

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Transport Canada, the Prince Rupert Port Authority and other Pacific Gateway partners are collaborating on the West Coast Supply Chain Visibility Program to develop an Insight Driven Gateway.

The West Coast Supply Chain Visibility Program is a multi-phase, multi-year program that will develop and implement a series of operational planning and optimization tools tailored to participating industry members. These tools will support actions to increase capacity and operating efficiencies across the supply chain.

Using business and technology insights, this program will create a comprehensive system of record for data related to goods movement and provide insights to unlock the full economic potential of the Pacific Gateway.

This work is supported by funding received from Transport Canada through the National Trade Corridors Fund in 2019.

By the end of 2022, the program aims to have visibility into the movement of 95% of all cargo through the west coast of Canada.

Trade is growing. Why is supply chain visibility important?

Supply chain visibility will support the growth of economic activity through the Pacific Gateway to the benefit of Canadian businesses, consumers and taxpayers.

In 2020, the Port of Vancouver and Port of Prince Rupert handled a combined 178 million tonnes of cargo, and trade through the Pacific Gateway is forecasted to continue to grow. This growth will place pressure on already heavily used trade infrastructure.

Greater visibility into the supply chain can provide insights to maximize the performance of existing infrastructure, as well as the extensive investments made, being made or planned by governments and industry.

This visibility will inform choices, made both individually and collectively, for infrastructure investments, policy decisions and day-to-day operations, and will facilitate the ability of the gateway and the associated supply chain to meet the demands of future growth.

About the Pacific Gateway

The Pacific Gateway refers to the Port of Vancouver and the Port of Prince Rupert, and the infrastructure leading to and from them, collectively the largest port network in Canada.

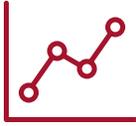
Combined, the ports handle an estimated \$300 billion in cargo annually, supporting trade with more than 170 world economies.



West Coast Supply Chain Visibility Program: building an Insight Driven Gateway

The objective of the West Coast Supply Chain Visibility Program is to create a digital backbone to support enhanced collaboration and optimization of the western Canadian supply chain to develop the Insight Driven Gateway—enabling a smarter, evidence-based approach to decision making and translating insight into action.

The program would provide the following analytics and forecasting capabilities, among others:



Monitor supply chain performance across all commodities through a near real-time digital dashboard available to industry stakeholders



Predict terminal-specific arrival time of railcars, linking cargo loading at origin to loading date at the terminal



Identify operational constraints and capacity bottlenecks based on live system data and simulations



Improve import and export cargo forecasting to estimate volumes, identify possible capacity issues, and support long-term operational planning

The program will ensure alignment with a national data platform being developed concurrently by Transport Canada.

Who is involved in the supply chain and how will they benefit?

There is a complex and large group of stakeholders who all have a role to play in moving goods through the supply chain in Western Canada. Each of these groups will benefit from the West Coast Supply Chain Visibility Program by gaining access to:

- A single and comprehensive system of record for the western Canadian supply chain activity
- A consolidated end-to-end view of goods movement across the supply chain, where many industry members previously only had data for their portion of the supply chain
- A series of tools that support actions to increase capacity and operating efficiencies across the supply chain

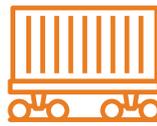
Stakeholders:



Marine terminal operators



Transload facilities



Railways



Shippers



Shipping lines



Trucking companies



Industry associations



Canada Port Authorities



Federal, provincial and regional transportation agencies

The program is intended to be a collaborative initiative, with the primary goal of supporting industry in more effectively moving cargo through the west coast. While it will be used to support effective policy making and infrastructure investment decisions, it is not intended to be used to create regulations or legislation that may impact a particular supply chain participant.



Building blocks: a successful pilot project

Work contributing to the development of the supply chain visibility program began in early 2018 with a pilot that developed a near real-time digital dashboard for three export bulk commodities—grain, coal and fertilizer—handled through rail and bulk terminals.

Based on the success of the pilot, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and Prince Rupert Port Authority applied for and received federal funding commitments from the National Trade Corridors Fund to develop the West Coast Supply Chain Visibility Program.

With the support of this funding, we are developing a program that will report on all commodities, additional modes of transport, and import cargo.

Completed and planned activities

2020–2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborated with and interviewed industry stakeholders to explore aspects of future program priorities • Built requirements for targeted reporting and analytics projects • Developed data infrastructure based on learnings from the pilot program • Decided on master data management solution as backbone of the program • Received and reviewed data from industry partners (<i>continued into 2022</i>)
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition and broaden data sets for goods movement • Develop and integrate a set of priority analytics, forecasting and complex economic modelling capabilities into the system • Determine how learnings can inform national standards and subsequent projects



Data access and data security

Data is the foundation of the platform, the metrics, and the analytics, and we understand the importance of both data security and data access to all gateway members. The dashboard is being designed to ensure that the data provided by each organization is secured. Access will be managed so that the competitiveness within the gateway is not impacted.

- All participants will have their own, unique access to a near-real-time dashboard that will provide reports on key metrics around cycle time, throughput, and efficiency
- Each organization will have a different view of the data, with detailed access to its own specific performance data, as well as aggregated views of the collective datasets
- Data agreements are being developed with each participant to ensure that the details around data access and data security are clear and agreed upon
- The program will continue collaborating with participants through the development of these agreements to ensure all parties are comfortable with the terms around data access, data use, and data security

We will continue working with partners to ensure the platform provides value to gateway participants and the western Canadian supply chain as a whole, while respecting and protecting the commercial interests of all participants.

For more information

Visit and register for newsletter updates: portvancouver.com/port-dashboard/supply-chain-performance
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