the most comprehensive LTL network in Canada.”

Manitoulin opens new Quebec terminal, expands capacity in Labrador, December 18, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca

Ontario Enhancing Road Safety and Creating Jobs in Prince Edward County

The Ontario government is building a new roundabout in Prince Edward County at the intersection of Highway 62 and County Road 1. The roundabout will improve road safety and create good-paying jobs, protecting Ontario's economy in the face of U.S. tariffs and global economic uncertainty.

Ontario Enhancing Road Safety and Creating Jobs in Prince Edward County, December 17, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

Uber launches new ski service in select Canadian markets

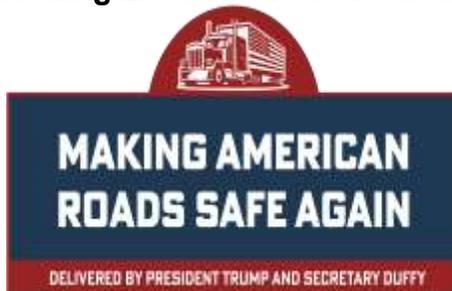


Source: National Post

Uber recently launched a new service aimed at making it easier for Canadians to reach some of the country's top resorts: With many enthusiasts already hitting the slopes across the nation, Uber has launched what it calls an easier way to reach select Canadian resorts: Uber Ski. A seasonal offering that is expected to run until the end of March, Uber Ski is currently available at certain resorts in Vancouver, Kelowna, Edmonton, Gatineau, London, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto. The new service is also available at ski meccas across the globe in countries like the United States, Switzerland and France. *Uber launches new ski service in select Canadian markets, December 18, 2025, www.nationalpots.ca*

US/WORLD

Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Uncovers Latest Bombshell: Over 50% of NY's Non-Domiciled Trucking Licenses Were Issued Illegally



Source: DOT

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 12, 2025 announced that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) nationwide audit of non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) uncovered that the New York Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has been routinely issuing CDLs to foreign drivers illegally. The federal audit exposed a shocking 53 percent failure rate in the records sampled, indicating a total collapse in the administration of New York's CDL program. The Department is now moving to withhold \$73 million in federal funding if New York fails to follow the law, revoke every illegally issued license

Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Uncovers Latest Bombshell: Over 50% of NY's Non-Domiciled Trucking Licenses Were Issued Illegally, December 12, 2025, www.dot.gov

ROUTE Act would allow young US CDL-holders to cross state lines

A bill introduced by Rep. Harriet Hageman, R-Wyo., aims to eliminate restrictions that prevent young commercial drivers from crossing state lines. Currently, 18- to 20-year-old truck drivers are prohibited from interstate driving, but the Responsible Opportunity for Under-21 Trucking Engagement Act, known as the ROUTE Act, would instead limit how far they can travel from their home terminal to 150 air miles. "Federal barriers prevent capable young Americans from entering the trucking industry. At the same time, we are removing illegal aliens who unlawfully obtained CDLs. That makes it even more important to open doors for American workers to fill these jobs and strengthen our economy," Hageman said in a release. "Wyoming and other rural states face needless challenges because federal regulation blocks young CDL holders from making short interstate trips. It makes no sense that drivers are allowed to travel from Gillette to Evanston but prohibited from driving right across the state line to Belle Fourche, S.D. America should never rely on illegal labor to move our goods." *ROUTE Act would allow young US CDL-holders to cross state lines, December 12, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com*

FMCSA crash data highlights growing safety concerns

2025 is drawing to a busy close as the trucking industry rushes to move freight during America's holiday peak retail season. For carriers, the year isn't quite over yet, but the industry can still begin reviewing their performance this year. New data highlights persistent safety challenges in the U.S. trucking industry. An analysis of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) records reveals stark differences in crash rates among motor carriers, with midsize fleets

showing significantly higher incident rates per driver compared to larger operators. FreightWaves and a data partner have analyzed FMCSA crash data to discover the carriers with the highest number of crashes year-to-date (as of November 30) per driver. *FMCSA crash data highlights growing safety concerns, December 15, 2025, www.freightwaves.com*

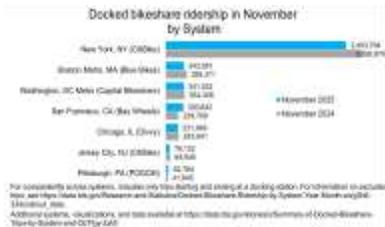
US manufacturing survey shows uptick in optimism



Source: Today's Trucking

Optimism across the U.S. manufacturing sector is rising, but trade uncertainties and health care costs remain top concerns, according to the National Association of Manufacturers' (NAM) fourth-quarter outlook survey. NAM said 69.9% of survey respondents reported a positive outlook for their companies, up from 65% in the third quarter. "In line with the improvement in the outlook, companies expect most indices to improve marginally over the next 12 months," said NAM Chief Economist Victoria Bloom. "For example, manufacturers predict sales will increase 2.8%, up from 2.6% in Q3, and capital investments will grow 1.4%, up from 1% in the prior quarter. That said, while sentiment has improved, we are still below the historical average of 74%." The increase in optimism was tied to certain Trump administration policies like regulatory changes and tax levels in the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*. *US manufacturing survey shows uptick in optimism, December 18, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com*

Docked Bikeshare Trips – November 2025



Source: BTS

On December 15, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released docked bikeshare trips for November 2025. From November 2024 to November 2025, docked bikeshare trips starting and ending at a docking station on seven of the largest systems fell 5.4%. By area served and system, the number of docked bikeshare trips in November 2025 and the percentage change from November 2024 are: 1. New York, NY (CitiBike): 3,403,764 (down 7.8%); 2. Boston Metro, MA (Blue Bikes): 343,051 (down 13.2%); 3. Washington, DC Metro (Capital Bikeshare): 341,532 (down 3.6%); 4. San Francisco, CA (Bay Wheels): 330,832 (up 38.0%); 5. Chicago, IL (Divvy): 231,948 (down 4.9%); 6. Jersey City, NJ (CitiBike): 76,122 (down 10.4%); and 7. Pittsburgh, PA (POGOH): 52,764 (up 26.7%). *Docked Bikeshare Trips – November 2025, December 15, 2025, www.bts.gov*



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Transportation's Top Stories

Other Transport Updates

CANADA

Carney says U.S. tariff reprieve 'unlikely' to happen before CUSMA review talks



Source: National Post

Prime Minister Mark Carney said on Thursday that efforts to see U.S. President Donald Trump remove or lessen tariffs on Canadian sectors will now be dealt with alongside their joint review of the trilateral trade agreement with Mexico. Carney said there won't be time to negotiate a tariff reprieve, given that Canada failed to reach a deal with the U.S. before the president broke talks off in late October and with both countries now heading into their first review of the Canada-U.S.-Mexico-Agreement (CUSMA), slated for 2026.

Carney says U.S. tariff reprieve 'unlikely' to happen before CUSMA review talks, December 18, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

US/WORLD

Customs: Council agrees to levy customs duty on small parcels as of 1 July 2026

The European Council today agreed to apply a **fixed customs duty of €3 on small parcels valued at less than €150** entering the EU, largely via e-commerce, **from 1 July 2026**. This temporary measure responds to the fact that **such parcels currently enter the EU duty free, leading to unfair competition for EU sellers, health and safety risks** for consumers, high levels of fraud and environmental concerns. The measure will stay in place until the permanent arrangement for such parcels, agreed in November 2025, enters into force. The €3 duty will be applied to each different item, according to their tariff headings, contained in a consignment. As of 1 July 2026, goods entering the EU in small consignments and valued at less than €150 will be subject to a fixed €3 customs duty. The rate will be applied to all goods entering the EU for which non-EU sellers are registered in the EU's import one-stop shop (IOSS) for value-added tax purposes. This encompasses 93% of all e-commerce flows to the EU.

Customs: Council agrees to levy customs duty on small parcels as of 1 July 2026 December 12, 2025, www.europa.eu

China's trade surplus with Europe is larger than US for the first time

For the first time, China had a larger trade surplus with Europe than with the US over the period of the last 12 months, posing serious questions over the future of European industry. Except for three months in 2008, following the exceptional circumstances of the subprime crisis that severely impacted the US economy, this has never happened before. According to Chinese customs data, between

October 2024 and October 2025, the surplus with Europe reached \$310 billion, compared with \$302 billion for the surplus with the US. Since 2019, China's trade surplus with Europe has almost doubled, and everything suggests that with Trump's tariffs, which make many Chinese imports far less attractive to the US market, this phenomenon is set to grow and continue. Admittedly, with Chinese products being rerouted via Vietnam, Mexico, or other countries before reaching the US, it is likely that Beijing's surplus with Washington is underestimated. Nevertheless, it is the U.S. that is taking a protectionist stance and closing its borders, not Europe, which finds itself exposed to Chinese industry and its exports.

China's trade surplus with Europe is larger than US for the first time, December 12, 2025, www.ajot.com

Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$1.5 Billion in Infrastructure Funding to Get America Building Again

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 15, 2025 announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) through Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grants for Fiscal Year 2026 that makes \$1.5 billion available for infrastructure projects across the country. Under Secretary Duffy, the merit criteria of BUILD grants will prioritize increasing safety measures, expanding transportation options for American families, as well as projects that:

1. Beautify transportation infrastructure with context-appropriate design that enhance user experience while maintaining safety and operational efficiency;
2. Improve roadway capacity and makes transportation more affordable;
3. Improve the travel experience for families through dedicated facilities for mothers, accessibility for those with disabilities, intuitive design elements, clear signage, intuitive layouts, and predictable operations for caregivers;
4. Facilitate tourism;
5. Support U.S. energy dominance.

Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$1.5 Billion in Infrastructure Funding to Get America Building Again, December 15, 2025, www.dot.gov

UN General Assembly adopts landmark convention shaping the future of negotiable cargo documents

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents (NCD Convention) on December 15, 2025, marking a significant milestone for international trade, multimodal transport and the digitalisation of global supply chains. FIATA, as the global representative body of freight forwarders

and logistics providers and a long standing participant in the work on the Convention since its inception under the auspices of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group VI, welcomes this landmark development. The NCD Convention, which reflects the long established role of freight forwarders and logistics providers in organising end-to-end multimodal transport, is expected to be a key enabler of innovation, digital trade and new market opportunities in regions all over the world. A formal signature ceremony for the Convention is expected to take place in Accra, Ghana, in the second half of 2026.

UN General Assembly adopts landmark convention shaping the future of negotiable cargo documents, December 16, 2025, www.ajot.com

November 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.8%) Was the Same as the November 2024 Level (4.8%) Tuesday, December 16, 2025

| | |
|--|---|
| U.S. Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) November 2025 4.3% | Transportation Sector Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted) November 2025 4.8% |
| ▲ 0.3 change from same month last year | ↔ 0.0 change from same month last year |

Source: BTS

The unemployment rate in the U.S. transportation sector was 4.8% (not seasonally adjusted) in November 2025 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). These data have been updated on the Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) Unemployment in Transportation dashboard. In November 2025, the transportation sector unemployment rate remained unchanged from 4.8% in November 2024. Unemployment in the transportation sector reached its highest level during the COVID-19 pandemic (15.7%) in May 2020 and July 2020. Unemployment in the transportation sector was higher than overall unemployment. BLS reports that the U.S. unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, in November 2025 was 4.3% or 0.5 percentage points below the transportation sector rate. Seasonally adjusted, the U.S. unemployment rate in November 2025 was 4.6%. *November 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.8%) Was the Same as the November 2024 Level (4.8%) Tuesday, December 16, 2025, December 17, 2025, www.bts.gov*

Transportation Consumer Price Index – November 2025

On December 18, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released the change in the costs faced by consumers for transportation goods and services, from November 2024 to November 2025, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The annual change in CPI is a measure of inflation. The CPI for all transportation goods and services rose 1.6% from November 2024 to November 2025. Transportation contributed 9.7% to the 2.7% increase in the price of all goods and services, per the CPI. Used cars and trucks contributed the most to inflation, rising 3.6% year-over-year and contributing 3.1% to the annual change in the price of all goods and services. By item, the top three contributors to inflation in November 2025 were: 1. Used cars and trucks: +3.1%; 2. Motor vehicle maintenance and repair: +2.6%; 3. New vehicles: +1.0%; and 4. Gasoline (all types): +1.0%

Transportation Consumer Price Index – November 2025, December 18, 2025, www.bts.gov

EU to provide €90 billion in support for Ukraine in 2026 and 2027



Source: Europa

EU leaders decided to provide a loan of €90 billion to Ukraine, based on EU borrowing, to address the country's urgent financing needs for the next two years. They also discussed the next long-term EU budget, EU enlargement and geoeconomics.

EU to provide €90 billion in support for Ukraine in 2026 and 2027, December 18, 2025, www.europa.eu



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EVENTS

**The Budget, Tariffs & Infrastructure:
Your Canadian Business Adventure!
Charting a Course Through Challenge and
Spotting Opportunities Along the Way**

Thursday, December 18th at 1 pm ET/ 10 am PT/ 6 pm UK

Free 60-Minute Webinar
To register, please visit: <https://ciltna.com/events/budget-tariffs-infrastructure/>

Ready to decode the latest buzz in Canadian transportation and trade? Join us for an engaging and lively webinar where we unpack the twists and turns of Canadian and US tariffs—no passport required! Our panel of experts will bring you up to speed on how recent Federal Budget investments are supercharging trade-enhancing infrastructure, from bustling ports to high-speed rails. Get the inside scoop on today's import and export trends and discover how businesses are navigating these changes. Whether you're a seasoned shipper or just curious about what's happening at the border, this session promises fresh insights and a dash of fun. Don't miss out on your chance to connect and learn with other CILTNA members and friends while exploring the future of Canadian trade!
P.S. There will be prizes, so register today to secure your spot!

Joy Nott
Partner, Trade & Customs,
KPMG Canada

Cathy Campbell
Executive Advisor, Responsible
Distribution Canada

Alan Dewar
Executive Vice President,
Client Service and Regulatory
Affairs, GHY International

On Thursday, December 18 at 1 pm ET/ 10 am PT CILTNA hosted a free 60-minute webinar: “The Budget, Tariffs & Infrastructure: Your Canadian Business Adventure! Charting a Course Through Challenges—and Spotting Opportunities Along the Way” with guest speakers Joy Nott, Partner, Trade & Customs, KPMG Canada, Cathy Campbell, Executive Advisor, Responsible Distribution Canada and Alan Dewar, Executive Vice President, Client Service and Regulatory Affairs, GHY International.

The video recording is available to view [\[HERE\]](#)

The presentation slides can be viewed [\[HERE\]](#)

We were very pleased with the interest in this webinar and hope to be able to offer similar top-quality webinars over the coming months.

**Introducing the
Global Rail Group**

A forum for rail professionals
around the world, facilitated
by CILT International

Interested in getting involved?
Contact us to learn more
ciltinternational.org

CILT International are pleased to announce the launch of the CILT International Global Rail Group (GRG)

The GRG is a new professional practice network connecting rail experts worldwide, spanning high-speed rail, light rail, metro and urban systems, regional and intercity rail, and rail freight.

Founded and led by Andrew Young FCILT (Chair) and Darren King FCILT (Vice Chair), the Group will provide a platform for sharing knowledge, developing thought leadership and advancing sustainable, efficient rail systems across the globe.

Find out more and apply to join here [➔ https://ow.ly/pR9I50WXvIY](https://ow.ly/pR9I50WXvIY)

Job Postings

* Logistics Manager, Alstom, Toronto, ON, Canada

The Logistics Manager will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Project's logistics strategy. The ideal candidate will have the following:

- Able to demonstrate significant expertise in site logistics, traffic management, site coordination, material and equipment delivery, and other applicable technical fields.
- Demonstrated experience in managing teams to deliver integrated logistics solutions on complex projects and programs.
- Strong technical capability in all project phases, including design, planning, construction, operations, and maintenance preferably large program/projects.
- Demonstrable experience in managing senior stakeholder relationships and providing strategic level reporting to enable effective decision making.
- Excellent stakeholder engagement and communication skills including the ability to facilitate meeting / workshops with large groups of stakeholders.
- Drive and optimize all logistics operations to support all installation activities.
- Experience with Third-Party Logistics (3PL) subcontractors and contracts.
- Experience with international logistics including supply chain, freight, customs, duties, import and export.
- Provide strong leadership to the logistics team.
- Responsible for the budgets based on schedule and project needs for all program logistics

Mandatory:

- A recognized university degree;
- 7-10 years experience in a logistics-related leadership role;
- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in large railway projects or equivalent infrastructure programs;
- A working understanding of the requirements from the Ontario Health and Safety Act;
- Proven track record of managing logistics programs including warehousing, logistics management, and transportation management;
- Fluent in English;
- Knowledge of the typical logistics, supply chain and warehousing processes supporting major projects.

Competencies and Skills:

- Relevant industry software to support logistics, supply chain and administrative duties.
- Ability to make critical decisions based on evidence
- Exceptional communication and collaboration skills

To apply, please visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4263508642>

* Trade Compliance Specialist (Logistics), Ottawa, ON, Canada

Job Description Reporting to the Senior Manager Global Logistics & Customs, the Trade Compliance Specialist (Logistics) primary function is to ensure adherence to import and export regulations while promoting collaboration across various departments to enable efficient international trade operations. The role focuses on mitigating risks, maintaining compliance with relevant laws, company policies and facilitating the smooth functioning of our global supply chain.

Key Responsibilities

- Multitask and prioritize tasks in a fast-paced environment while maintaining accuracy and attention to detail.
- Act as a point of contact for trade compliance inquiries within the organization.
- Work with Procurement to maintain all foreign trade data for purchased raw and finished materials and sold goods, including classification for EAR.

- Partner with Engineering and Logistics to classify products and technologies under the appropriate Harmonized System (HS) codes and retain proper records.
- Coordinate with Logistics to manage customs clearance and shipping documentation.
- Liaise with Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) and Nordion Security to address embargoes, sanctions, and other trade restrictions.
- Proactively identify and resolve import and export issues, develop risk mitigation strategies, and monitor changes in global trade regulations (i.e. Dual-Use Items (Export Control) Regulations).
- Collaborate with the Senior Manager of Global Logistics and Customs to design and implement processes and procedures that ensure full compliance with import and export regulations across Canada, the U.S. the UK, and other EU countries.
- Build exceptional relationships with internal & external stakeholders, achieving compliance, operational excellence, and strategic alignment.
- Collect and report data for KPI measurement.

Education And Experience

3–5 years of experience in import/export regulations, trade compliance policies and customs procedures.

Previous experience in trade compliance, logistics, supply chain, or international business.

Experience with customs declarations, shipping documentation, global customs operations and trade agreements such as CUSMA/USMCA or WTO policies.

Proficient with Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes classifications.

Ability to identify trade compliance risks and recommend corrective actions.

Strong skills in coordinating with customs brokers, freight forwarders, and government agencies.

Analytical and problem-solving abilities.

Excellent communication and collaboration skills.

Education

Diploma or associate degree from a recognized community college in one of the following disciplines:

International Business

Supply Chain Management

Logistics and Transportation

Customs and Border Services

Business Administration

Skills and Experience

Equivalent combination of education and 3–5 years of relevant experience in trade compliance, import/export operations, customs brokerage, or global logistics will also be considered.

Demonstrated experience in customs declarations, shipping documentation, global customs procedures, and trade agreements such as CUSMA/USMCA and WTO policies

Proficient in classifying goods using Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes

Skilled at identifying trade compliance risks and implementing effective corrective measures

Strong coordination abilities with customs brokers, freight forwarders, and regulatory agencies

Excellent analytical thinking and problem-solving capabilities

Solid technical understanding of company products, including hand tools, mechanical and computer components, and electronic systems

Certificates

Current or working towards a certification, such as Canadian Society of Customs Broker (CSCB), Certified Customs Specialist (CCS) or Certified Export Specialist (CES) is highly desirable.

A customs broker license is an asset.

Additional Requirements

Flexibility to work occasional overtime to support project deadlines

Willingness to travel occasionally for training, meetings, or project-

related activities

Training Required

Must complete all required training and certification as a Nuclear Energy Worker.

To apply, please visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/4297649004/>

*** Director, Intermodal Optimization, Halifax Port Authority, Halifax, NS, Canada**

With a core mandate to facilitate the movement of goods and people in support of economic development, and a commitment to safe, efficient, and sustainable operations, the Halifax Port Authority (HPA) plays a vital role as a strategic gateway to global markets. As a strategic port operator, HPA creates value for customers, partners, visitors, and the broader community through its three pillars of business: cargo, cruise, and real estate. The port is a hub of international connectivity, with the world's largest shipping lines calling here and linking Halifax to over 150 countries.

To advance its commitment to innovation and operational excellence, the Halifax Port Authority is seeking a Director, Intermodal Optimization. This is a strategic leadership role designed to optimize the efficiency and transparency of Halifax's supply chain performance through collaboration with the port's principal operators while analyzing and aligning with market demands and financial objectives. Reporting to the Senior Vice President, the Director ensures service level commitments are developed and met through data-driven planning, execution, and continuous improvement. The role involves managing a structured improvement cycle (Plan, Execute, Measure, Adjust), collaborating with key stakeholders, and delivering insights that support operational fluidity. With a focus on facilitation, the Director helps maintain the Port's competitiveness by aligning with national mandates, responding to market needs, and contributing to throughput growth, revenue generation, and long-term sustainability.

HPA is seeking a seasoned professional in supply chain with analytics experience working in container terminal and/or intermodal operations. The successful candidate brings strategic thinking, broad business acumen, and a proven ability to lead analytics or data-driven teams in client-facing environments. With the credibility to serve as an effective facilitator, strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential, along with fluency in performance reporting and metrics. The ability to work independently, manage competing priorities, and maintain composure under pressure is critical. A second international language

is considered an asset. This position demands analytical rigor, discretion, and adaptability, as well as the capacity to build and sustain effective relationships across a wide range of stakeholders.

To Apply

To fill this position, Halifax Port Authority has partnered with leadership advisory firm Odgers. Applications are encouraged immediately and should be submitted online ideally at <https://careers.odgers.com/en-ca/30704>

We thank all those who express an interest, however only those chosen for further development will be contacted.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Halifax Port Authority (HPA) embraces a culture of belonging. No matter who you are, where you're from, how you think, what you believe in, or whom you love, HPA welcomes your application. HPA is made up of diverse backgrounds with unique perspectives and experiences. They encourage applications from 2SLGBTQ+, Black, Indigenous, and people of colour, women, newcomers to Canada, and people with disabilities. If you require any accommodation in the application and interview process, please get in touch.

Odgers is deeply committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all the work that we do. As part of our efforts to better understand our ability to reach as broad a pool of candidates as possible for our searches, our DEI team would like to encourage you to take a moment and access our Self-Declaration Form.



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★ **Like and Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on the latest news and events!**

Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/CILTNA/> and Follow Us.



★ **We are on Instagram!**

Go to: <https://www.instagram.com/ciltna/?hl=en> and Follow Us.



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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1gRKcOcJ5vohMSRFBjIEFA>

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