

413 6th Avenue SE Medicine Hat AB T1A 2S7 (403) 527-5214 Fax: (403) 527-5182 info@medicinehatchamber.com www.medicinehatchamber.com

Connect • Support • Influence

June 23, 2025

Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P. Minister of Transport and Internal Trade House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister Freeland,

Subject: Request for Meeting to Discuss Transportation and Internal Trade Priorities for Southeast Alberta

On behalf of the Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce, congratulations on your re-election and appointment as Minister of Transport and Internal Trade. Your leadership in this newly expanded portfolio comes at a critical time for Canada's economy, and we look forward to working with you to strengthen the infrastructure and trade frameworks that support our region.

Knowing your Alberta roots and coming from a rural community in Northern Alberta, you understand rural and agricultural issues, and we hope this will lend to addressing key transportation and internal trade challenges that our business community faces on a regular basis.

Southeast Alberta is a key contributor to Canada's agricultural, energy, and manufacturing sectors. However, our ability to grow and compete globally depends on efficient transportation systems and a modernized internal trade environment. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the following priorities:

- Trade-Enabling Infrastructure: Investment in highways, rail, and ports to improve the movement of goods across provincial and international borders.
- Internal Trade Modernization: Reducing interprovincial trade barriers and harmonizing regulations to allow businesses to operate more freely across Canada.
- Regulatory Modernization and Efficiency: Streamlining federal permitting and approval processes for transportation and infrastructure projects.

These priorities align with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's All-In Plan for Canada and reflect the needs of our members who are committed to building a more competitive and connected Prairie economy.

We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you—virtually or in person—to explore how your department can support these goals across Canada and within Alberta. Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response and to working together to advance Canada's transportation and trade agenda.

Sincerely,

Steven Pudwell

2024-2025 President, Board of Directors

Lisa Dressler Executive Director

cc: MP Glen Motz, Medicine Hat-Cardston-Warner Constituency

Cc: MP David Bexte, Bow River Constituency