

**Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation  
Between  
The Province of Ontario  
and  
The State of Michigan**

Memorandum of Understanding made this fourteenth day of June, two thousand and two,

BETWEEN

The GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, as represented by THE PREMIER of Ontario (herein referred to as the "Premier"),

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, as represented by THE GOVERNOR of Michigan (herein referred to as the "Governor"),

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario and the State of Michigan are economically interdependent and represent the largest trading relationship between any Province and State, and rank within the top fifteen trading partnerships in the world;

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario and the State of Michigan are closely linked geographically, sharing the resources of three Great Lakes with more than 14,300 km (8,885 mi.) of shoreline between them;

WHEREAS, the State and the Province have in common a significant number of economic, social, environmental, educational, cultural, and other common interests and connections;

WHEREAS, the main responsibility of the Ontario Ministry of Enterprise, Opportunity and Innovation (MEOI) and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is to promote economic development and growth in their respective jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, the challenges of stimulating economic growth, and creating and retaining jobs for the citizens of the Province of Ontario and the State of Michigan are of the highest concern to both the MEOI and MEDC;

WHEREAS, the Province and the State have enjoyed cordial relations and have cooperated in and derived mutual benefit from their common interests;

WHEREAS, the State and the Province wish to enhance and strengthen their efforts to pursue common goals and objectives in relation to sustainable economic development, transportation, trade and investment, tourism, science and technology, education and skills development, the environment, culture, and other sectors of their economies;


NOW THEREFORE on this 14th day of June, 2002, the Premier and the Governor jointly affirm the following understandings:

1. In order to promote prosperity and economic development in the State of Michigan and the Province of Ontario the parties shall:
  - Develop a mutual understanding of shared issues and concerns of the governments and citizens;
  - Explore possible mechanisms for further dialogue through which the governments and citizens of the Province and the State may exchange views, express concerns and arrange to undertake such joint actions as may be of mutual benefit;

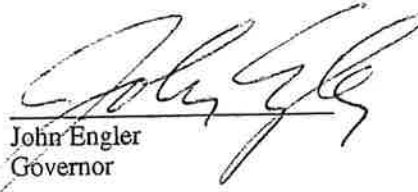
- Encourage and solicit private sector involvement and support for economic development activities;
  - Continue to work together to identify, solve and/or alleviate border and customs difficulties encountered by both traded goods and services, including traveling persons. The two jurisdictions will inform each other of problems and opportunities as they arise and undertake, where practical, joint lobbying of federal authorities;
  - Take leadership roles in the work of the Canada-U.S.-Ontario-Michigan Border Transportation Partnership with respect to improving the safe and efficient movement of people, goods and services across the U.S.-Canada border at the Detroit River.
2. That the Province of Ontario and the State of Michigan may focus consultations and dialogue on the following areas:
- Working cooperatively to promote the creation of jobs that will benefit families and individuals in Ontario and Michigan;
  - Promoting transportation infrastructure improvements and other strategies for improving safety and efficiency at the U.S.-Canada border crossings located along the Michigan-Ontario border;
  - Supporting mutually beneficial trade development and business partnership opportunities;
  - Collaborating on tourism industry initiatives serving shared Michigan and Ontario objectives;
  - Continuing on-going cooperative efforts to enhance and preserve Ontario's and Michigan's shared environment and common natural resources for the benefit of citizens on both sides of the border; and
  - Identifying issues that Michigan and Ontario might bring to the attention of United States and Canadian federal officials.
3. Each Party shall bear its own costs in performing its obligations under this Memorandum of Understanding.
4. The term of this Memorandum of Understanding shall commence on the date of its execution and shall continue for a period of five (5) years unless it is terminated or canceled as provided herein. It shall be automatically extended for further one-year terms unless either Party gives written notice to the other at least sixty (60) days before the expiration of the initial or any renewal term of the Party's intent not to renew.
5. The Province of Ontario and the State of Michigan may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time, without cause, by giving written notice to the other party.
6. The Province of Ontario and the State of Michigan agree and acknowledge that this Agreement shall become void upon termination.

Signed at Detroit in the State of Michigan this 14th day of June, 2002.

THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

  
Ernie Eves  
Premier

THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

  
John Engler  
Governor