

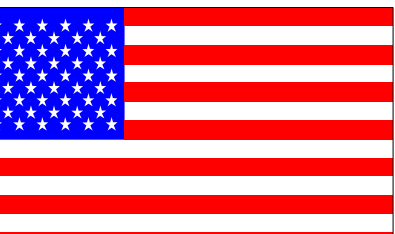


United States Department of
Health & Human Services
Office of the Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)



Bilateral Public Health Disaster Coordination

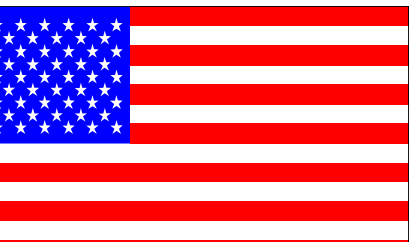
CAPT Andy Stevermer





Why Should We Coordinate?

- 1. We share a huge, heavily trafficked border.**
 - Largest non-militarized border in the world
 - Land Boundary: 5061 kilometres (3145 miles)
 - Water Boundary: 3830 kilometres (2380 miles)
 - Border Crossings
 - ❖ Trucks: 6.7 million per year (2003)
 - ❖ Cars: 30.2 million per year (2003)
 - ❖ People: 110 million per year
 - 79 Ports, 317 Land Crossings
 - 90% of Canadians live within 100 miles of the US Border

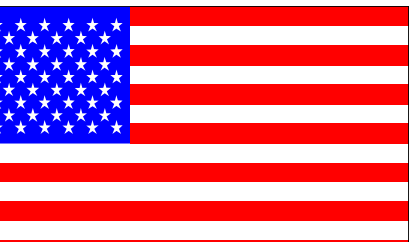




Why Should We Coordinate?

2. We have strong economic ties.

- **\$500 billion dollars per year**
- **70% of Canadian import is from the US**
- **81% of Canadian exports went to the US**
- **19% of US exports went to Canada**
- **16.5% of US imports come from Canada**
- **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)**





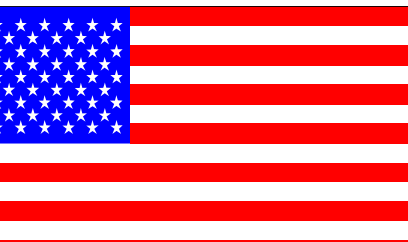
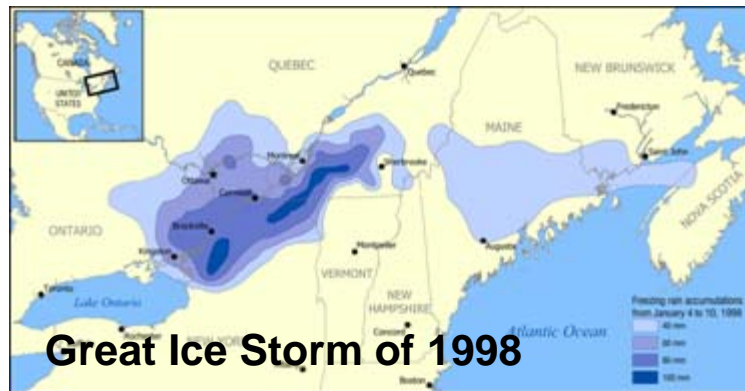
Why Should We Coordinate?

3. **We share risks and disasters.**

- Infectious Diseases (SARS, PI)
- Food contamination (Listeria, Salmonella)
- Weather Disasters (Great '98 Ice Storm)
- Technological Disaster (2003 Blackout)
- Terrorism



2003 Blackout

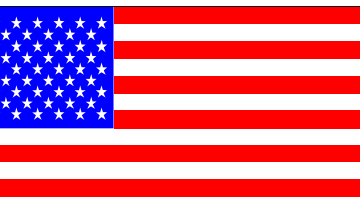




Factors Promoting Coordination

1. **Federal governments want us to collaborate.**

- Global Health Security Initiative (GHSI)
- Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP)
- North American Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza (NAPAPI)
- United States-Canada Agreement on Emergency Management Cooperation

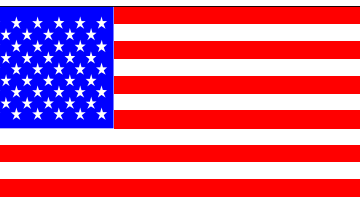




Factors Promoting Coordination

2. **Comparable Federal health emergency response structures within our respective governments.**

Department of Homeland Security	Public Safety Canada
Department of Health and Human Services	Health Portfolio Includes : <i>Health Canada</i> and <i>Public Health Agency of Canada</i>
Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Public Health Agency of Canada -Includes: <i>National Medical Laboratory in Winnipeg</i>
Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response	Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response





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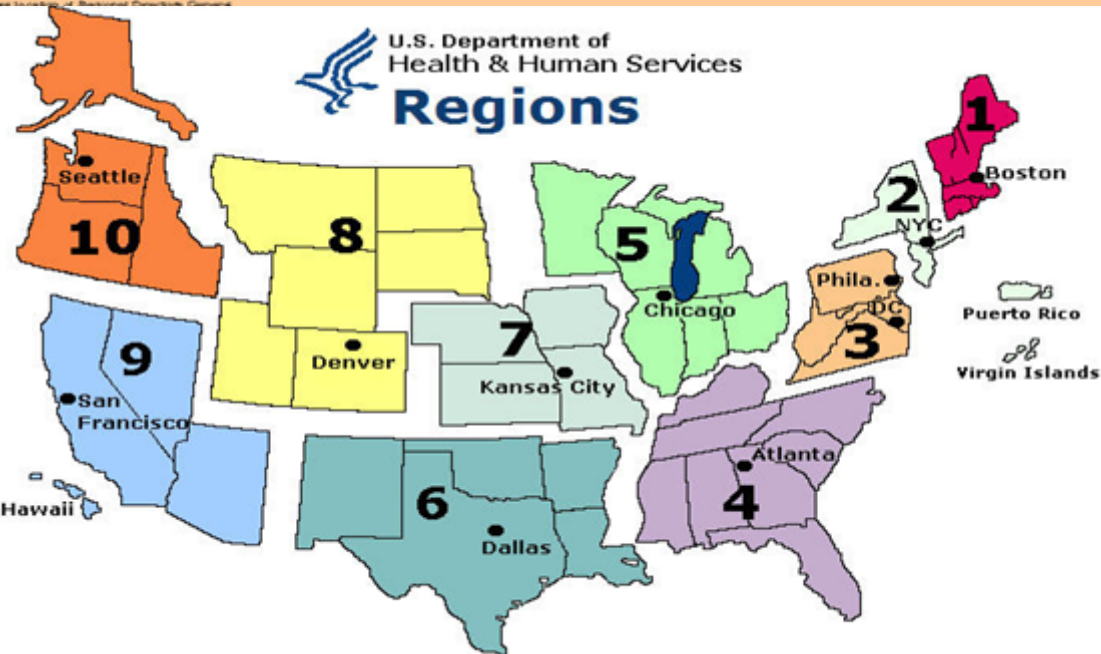
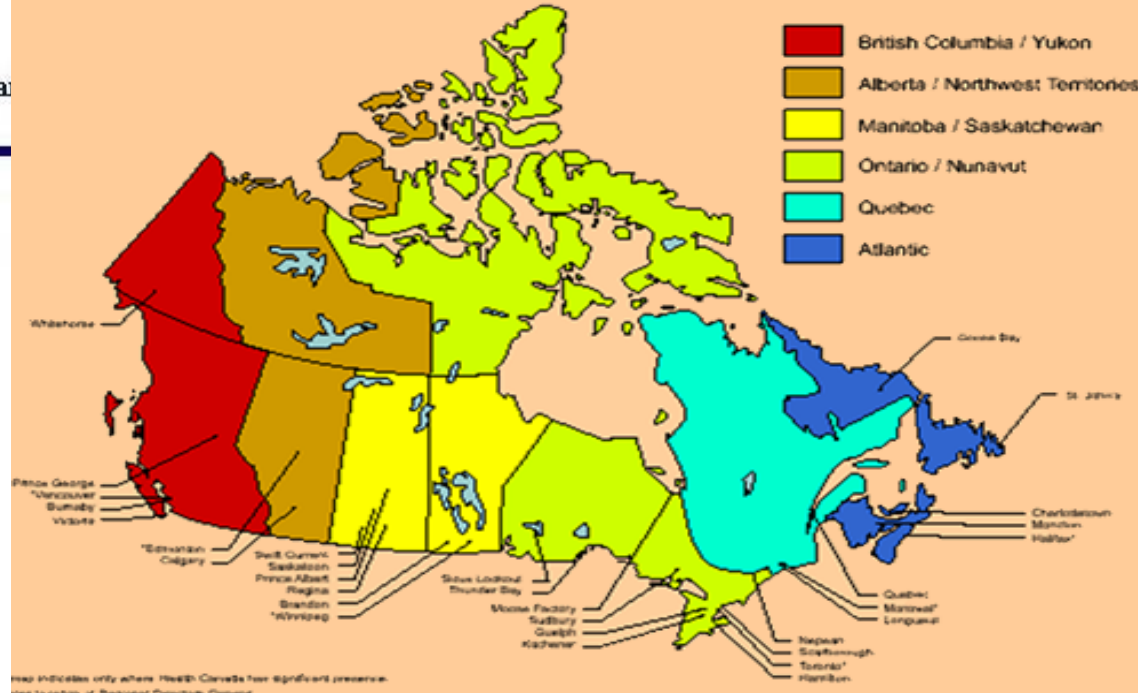


Public Health
 Agency of Canada
 Agence de la santé
 publique du Canada



Health
 Canada
 Santé
 Canada

**The Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada
 at Work Across the Country**



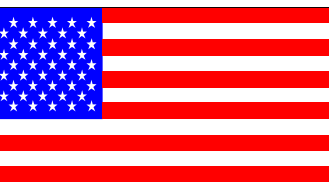


Factors Promoting Coordination

3. **Comparable standards of medical and public health services.**

Health system attainment and performance for Canada and US for 1997

Member State	ATTAINMENT OF GOALS				PERFORMANCE		
	Health	Respon- siveness	Fairness in financial contribution	Overall goal attain ment	Health expenditure per capita	On level of health	Overall health system performance
Canada	12	7-8	17-19	7	10	35	30
United States	24	1	54-55	15	1	72	37

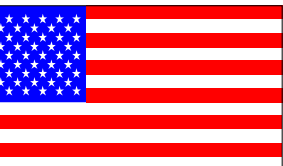
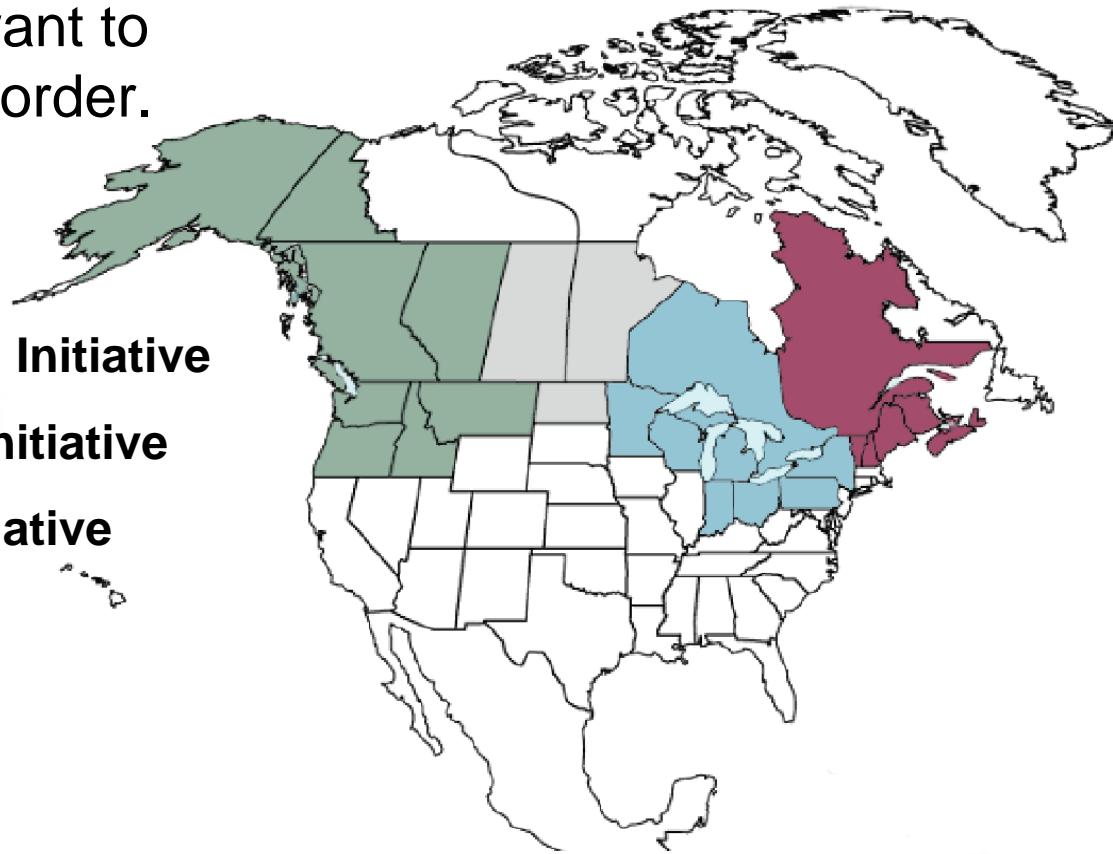




Factors Promoting Coordination

4. Provinces and States want to coordinate across the border.

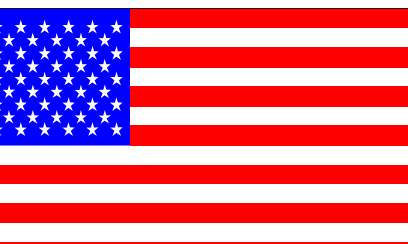
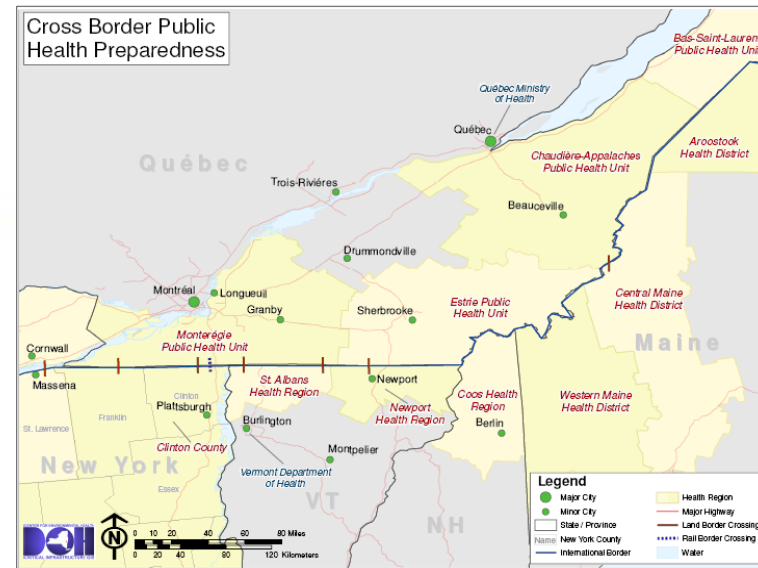
- **Great Lakes Border Health Initiative**
- **Pacific Northwest Health Initiative**
- **Eastern Border Health Initiative**





Progress on Coordination

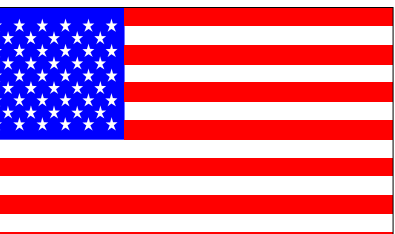
1. **Cross-border health emergency coalitions development**
 - Building Partnerships and Plans





Progress on Coordination

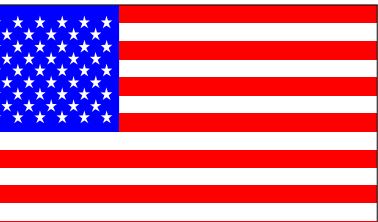
- **Great Lakes Border Health Initiative**
 - Implementation of an international test of the Michigan Health Alert Network
 - Yearly tests of the GLBHI Infectious Disease Emergency Communications Guideline
 - Exploring the development of a possible Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Ontario and the involved states
 - Formalizing protocols for moving laboratory samples across the border.
 - Surge capacity planning near the border and identification of related issues.
 - Hosting the first ever Northern Border Strategic Planning Meeting in April 2009. (pan-border approach)





Progress on Coordination

- **Eastern Border Health Initiative**
 - Strong working relationships well established, based upon knowledge of each jurisdiction's public health structure and regular communication.
 - Communication directory, guideline for formal communication and alerting protocols is established.
 - Annual meetings and monthly conference calls.
 - Cross border enrollment in CDC's Epi-X and PHAC's CIOSC.



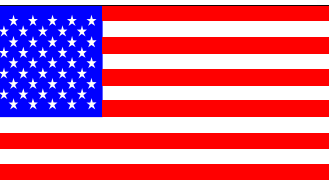


Progress on Coordination

- **Pacific North West Border Health Alliance**
 - Under development for the past 6 years.
 - Yearly meetings and ongoing workgroups.
 - MOU for coordination and support between BC MOH and WA Secretary of Health.
 - Draft Operational Plan for Sharing Providers and Resources across the Washington and British Columbia Border.
 - Laboratory information and surge capacity.



*Pacific North West
Economic Region*





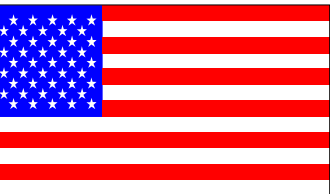
Progress on Coordination

- **Congressionally approved Provincial-State Mutual Aid Emergency Management Agreements**

- International Emergency Management Assistant Compact (IEMAC)
 - ❖ Operations Manual
 - ❖ Request and Reimbursement Forms
 - ❖ Exercises



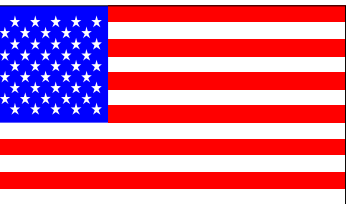
- Pacific Northwest Emergency Management Agreement (PNEMA)
 - ❖ Operations Manual and SOPs





Progress on Coordination

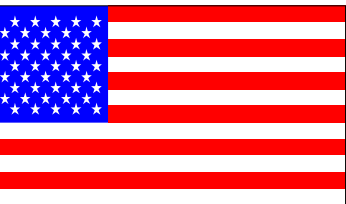
- Tri-Lateral MOU for Public Health Emergency Support signed by the Secretaries and Minister of Health in Canada, Mexico, and US
- Working on implementing a stronger, more binding similar agreement/treaty.





Progress on Coordination

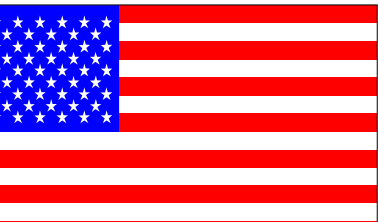
- **Public Health Information Exchange**
 - PulseNet (since 2005)
 - FDA and Health Canada MOU Regarding the Sharing of Information About Therapeutic Products (since 2003)
 - Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance (EWIDS) (since 2003)
 - GLBHI Public Health Data Sharing Agreement (since 2008)





Progress on Coordination

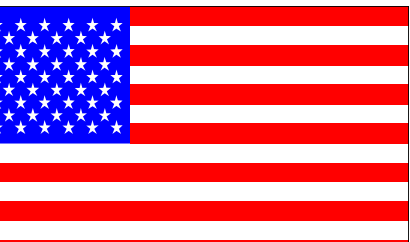
- **Sharing response personnel and assets across the border.**
 - Several historical examples of medical personnel and materials as mutual aid.
 - Exchange of Health Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers.





Challenges to Coordination

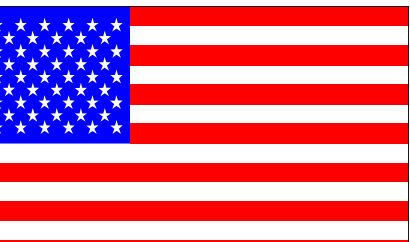
- **Difference in relationships between Province/Territory-Canadian Government, and th that found between States-US Government.**





Challenges to Coordination

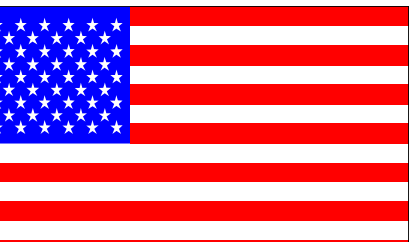
- **International Border Management**
 - Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative
 - Education of Border Management Agencies about health alliances and mutual aid.
 - Ensure the maintenance of secure and open borders to ensure continuity of supply systems, personnel and patient movement.





Challenges to Coordination

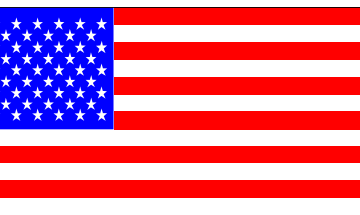
- **Bilateral Federal government support for the strengthening of the regional health alliances.**
 - **Financial and Technical Assistance**
 - **Advocacy within the bilateral Federal Inter-agency**





Next Steps in Coordination

- Building partnerships between ASPR and CEPR
- Supporting cross-border health coalitions
- Building a Northern Border Health Strategy
- Promoting public health information sharing and situational awareness
- Joint training and exercise opportunities for public health emergency response.
- Joint response participation.
 - Salmonella carrau Outbreak
 - Red River Valley Flooding





Questions?

