



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### HOUSE CO-CHAIR OF THE IPG ADDRESSES THE BTA MEETING

On September 25, 2012, Mr. Gord Brown, M.P., Co-Chair of the Canadian Section of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group, addressed the annual fall meeting of the Canadian/American (Can/Am) Border Trade Alliance (BTA) meeting in Washington, D.C.

“As always, I was very pleased to be able to speak with the attendees at the BTA meeting about the IPG’s recent and anticipated activities,” said Mr. Brown. “In particular, I was able to share information about issues related to Canada that were raised at the various meetings of U.S. governors and state legislators throughout the summer, and to outline the IPG’s priorities for the coming months. The BTA does very valuable work, and I hope to be able to attend the BTA’s conference mid-October in Alexandria Bay, New York, which is quite close to my constituency and which will be focused on trade corridors, gateways and regional economies.”

Mr. Brown concluded: “The BTA is a valuable forum in which to meet practitioners and policy makers that are focused on the shared border between Canada and the United States. Attendees at BTA meetings typically include private sector and public sector representatives from both countries, and their broad range of experiences and insights about what is – and, importantly, what isn’t – working at the border, provide members of the IPG with key information that helps in the identification of the priority actions that are needed to facilitate legitimate trade and tourism.”

The Can/Am BTA holds two meetings each year: in the spring in Ottawa and in the fall in Washington, D.C. The BTA is a coalition of businesses, public-sector organizations and individuals with an interest in bilateral trade and tourism. Its mission is to maximize commercial activity and ensure continued growth in cross-border trade as well as efficient and productive border-crossing capabilities.

It should be noted that the views expressed in this news release are specific to the Canadian Section of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group and, as such, may not reflect the views of our US counterparts.

The Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group aims to find points of convergence in respective national policies, to initiate dialogue on points of divergence, to encourage the exchange of information and to promote better understanding among legislators on shared issues of concern. Additional information on the Group can be found at [www.parl.gc.ca/iia/us](http://www.parl.gc.ca/iia/us).

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