



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **Official Media Statement & Public Notice**

The Niagara Falls Bridge Commission has been made aware of today's decision by the federal governments of Canada and the United States to close all applicable border crossings to related "non-essential" travel. At this time all three border crossings under the jurisdiction of the Commission (which includes the Rainbow, Lewiston-Queenston and Whirlpool Bridges) remain open for commercial crossings, "essential travel," and trade activity.

During this difficult time, we will work closely with Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to manage our border crossings with a singular focus on the health, safety, and economic security of our countries, residents, employees, and travelers in mind.

All questions regarding what constitutes "essential travel" may be directed to CBSA and CBP.

### **About the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission:**

The Niagara Falls Bridge Commission is a unique, bi-national body. Canada and the U.S. are equally represented on the NFBC through the bi-national appointment of an eight-member Board of Commissioners. A Joint Resolution of the 1938 U.S. Congressional Third Session created the framework for the NFBC. In 1939, the Province of Ontario, Canada licensed the NFBC under The Extra Provincial Corporations Act and amended the Highway Improvement Act to authorize the appropriation of land in Ontario for transfer to the NFBC. Initially established to finance, construct and operate the Rainbow Bridge, the Commission proved efficient and effective at its mission. The NFBC's powers and authority were thereafter expanded through amendments to the Joint Resolution in the U.S., and by the Rainbow Bridge Amendment Act of 1959 and the Queenston Bridge Act of 1959 in Canada. Together, these enactments empowered the NFBC to assume responsibilities for the Whirlpool Rapids (Lower) and Lewiston-Queenston Bridges. Today, in addition to owning and operating three international bridges, the NFBC builds and maintains facilities for Customs and Immigration functions on both sides of the international border. The NFBC is self-supportive, largely through user fees (tolls) and private-sector tenant leases. NFBC is authorized to conduct international commercial financial transactions and empowered to issue tax-exempt bonds in the United States.

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