

March 19, 2010

For Immediate Release

**Upcoming Public Consultations on the
Interprovincial Crossings Environmental Assessment Study**

Canada's Capital Region — On Tuesday, March 30 and Wednesday, March 31, Public Sessions will be held in Ottawa and Gatineau, respectively, as part of Phase 2A of the Interprovincial Crossings Environmental Assessment (EA) Study. Members of the public will be given an opportunity to provide input on the draft Study Design report (process and methodology) that will be used at Phase 2B, the Study's concluding phase, to identify a recommended bridge crossing in the Region's east end.

The communities of Ottawa and Gatineau are invited to review information boards, consult with Study experts, and provide comment on the draft Study Design report, anytime between 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Ottawa	Gatineau
<p>Tuesday, March 30, 2010 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>Ottawa City Hall – Jean Pigott Hall 110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, ON</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 31, 2010 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.</p> <p>Maison du Citoyen – Agora 25, rue Laurier, Gatineau, QC</p>

The Study is made up of two phases. Phase 1, which was completed in January 2009, looked at a number of corridors throughout the Region. Now at Phase 2, the Study is looking more closely at the three locations which received the highest ratings at Phase 1. The mandate of Phase 2A, the current stage, is to consult with members of the public and stakeholders to develop a Study Design and a Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Scoping Document. The Study Design will include a process and methodology that will be used at Phase 2B to identify a recommended crossing location. No decision on the bridge location will be taken at Phase 2A.

This Study is being led by the funding partnership of the National Capital Commission (NCC), the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and the ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ). It is being guided by a Study Team consisting of the funding partners and the cities of Ottawa and Gatineau. A consultant team lead by Co-Enterprise AECOM-Delcan has been retained for Phase 2A.

For more information on the Interprovincial Crossings EA Study, please visit the website at www.ncrcrossings.ca.

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