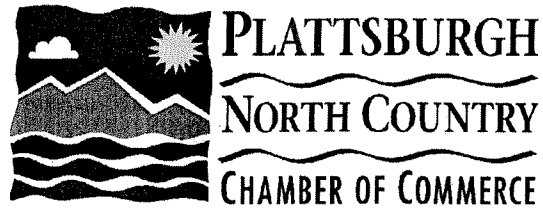


NORTH COUNTRY PRIORITIES



2010 HOT LIST



2010 WASHINGTON PRIORITIES

I. U.S.-CANADIAN BORDER FLUIDITY:

The U.S. Port of Entry at Champlain has been given everything possible to provide what should now be the smoothest and fastest border experience -- the premier facilities, doubled staffing, all new technologies, FAST and NEXUS, and strong stakeholder collaboration. Last year, we were all promised that car entries would be significantly faster with implementation of WHTI documentation requirements.

We are concerned that "dwell times" are higher than they should be, and that Champlain and other northern New York Ports of Entry may not be sufficiently focused on optimizing flow and avoiding long wait times this summer.

WHAT WE NEED: Determined indications to Homeland Security and U.S. Customs and Border Protection that we expect and insist upon delivery of the benefits of all that has been done to allow speedier crossings, and regular monitoring and oversight of performance through the summer at each major crossing, including Champlain as one of particular concern at this time.

II. NORTH COUNTRY EB-5 REGIONAL CENTER:

We expect to file our EB-5 Regional Center application in the next few months. As soon as it is filed, we will let you know and will appreciate all possible efforts to expedite the process and obtain approval.

III. 2010 PRIORITY NON-DEFENSE APPROPRIATION REQUEST:

1 - **NORTH COUNTRY ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM:** \$500,000 is critically needed for the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce to implement a simple and effective job placement and on-the-job training program for unemployed persons in Clinton, Essex, Franklin and Hamilton Counties. We are hopeful this timely appropriation can be secured this year.

IV. 2010 PRIORITY DEFENSE APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:

- a) **PATRIOT HILLS OF SARANAC LAKE:** We have identified federal funding for this innovative and multi-faceted initiative -- aimed at our wounded warriors and veterans -- as an important economic development project for the Adirondack region. A detailed funding and project outline has been provided, and we hope it will be possible to obtain a significant appropriation this year toward the formal launch of this initiative.
- b) **TRUDEAU INSTITUTE:** Trudeau Institute has become a vital provider of immunological research for the Defense Department. We are appreciative of your support for past appropriations via the Navy, and seek a further substantial commitment this year, ideally taking their research to a higher level.