

.b3502302(E)
.b3502314(A)

Dept. of Foreign Affairs
Min. des Affaires étrangères

JUN 5 2001

Return to Departmental Library
Retourner à la bibliothèque du Ministère

December 22, 2000

Letter to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and President William J. Clinton

During your October 8, 1999 meeting in Ottawa you joined together in launching the Canada-U.S. Partnership Forum (CUSP). Since that time, government leaders from both countries have met with local private- and public-sector leaders along the New York/Ontario border and along the Washington/British Columbia border to discuss how to improve management of the Canada-U.S. border. These local leaders made it clear that they expect our federal governments to show political leadership in pressing ahead with new approaches to meeting border challenges.

Drawing upon the lessons learned from those meetings, we are pleased to present to you the enclosed CUSP report, "Building a Border for the 21st century." This report was jointly produced by the U.S. and Canadian governments, including foreign affairs, customs, immigration, transportation and criminal justice agencies in both countries.

Under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement and the North American Free Trade Agreement, the volume of traffic has grown rapidly, resulting in greatly increased pressure on inspections and infrastructure at our shared border. However, we are determined to meet our twin goals of facilitating travel and trade and enhancing security. To meet these goals over the next 10-15 years we will need to assess what we do at the border, adopt a risk-management approach, increase border resources, enhance binational cooperation on external as well

(A)
61730082
03502314

61730080 (e)
3502302