



June 8, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
President, Joe Biden, President of the United States of America

Motor Coach Canada and the American Bus Association urge both the Canadian and the United States federal governments to open their respective borders to all modes of transportation, including motor coach travel, before the summer tourism season is lost for a second year.

With COVID-19 vaccination rates rising in Canada and the United States, and case numbers falling, we must return to normal cross-border travel. Medical experts are reporting that Canada and the U.S. are both winning the battle with COVID-19. Now is the time to pivot to economic recovery, including more forward-thinking border policies to enable the return to business for our tourism economies ending the severe financial devastation COVID-19 restrictions have caused.

Earlier this month, Canada's expert advisory panel on COVID-19 Testing and Screening made a compelling case for changing the travel policy, saying it should be revamped to reflect the significant progress made on the pandemic. This included repealing Canada's mandatory hotel quarantine system and updating the cross-border travel policy.

U.S. Congressional leaders, including Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, have called for the border to open now; Liberal Members of Parliament Wayne Easter and Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, along with several editorialists, have also called for the respective Governments to lay out a clear reopening plan.

To facilitate the economic recovery the tourism sector in both countries, urgent action to open the Canada-U.S. Border is needed now. Our members need a commitment on reopening the border to prepare for a prompt, orderly and safe re-opening to all modes of transportation including motor coach travel. MCC and ABA fully support the calls from the Tourism Industry Association of Canada, the U.S. Travel Association and other business associations like ours, whose members' survival is dependant on cross border travel.

Sincerely

Vince Accardi
President
Motor Coach Canada

Peter J. Pantuso
President & CEO
American Bus Association

CC:

The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness

The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development, Tourism and Official Languages

The Honourable Alejandro Mayorkas, United States Department of Homeland Security

Gina M. Raimondo, U.S. Secretary of Commerce