

Port of Oshawa Supports Ontario's Diverse Economy

A diverse economy is a crucial part of Canada's economic success, especially now as the global economy slows. In Alberta, a province that relies on oil and gas for its revenues, elected officials have reiterated the need to diversify to protect the economy. Here in Ontario, the province's finance minister believes Ontario's strength is in its diverse economy. Ontario's Great Lakes ports, including the Port of Oshawa have long played an important role in supporting Ontario's changing economy. These ports move virtually every commodity imaginable, from grain, steel and aggregate to wind turbines that are now a part of the province's growing renewable energy sector.

"Canadian ports have a mandate to be as diversified as they can be to meet the needs of as many sectors as possible," said Donna Taylor, President and CEO of the Oshawa Port Authority. "The Port of Oshawa began with just the west wharf, moving coal and salt. It's come a long way since then in keeping the local and provincial economy moving."

The Port of Oshawa serves industries ranging from steel and asphalt to potash. Last year the port shipped more than 378-thousand metric tonnes of bulk cargo. This year, the port hopes to further diversify. It has shipped grain and cement in the past, and hopes to do so again.

"The port has made significant investments in new infrastructure to support changing markets and the growing needs of businesses," said Gary Valcour, Chair of the Oshawa Port Authority. "The rail spur, for example, has allowed the port to move cargo 24/7 and capitalize on the niche project cargo market."

The Port of Oshawa has continued to invest in new infrastructure to expand its cargo capacity, including a \$10 million dock expansion, \$4.1 million rail spur, and \$2.5 million cargo pad. Each year, the port handles an average of \$23 million worth of cargo, generating \$6 million annually in federal and provincial taxes.

For further information about the Port of Oshawa visit: www.portofoshawa.ca.

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