



Canada-China Friendship Society®

Ottawa Chapter

Founded 1976

PO Box 8461, Post Office Terminal – Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3H9

Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative: Building Bridges of Transportation and Trade between Canada and China

by John Higginbotham

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

Thursday June 17, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

Press Room/Salle de presse Vidéotron

**Ground floor/rez-de-chaussée, Gatineau City Hall/Maison du Citoyen
25 Laurier Street, Gatineau (Hull sector) (see attached directions)**

Mr. Higginbotham will discuss Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative, a multi-billion dollar federal-provincial-private sector project aimed to strengthen Canada's transportation and logistic capacity to trade with China and East Asia. The Premier of British Columbia has compared the Pacific Gateway to the St. Lawrence Seaway, in recognition of a new pattern of development and trade, in this case Canada's Pacific destiny and the emergence of China as an economic superpower. The Pacific Gateway is a vision and metaphor that goes beyond trade and economic development, to include the building of more and stronger non-governmental links between Canadian and Chinese organizations and individuals.

Mr. John Higginbotham has just concluded an assignment as Principal Advisor, Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative, based in Transport Canada, on secondment from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He served for four years as Assistant Deputy Minister Champion for the Initiative, including providing advice and support to Department of Transport officials in meeting their responsibilities to the Minister for the Pacific Gateway, and to the Minister of Transport. Among his several preceding positions, he served for five years as Commissioner for Canada in Hong Kong, Canada's largest immigration post abroad. He also served twice in Beijing, first as Trade Commissioner and then as Political Counselor.

This event is free for CCFS members. Non-members are welcome and are charged \$5. CCFS-Ottawa Annual Membership is \$20 (individuals), \$30 (family), and \$12 (students.)

As is our custom, Chinese tea and refreshments will be served.

For further information about the Society or this event please call Lorraine Farkas at 613-729-3660 or go to www.fccfa.ca/Ottawa. Membership forms are available at this website.

