



The Importance of International Trade

International trade is a crucial part of the Canadian economy, and it has a significant impact on the country's growth, job creation, and standard of living. It is through international trades that goods and products move from country to country. Port Saint John, terminals, rail and truck companies are tasked with ensuring that goods get to wherever they need to go, efficiently and reliably.

Learning Objective

Students will be able to explain the importance of international trade in the global economy, including its impact on job creation, economic growth, and consumer benefits. Students will also be able to identify the role of Port Saint John in international trade.

Activities

Class Discussions:

- Discuss the role of Port Saint John in international trade and why Port Saint John is the right port for handling import and export.
- Brainstorm a list of locally sourced products and imported products, including food, clothing, building materials, and electronics.
- Why is it important to have good relationships with other countries when it comes to international trade?
- What can we do to help support international trade and keep goods and products flowing between different countries?



Answers to Class Discussion

- **Discuss the role of Port Saint John in international trade and why Port Saint John is the right port for handling import and export.**

Port Saint John connects with over 500 ports worldwide, making it a transportation choice for importers and exporters who are looking for fast, efficient and sustainable means of moving their goods from place to place. Goods move from Port Saint John to various destinations within Canada, USA and the rest of the world, contributing to international trade. Situated only one hour away from the United States border, Port Saint John enjoys one-day transit with major population bases in both Central Canada, the North-East, and the Mid-West United States.

Port Saint John is the right port for handling import and export because of its modern infrastructure, including deep-water berths, modern container terminals, and state-of-the-art cargo handling equipment, making it capable of handling a wide range of cargo types, including bulk and breakbulk cargo, containers, and project cargo. Its capacity for handling containers has increased significantly in recent years, thanks to investments in new equipment and technology, making it an important player in the global container trade. The Port continues to invest in infrastructure and technology that will improve its services.

- **Why is it important to have good relationships with other countries when it comes to international trade?**

Good relationships with other countries are critical to promoting international trade and creating a more stable and predictable global trade environment. Here are some benefits:

1. Maintaining good relationships with other countries help to create a more favorable environment for import and export activities.
2. Many products and services involve inputs from multiple countries, so having good relationships with these countries is essential to ensure supply chain stability. Disruptions to supply chains can result in higher costs, reduced efficiency, and slower delivery times, which can negatively impact trade and economic growth.
3. Good relationships with other countries can facilitate open and transparent communication, which can help to resolve disputes and promote mutual understanding.
4. Good relationships with other countries can help to reduce political risk by promoting peaceful resolution of conflicts and fostering stability.
5. By collaborating with other countries, businesses can access new markets, technologies, and resources, which can help them to grow and compete more effectively on a global scale.

- **What can we do to help support international trade and keep goods and products flowing between different countries?**

Some ways to support international trade include:

Support local businesses that engage in international trade: Many businesses engage in international trade, and supporting these businesses can help to promote economic growth and



create jobs. By purchasing goods and services from local businesses that engage in international trade, individuals can help to support their communities and promote economic cooperation with other countries.

Learn about different cultures and customs: Understanding different cultures and customs can help to promote positive relationships between countries and facilitate communication and understanding in international trade. It can also help to reduce conflicts and misunderstandings and promote cooperation and mutual respect.

Stay informed about international trade issues: Staying informed about international trade issues can help individuals understand the challenges and opportunities involved in global trade. This can help you make informed decisions about purchasing habits and advocate for policies supporting international trade.