

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 4, 2022

Hon. Michael MacDonald  
Member  
Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A4

Hon. John McKay  
3785 Kingston Rd. Ste. 10  
Scarborough, Ontario  
M1J 3H4

Dear Hon. Michael MacDonald and Hon. John McKay:

As members of the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group, we write today to request assistance in navigating an issue of mutual concern, the NEXUS backlog and continued closure of Canadian service centers. In an effort to return to, and eventually surpass, pre-pandemic levels of cross-border travel and economic activity, addressing the difficulties with the NEXUS program are a high priority. We hope to encourage open, good faith conversations between the United States and Canada regarding the protections afforded to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers in Canadian facilities and kindly ask for your assistance to achieve a resolution.

Trusted Traveler programs, including NEXUS, are critical tools in facilitating cross-border travel and commerce. For individuals with binational families, employees who work across borders, and frequent travelers of all kinds, NEXUS is an essential program. However, the delays in processing new NEXUS applications have severely diminished the program's effectiveness. Currently, there is a backlog of approximately 334,000 NEXUS applications. According to U.S. CBP, the average wait time to process a NEXUS application that requires any sort of review is 16.5 months.

From conversations with officials in both countries, we understand the crux of the issue is if NEXUS service centers are subject to the preclearance agreement between the U.S. and Canada, specifically whether U.S. CBP officers working in Canadian NEXUS service centers have the same legal protections as officers working in preclearance locations. With appreciation for the implications, sensitivities and complex nature of these negotiations, and the sovereignty of both countries, we sincerely hope that our two nations, which share a history of policy collaboration for mutual benefit, are able to resolve outstanding questions expeditiously to reopen NEXUS enrollment centers in Canada.

Thank you for your continued leadership of the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group, and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



BRIAN HIGGINS  
Member of Congress



BILL HUIZENGA  
Member of Congress



RICK LARSEN  
Member of Congress



SUZAN DELBENE  
Member of Congress