

Moving Toward a Perimeter Security Approach to the Border

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Harper/Obama Declaration

- February 2011 “Beyond the Border Vision” U.S. and Canada — “intend to pursue a perimeter approach to security, working together within, at, and away from the borders of our two countries...”



Perimeter (Concept)

- Strategy statement seems to define the term in familiar themes of *cooperation*, *partnership*, and *integration*. (Conroy, 2011)
- “Perimeter” is a concept for any changes that make the border crossing experience less onerous and more efficient.

Political Considerations for Canada

- Perimeter still suspect in some Ottawa circles and among public
- Sovereignty issue (more in Canada)
- Canada must guard against “Belt AND Suspenders” (Sokolsky and Lagassé, 2006)



Political Consideration for US

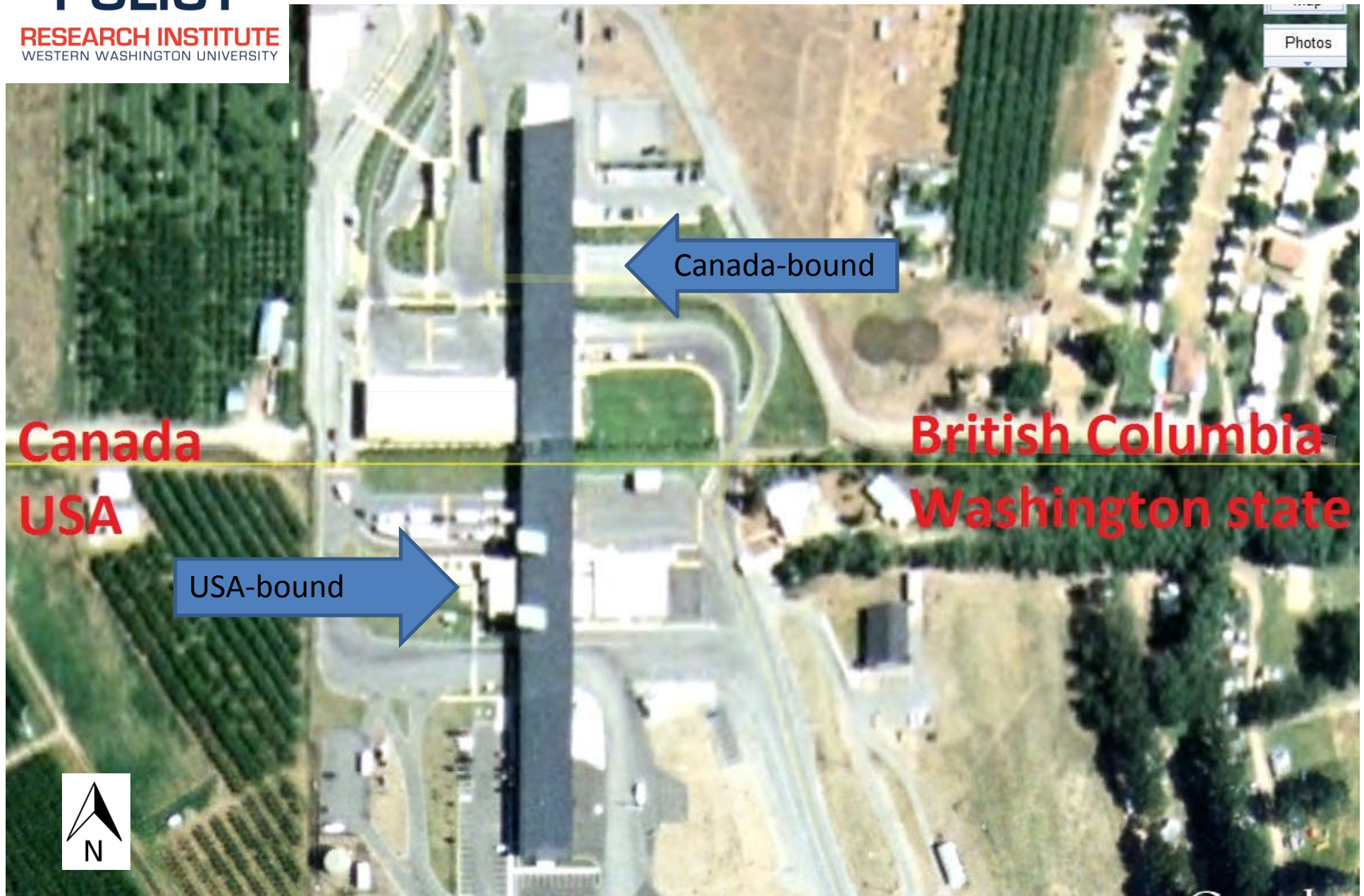
- DC perspective: security at the US border is vital;
neither congress or the president will abandon right to unilaterally tighten borders



More Shared Facilities

- Promise of greater efficiencies, particularly for smaller border crossings (Hale, 2011)
 - Operational Safety (More than 1 officer on duty)
 - Potential for taxpayer savings on construction cost
- Certain inspection facilities could be shared, ie., Ag, Veterinary inspectors (no gun issues)
- Current shared facilities mostly straddle the border--minimizes legal constraints
- Cross-designate officers

Example of Shared Border Facility Oroville, WA / Osoyoos, BC

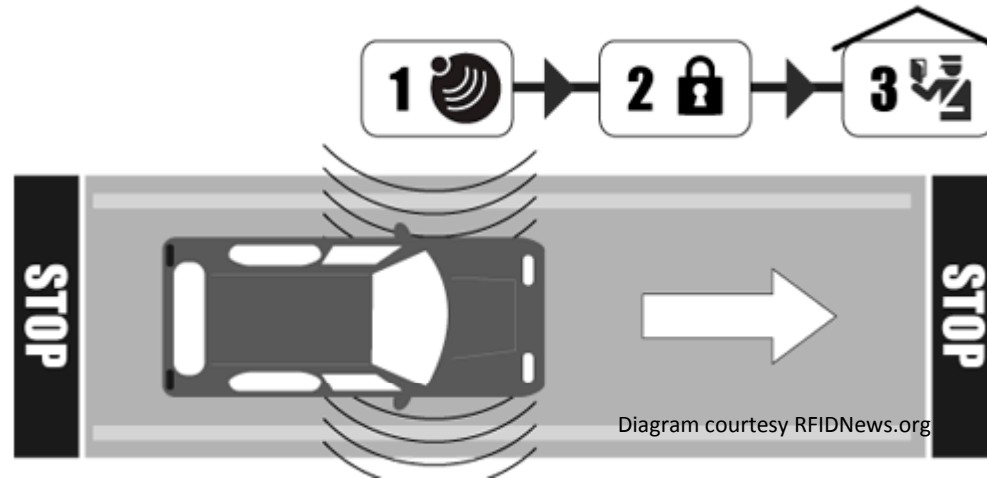


A “Leisure Lane” at the Border



- Approx 93% of cross-border travelers are US or Canadian Citizens
- 80-85% of cross-border travelers are engaged in leisure travel (shopping, recreation, vacation, church, family visit)
- Target lane to CITIZENS of US/Can, on Leisure Trips, with “nothing to declare
- Potential to boost throughput at border by as much as 25%

More RFID-Enabled Crossings?



- Average time savings of 15 seconds/car (25%)
- Interviews need not be as long, may help counteract the chilling effect.
- If the WHTI-compliant documents now in use (passports, permanent resident cards) were all RFID-enabled, mobility would be vastly improved.

But, Big RFID Challenges

- Only Larger US Ports equipped with RFID Readers
- None on Canadian side
 - Except Nexus
- Few RFID ID's being used
 - Less than 1%
- US e-Passports not compatible
- Privacy Concerns

Bolster Integrated Border Enforcement Teams (IBETs)

- Most effective Crime Fighting tool at the border, but lack a core constituency to support and expand (Stock, 2011)
- Institute Shiprider program on land



Other Changes

- Agree on a 'one-stop screening.'
- Harmonize food and animal health standards
- Look beyond NAFTA to simplify mobility of professionals
- Simplify adjudication of inadmissibility for Canada-bound Americans with past Impaired Driving / DUI cases
- Bring privacy officials together to hammer out a North American "privacy convention"