



# What Tourism Needs From BtB 2.0

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# Challenge for BtB 2.0—Advancing Mobility at Securitized Borders

## The Context we are in--

- 20 yrs after NAFTA (13 yrs after 9/11) territorial border controls remain firmly in place
- Perimeter security concept in BtB enhances border security functions “away from the border”; but retains most security functions “at the border.”
- Imperative to rethink (re-engineer?) the border to improve efficiency and minimize intrusiveness for the 97+% of travelers who are no, or low risk.

# What Tourism needs from BtB 2.0

**1. Fully acknowledge critical paradigm shift: borders are as much about *flows* as they are about *lines*.**

As spaces of business and people flows, borders need to be understood as facilitative in the dynamics of economic and social integration between our two countries and communities.

**2. Enhance mobility at borders by segmenting the traffic stream with *trusted* and *known* travelers and cargo moving through an expedited process.**

Focus inspection and enforcement resources on those people about which nothing is known, or which are already suspect.

### **3. Eliminate inspection redundancies for pre-checked and trusted travelers.**

“Checked once/cleared at Can-US border”  
should be operating principle.

## **4. Decriminalization.**

Barring border crossings for minor criminality (e.g. minor drug/alcohol offenses) results in hindered mobility and has nothing to do with true threats to security.

**5. Develop binational investment frameworks that permit public-private partnerships to finance new border infrastructure.**

Easy movement across the region is dependent on modernized infrastructure at land borders, ferry and cruise terminals and rail systems.

**6. Move in the direction of supply chain security for the tourism sector—where the private sector plays a significant role.**

Heavy reliance on the private sector has penetrated the world of commerce—just think of modern supply chains where the emphasis is on maximizing the efficiency of flows, while at the same time ensuring security.



## **7. Recognize that tourism is a vital part of cross border regional innovation.**

Tourism industry draws global knowledge, ideas capital into the system; bridges cultural gaps and provides spin-offs into other sectors (business, education, health environment, etc.)

# Conclusions

- Cross border flows (people, goods information) knit together the N. America and global economies
- This is true, notwithstanding infrastructures distinctly unsuited to accommodate them
- Thus—use BtB momentum to re-engineer these infrastructures to construct a 21<sup>st</sup> century border

# Thank You

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