

## NOTICE OF MOTION

### **Strengthening the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) to Support Economic Prosperity in Toronto and the Great Lakes Region**

**Moved by:** Councillor

**Paul W. Ainslie**

**Seconded by:** Mayor

**Olivia Chow**

#### **SUMMARY:**

The Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) provides a stable and predictable framework for North American trade and investment, supporting approximately CA\$2.7 trillion in annual trilateral trade. The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region represents the third-largest economy in the world, generating 30 percent of economic activity in both Canada and the United States.

This motion is brought forward to support a resolution originally submitted by the City of St. Catharines, which was subsequently adopted by the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative at its Board Meeting during the 2026 Annual Conference on May 6, 2026. By adopting these recommendations, the City of Toronto formally supports the City of St. Catharines' proposed resolution and the Cities Initiative's efforts to ensure the upcoming July 1, 2026, Six-Year Joint Review of CUSMA reinforces regional supply-chain resiliency and economic competitiveness.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. City Council request the Federal Government of Canada to preserve CUSMA during the 2026 Joint Review and prioritize the operationalization of provisions that impact supply-chain resiliency and economic competitiveness and advise the Federal Government that City Council:
  - a. supports the effective implementation of CUSMA provisions related to market access and investment certainty, specifically those outlined in Chapter 2 (National Treatment and Market Access for Goods) and Chapter 14 (Investment), to maintain long-term economic stability in Toronto; and
  - b. supports the active use of CUSMA's institutional cooperation mechanisms, such as the North American Competitiveness Committee (Chapter 26), to encourage regional investment and regulatory transparency.
2. City Council urge the Federal Government of Canada to continue investing in strategic customs clearance capacity at regional ports, consistent with Chapter 7 (Customs Administration and Trade Facilitation), to facilitate robust maritime commerce throughout the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway.

3. City Council request the City Manager to engage with relevant stakeholders and regional partners to provide a Toronto-based perspective on the evolution of CUSMA to ensure the agreement delivers tangible benefits to the local business community.
4. City Council forward this motion to:
  - a. Honourable Minister Dominic LeBlanc, Minister responsible for Canada-U.S. Trade, Intergovernmental Affairs, Internal Trade and One Canadian Economy.
  - b. Mayor Mat Siscoe, City of St. Catharines, ON, Co-Chair - Cities Initiative Board of Directors.
  - c. Mayor Cavalier Johnson, City of Milwaukee, WI, Co-Chair - Cities Initiative Board of Directors.
  - d. Jonathan Altenberg, President/CEO, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

May 11, 2026