

Port of Oshawa Welcomes Local Chamber Members

OSHAWA – All aboard! It's not often that a tour bus makes the rounds at the Port of Oshawa. The port was delighted to welcome members of the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce to its first Port Day, an opportunity for the local business community to get a first hand glimpse of the inner workings of our national-deep sea port.

“Not everyone is aware that the Port of Oshawa is such a huge economic driver,” said Nancy Shaw, CEO & General Manager of the local chamber. “This was a great way to educate our members about how the port serves industry and the millions of dollars in cargo that's shipped through here each year.”

As official tour guide, Donna Taylor, President and CEO of the Oshawa Port Authority provided the colour commentary, explaining how the port came to the rescue with green road salt during a sudden snow storm one St. Paddy's day, and how the port plans to get back into the “green business” and support the farming community through the installation of a special conveyor belt to move grain.

“The tour was a chance for us to show local chamber members the sheer size and scope of our port operations,” said Gary Valcour, Chair of the Oshawa Port Authority. “Many were taken by the range of industry the port supports from steel and potash to salt and liquid asphalt.”

Chamber members also gained a greater appreciation of the port's international reach. The bus wheeled past delicate specialty piping that arrives from Turkey for local building construction and massive windmill blades made in Portugal for a German company, shipped on a Netherlands vessel, constructed by Canadian crews and destined for regional wind farms.

On average, the Port of Oshawa handles \$23 million worth of cargo annually, supporting 290 jobs and generating up to \$6 million in federal and provincial taxes each year.

For further information about the Port of Oshawa visit: www.portofoshawa.ca.

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