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Attention News Editors:

Land Border ID Requirements Making for Hassle-Free Cross Border Summer/Autumn Travel

Canadian land border duty free operators remind Canadian, U.S. Travellers of border ID requirements

OTTAWA, Aug. 5 /CNW Telbec/ - With unseasonable summer weather conditions and a weak economy, some Canadians and Americans are taking advantage of decreased to no traffic volumes at the border to make shorter cross-border vacations nearby. Canada's land duty free stores encourage all travellers to make sure everyone in their family has one of the newly required pieces of identification to ensure hassle-free cross border travel this year.

"This summer/fall is a great time to forgo expensive long-distance trips and vacation closer to home," said Frontier Duty Free Association Executive Director Laurie Karson. "By securing accepted border IDs for everybody in the family, particularly those above 18, a last minute trip across the border doesn't have to be a hassle.

"Since June 1st, 2009 those travelling by car into the U.S must carry an approved border document. These include a valid passport, an Enhanced Driver's License (for provincial or state EDL information refer to: www.getyouhome.gov/html/EDL_map.html), or a membership card of a trusted traveller program such as NEXUS, Senti, U.S. PASS Card (for U.S. citizens only) or FAST. Travellers aged 15 years and under are only required to present proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate (original or copy). This exemption also applies to travellers between the ages of 15 and 18 when travelling with a guardian or on an organized tour under adult supervision with parental/guardian consent.

Since June 2009, Canada's 28 land border duty free shops report reduced vehicle traffic at major border points between Canada and the U.S. This means fewer or no delays for travellers and more time to take advantage of discounts on a wide range of products -- discounts only available at border duty free shops.

"With new border requirements and a weak economy in both Canada and the U.S., it is a great time to travel between Canada and the U.S. by car, as there are shorter or no line-ups at the border," said Robert Prince at DFS Ventures in Emerson, Manitoba. "Less traffic makes it easier than ever to travel."

Canada's duty free shops offer Canadian and American travellers crossing major Canadian land border points the unique opportunity to save duty and taxes on hundreds of ordinarily expensive products, including alcoholic beverages, fragrances/cosmetics, jewellery, beer, and many other high-end products.

Travel Identification Requirements for Canadian Citizens

- Complete information on U.S. land border identification requirements for Canadian citizens is available from the Canada Border Services Agency at www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/whti-ivho

Travel Identification Requirements for U.S. Citizens

- Complete information on U.S. land border identification requirements for U.S. citizens is available from U.S. Customs and Border Patrol at www.GetYouHome.gov

About the Frontier Duty Free Association

For more information on the Frontier Duty Free Association and where Canadian duty free stores are located, please visit its Web site at www.dutyfreecanada.com.

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