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## PORT OF PRINCE RUPERT

**opening a new world of opportunity**

March 2007

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Container Terminal Project on Target, Despite Adverse Weather

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The construction of the Prince Rupert 500,000 TEU container terminal has passed the two-third point on time, on budget and 100% serious-injury free. The wharf extension, which gives the berth a 16.7 metre depth to accommodate the largest container ships, is now 75% complete. This is despite the wet winter weather conditions at the construction site that threatened to delay the paving of the wharf deck and placement of the large pre-cast concrete fender supports. However, wharf construction crews have maintained their schedules and the main focus has now shifted to the intermodal yard where crews are laying down

20,000 feet of railway track, and preparing for paving of the asphalt container handling yard, scheduled to begin mid April.

The project is on target to receive the three super post-panamax cranes from China in early July and will be 100% complete for the first container ship's expected arrival in early October. For more information, visit [www.rupertport.com](http://www.rupertport.com).

## 2006 Total Tonnage Throughput Surges 75% over 2005

The Port of Prince Rupert experienced its best year since 2000, handling 7.7 million tonnes of cargo in 2006 compared to 4.4 million tonnes in 2005, despite the closure of the of the Fairview break-bulk terminal for conversion to a container terminal. Prince Rupert Port Authority President & CEO **Don Krusel** says the 75% increase in 2006 tonnage throughput is the direct result of Prince Rupert Grain and Ridley Terminals Inc. capitalizing on improved market conditions, and more competitive freight rates to aggressively pursue new business while handling more products for current customers.



“The credit for the Port of Prince Rupert’s impressive performance belongs to the management and staff of Prince Rupert Grain and Ridley Terminals,” notes Krusel. “They seized the opportunities presented to them and successfully delivered their higher throughputs to meet the needs and expectations of their customers.”

The Port of Prince Rupert is projecting total throughput to reach 10 million tonnes in 2007, led by increased Ridley Terminals business and the coming on stream of the Fairview Container Terminal in October 2007. For more information, visit [www.rupertport.com](http://www.rupertport.com).

## Container Terminal Phase 2 Focus now on Financing



The Prince Rupert Port Authority is near completion of the engineering design for Phase 2 of the Fairview Container Terminal Development, and has initiated the environmental assessment as well as public and First Nations consultations.

Now the Port Authority is focusing on financing the 1.5 million TEU (20-foot equivalent units) terminal, estimated to cost \$600 million.

President & CEO **Don Krusel** says the Port has launched an aggressive effort to finance Phase 2 by exploring a wide range of financing options that could be available within the restrictions of the Canada Marine Act and Letters Patent that constrains Port investment, private

investment and access to external funding sources.

“Prince Rupert and other port stakeholders have made the Canadian Government aware of the obstacles posed by the Canada Marine Act and Letters Patent that are affecting our ability to finance port infrastructure projects such as our Phase 2 container terminal,” explains Krusel. “We anticipate that the Federal Government will make the necessary changes to remove these obstacles, but we simply cannot wait for these changes to occur if the Port of Prince Rupert is to

meet its Pacific Gateway target of four million TEUs by 2014.”  
The current timelines for Phase 2 are to begin construction in mid-late 2008 and complete in early 2011.

## RREEF Infrastructure Agrees to Purchase Maher Terminals

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RREEF Infrastructure, a part of RREEF Alternative Investments, the global alternatives asset management business of Deutsche Bank’s Asset Management division, announced March 20 it has agreed to purchase Maher Terminals, the terminal operator that will be operating the new Prince Rupert container facility at Fairview Terminal. The company will retain the Maher name and the acquisition will not affect the leadership of Maher Terminals.

“We are excited to have this opportunity to operate in both the Port of Prince Rupert and Port Elizabeth, two of the most prized and most promising terminals in North America,” says **David Kerr**, RREEF Managing Director and Portfolio Manager.

“As the environment changes in the port industry, RREEF provides Maher increased ability to compete on a global level,” says **M. Brian Maher**, Chairman and CEO of Maher Terminals. “Their vision of growth and value creation will lead us in the future as we grow our existing terminal businesses and compete for additional capacity in the North American market.” Port of Prince Rupert President & CEO **Don Krusel** says the purchase is good for all parties, adding RREEF Infrastructure may provide additional financial resources to compete for new business opportunities and capitalize on new growth opportunities that could benefit Prince Rupert. For more information, visit www.rreef.com.

Prince Rupert Grain Handled 52% More Product in 2006

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Led by increases of 61% in wheat and 110% in canola, Prince Rupert Grain throughput jumped to 4.7 million tonnes in 2006 from 3.1 million tonnes in 2005.

Contributing factors included: strong global demand for agrifoods in China and India; a reduction in rail freight rates in August 2006 to 3% below other West Coast grain terminals, reflecting the cost efficiencies of moving product along the northern mainline; lack of congestion; and the fastest throughput of any grain-cleaning elevator in Canada. Prince Rupert Grain is projecting another strong year for 2007.



## Ridley Terminals Growth Fueled by New Coal Mines, Wood Pellets and Sulphur

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The opening of new coal mines in northern British Columbia and strong Asian demand for high-quality metallurgical coal fueled a 268% increase in coal throughput at Ridley Terminals Inc. (RTI) to 2.8 million tonnes in 2006.

Projections for 2007 are overall shipments to exceed 6 million tonnes - back to pre 2000 levels - as a result of additional mine openings and diversification plans. Western Canadian Coal has begun shipping premium ultra-low volatile pulverized coal

injection (PCI) coal from its new two million tonne-a-year Brule Mine in northern BC through Ridley Terminals. The second quarter will see the first shipment of wood pellets from Houston Pellet Inc. to Japan. The wood pellet plant, located in Houston, BC, is a joint venture between Canadian Forest Products Limited, Pinnacle Pellet Inc. and the Moricetown Band, a Wet'suwet'en First Nations people.

To accommodate the wood pellets, Houston Pellet is constructing its first wood pellet receiving and storage facility on RTI-leased property, with a capacity of 11,800 tonnes. The facility, which will be operated by RTI, is expected to be completed by early May, with plans to further expand terminal storage over the next five years.

RTI has also signed a long-term agreement with ICEC Terminals Company Ltd., a subsidiary of International Commodity Exports Corporation, to handle sulphur exports. Construction of the new sulphur facility is slated to begin in summer 2007, with operations beginning in summer 2008. The state-of-the-art, world-class facility will be designed for a capacity of 800,000 tonnes per year with the potential to expand to 1.4 million tonnes. For more information, visit [www.rti.ca](http://www.rti.ca).

## Western Sentry Exercise to Test Security Preparedness

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The Port of Prince Rupert will test the security preparedness at the new Fairview container terminal this spring with the hosting of the Department of National Defence's Exercise Western Sentry 2007, a two-week cooperative security exercise focused on port security in preparation for real events.

The exercise, involving more than 200 participants including naval and army personnel from the Canadian Forces, Canadian Border Services Agency, Transport Canada, RCMP and the Port of Prince Rupert, will take place May 26 to June 8.

"The Port of Prince Rupert is incorporating state-of-the-art technology and world-class procedures into the new container terminal, including the capability to scan 100% of containers moving through the facility," says Director Operations & Security **Gary Paulson**. "The Western Sentry Exercise will allow us to test our planned security systems in a multi-agency response, learn from the training experience and make any necessary improvements before the container terminal commences operations in October."

The exercise will include practising general port patrols, bomb threat response, vessel tracking, protest scenarios and high-value unit escort drills.

## Canada's Trade Commissioners Promoting New Prince Rupert Gateway

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East met west on March 14 with the visit to Prince Rupert of a 35-member delegation from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and Transport Canada, comprised of trade commissioners stationed in Asia-Pacific countries and key American cities as well as senior Ottawa-based officials.

The group is part of Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative, charged with positioning Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor as the trans-Pacific travel and supply chain route of choice for North American and Asia-Pacific exporters, importers, investors and transportation companies. The delegation received presentations from CN, Prince Rupert Grain and the Northwest Transportation Corridor Development Corporation as well as the Prince Rupert Port Authority.

The purpose of their visit was to better understand the new Asia-North America express gateway, anchored by the Port of Prince Rupert, its important role in the Initiative as well as the opportunities it presents for Canada's economy.

## Port Launches Redesigned Cruise to Prince Rupert Website

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According to exit surveys, the uniqueness and appeal of Prince Rupert, and the beauty and wonders of "where Canada's wilderness begins" have not been lost on cruise passengers who have visited the port city, and left behind rave reviews and promises to return for longer visits.

Transferring this appeal to travel agents and individual tourists planning a cruise and motivating them to pick Prince Rupert as a preferred destination is the purpose of the newly-launched redesigned Cruise To Prince Rupert website.

"Prince Rupert is a globally appealing port of call with world-class shore excursions and unique amenities," notes VP Marketing & Business Development **Shaun Stevenson**. "Our redesigned website is intended to capture the memorable experiences of the many satisfied cruise passengers who are now Prince Rupert believers, and reflect this back to tourists planning a cruise to book with cruise lines who include Prince Rupert as one of their destinations."

The website is also intended to be a one-stop shopping resource for Prince Rupert-bound cruise passengers to assist with their visit and experience the best that Prince Rupert offers. For more information, visit [www.cruis-etoprinceruport.com](http://www.cruis-etoprinceruport.com).

***Story Ideas and Feedback Appreciated***


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54 North respects and values the opinions of our readers. Please let us know your story ideas or feedback to improve the quality of our communications to you.

Sincerely,
54 North Editor
Barry Bartlett

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