

Senate Committee Report Backs CTA

(June 12, 2008) -- A new report issued by the Senate Transport and Communications Committee entitled *Time for a New National Vision – Opportunities and Constraints for Canada in the Global Movement of Goods*, has recommended that the federal government move forward on a number of crucial issues that were raised by the Canadian Trucking Alliance during the committee's deliberations. The report was written after extensive hearings and consultation with industry stakeholders.

Specifically, the Committee concluded that the government should:

- support the adoption of new technologies by the trucking industry through tax incentives and accelerated depreciation;
- encourage the adoption and harmonization of provincial trucking regulations specifically designed to maximize the use of energy efficient technologies such as enviroTruck engineering.
- make changes to the capital cost allowance for equipment to allow transportation companies to purchase the newest trucking technologies that are more fuel efficient and cleaner.
- enable Citizenship and Immigration Canada to classify long-distance truck drivers as skilled labour to allow more foreign workers to take advantage of immigration opportunities in Canada;
- work with the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) to harmonize trucking regulations across the country.

In addition to CTA's presentation, the committee also heard deputations from the British Columbia Trucking Association and past CTA Chairman Claude Robert of Robert Transport.

CTA CEO David Bradley called the committee's report "a vindication of much of what CTA has been saying for some time". He went on to say, "I'm very hopeful that with this new support from the Senate Transportation and Communications Committee that we may begin to see more action on some of these issues".

About CTA -- The Canadian Trucking Alliance is a federation of provincial trucking associations. We represent a broad cross-section of the trucking industry—some 4,500 carriers, owner-operators and industry suppliers. With our head office in Ottawa and provincial association offices in Langley, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Moncton, CTA represents the industry's viewpoint on national and international policy, regulatory and legislative issues that affect trucking. www.cantruck.ca