

Canadian Border Communities Call for Elimination of ArriveCan App and Vaccine Requirements

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

(Ottawa) June 15, 2022 – Today, Canadian border community mayors, along with Member of Parliament Richard Cannings from South Okanagan-West Kootenay and Barbara Barrett, Executive Director of the Frontier Duty Free Association are calling on the federal government to eliminate the ArriveCan App and end vaccine requirements for the land border.

Yesterday's vaccine mandate travel announcement by the Federal Ministers makes clear that federal government does not clearly understand border communities and border businesses.

"The tourism industry accounts for \$105 billion dollars in Canada, and 40,000 jobs are directly related to tourism here in Niagara," said Jim Diodati, Mayor of Niagara Falls. "We supported the federal government restrictions for years because it was the right thing to do. The science is now telling us that these restrictions at the border are no longer serving us. The restrictions are no longer helping us."

"Our border businesses are not being allowed to recover. We are still 50% down from pre-pandemic sales and this is directly related to the ArriveCan App and vaccination requirements at the land border," said Barbara Barrett, Executive Director of the Frontier Duty Free Association. "We know that these restrictive measures are hurting Canadian businesses more than they are helping keep Canadians safe."

"Every border mayor can tell you horror stories about the border and the inconsistencies of the border measures," said Mike Bradley, Mayor of Sarnia. "It's arbitrary, we took the required steps at the start of the pandemic, but we're being punished."

Border business representatives are calling on the government to eliminate the inconsistent approach that has decimated border communities and businesses for over two years.

Please see link to press conference **HERE**.

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