

# Gordie Howe International Bridge MOMENTUM

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May 2025

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project between Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan will help move goods and people more efficiently at this important trade gateway. Managed by Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority (WDBA) and working in collaboration with the State of Michigan, the project is being delivered through a public-private partnership (P3) which will see Bridging North America (BNA) design, build, finance, operate and maintain the bridge.

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## CONTACT US

Have a question about the Gordie Howe International Bridge project?

Meet with our team at our Sandwich Community Office at 3201 Sandwich St. or Southwest Detroit Community Office at 7744 W Vernor Hwy.

Office hours can be found on [GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com](http://GordieHoweInternationalBridge.com).

Call us toll-free at 1-844-322-1773, email us at [info@wdbridge.com](mailto:info@wdbridge.com), or message us through any of the project social media accounts.



## BIKING THE GORDIE HOWE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

Once open, you'll be able to walk or bike across this international crossing using the bridge's multi-use path. But where does the multi-use path lead? In Canada, there will be two options that lead to many more. Once users exit the Port of Entry on Sandwich Street, they can access new bicycle lanes that run along Sandwich Street from the Port of Entry to the Rosedale Avenue roundabout, where you can continue on municipal connections to other parts of the city, as well as the Ontario Waterfront Trail. The second option will be a new multi-use path currently under construction along Broadway Street to connect the Canadian Port of Entry to Malden Park. This multi-use path connects to a municipal trail that leads to the Gordie Howe International Bridge trailhead, located at Malden Park. The new trailhead provides path users with a safe parking option as well as rest amenities. Users can also connect through Malden Park to the Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway Trail and broader Trans Canada Trail System.

In the US, users will exit the Port of Entry on West Jefferson Avenue with access to multi-use paths on Green and Campbell Streets that end at Fort Street. From Fort Street, users can access other municipal connections such as the Joe Louis Greenway and a new trailhead at Clark Park. In the US, the new active transportation allows users to access the regional Iron Belle Trail and the Great Lakes Way.

More information on the active transportation investments is available on the project website. The policy for the path is currently under development and will be released in advance of opening day.



# PEOPLE PROFILE

## MEET CHRIS HATT

Chris is the Associate Vice President of Business Solutions for Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority. He attended the University of Windsor and received a Bachelor of Education. Chris was born and raised in Windsor-Essex and is proud to work on this local mega-infrastructure project.

### Q. What type of work are you doing on the project?

My responsibilities include managing the procurement, information technology, information systems, information management and facilities teams for WDBA. My team ensures our staff's systems, working environment, assets and data are protected and are as efficient as possible. My team's number one goal is to provide the best service possible to our customers, our staff.

### Q. What is the most rewarding part of working on the project?

First, playing a part in this monumental project for my hometown community that will have a lasting impact on generations to come and second, being awarded the opportunity to lead a team full of extremely hard-working, intelligent, goal-focused teammates and doing everything possible to help them develop in their career goals.

### Q. What do you wish other people knew about the project?

I wish people knew all the hard work that goes into every component of this project. So much of our work you cannot see as you drive by the project and many people will never see it, even when in operations. Every component of this project is equally important and there is so much work happening in the background.



**CHRIS HATT**

Associate Vice President of Business Solutions

## CRANES COMING DOWN

The colourful red and blue cranes that have dotted the Windsor-Detroit skyline beside the bridge towers are being dismantled. This is one of the final signs that tower construction and cable stressing on the bridge is complete.

Since their short start in 2020, the tower cranes jumped every few months before reaching their final height of 250 metres/822 feet. They were used to lift heavy materials such as rebar, formwork, cable anchor boxes and stay cables for the two massive towers. The tower cranes were bolted to concrete foundations for support and stability and were comprised of three essential components: the mast (tower), a slewing unit which held the machinery allowing the crane to rotate, and the jib – the horizontal arm that carried the load. Counterweights were added to one side of the jib depending on the weight of the load being carried.

The red Canadian crane will be dismantled in May/June and the blue US crane will be dismantled in June/July.



## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Canadian Produce Marketing Association Tradeshow

Gordie Howe International Bridge project staff hosted a booth at this annual tradeshow in Montreal to speak with logistics companies and produce farmers using the Windsor-Detroit trade corridor to ship goods and promote the opening of the new crossing.



### Earth Day

In April, the City of Windsor held its annual Earth Day event at Malden Park. Families stopped by the Gordie Howe International Bridge table to learn about opening day, and the inclusion of the multi-use path for pedestrians and cyclists. Project staff handed out activity sheets, bike reflectors and our Trans Canada Trail commemorative patch and answered project-related questions.



### Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award

In 2021, Irene Moore Davis of the Essex County Black Historical Research Society and Heidi Jacobs of the University of Windsor's Leddy Library received funding from the Gordie Howe International Bridge Community Benefits Plan to develop and produce a film series, *Across the River to Freedom: Early Black History in Sandwich, Ontario*.

The educational films were recently awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Excellence in Conservation, which recognizes innovative and impactful conservation projects such as exhibitions, adaptive reuse and digital resources.

### Public Information Meetings

June 18, 2025, at our Southwest Detroit Community Office

June 25, 2025, in Windsor at Mackenzie Hall

3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

The meetings will provide the latest updates on construction, operations and the Community Benefits Plan.

### School Outreach

Project staff have been visiting schools in the Windsor-Essex community to present child-friendly content to classrooms. Whether the class is studying environmental concerns, species at risk, bridges, construction, or exploring different career paths, the Gordie Howe International Bridge project has a component and activity to fit the curriculum.



### Michigan Science Construction Expo

In May, the Gordie Howe International Bridge project team attended the Construction Science Expo at Durfee Innovation Society. This event was free to Detroit middle and high school students interested in engineering and construction careers. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and speak with staff about career choices.



# BRINGING FRANCOPHONE HISTORY TO THE WATERFRONT

The land where the Gordie Howe International Bridge project is located holds a rich historical past. For thousands of years, it has served as Anishinaabe Territory for the Three Fires Confederacy, consisting of the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi Nations. The Sandwich, Ontario, community in Windsor is also the oldest continuous European settlement area in Ontario, with French settlers arriving in the late 1700s.

To recognize this Francophone heritage, a monument featuring a tri-centenary canoe was redesigned and relocated by l'Association des communautés francophones de l'Ontario Windsor-Essex-Chatham-Kent to Queen's Dock Park in Sandwich in March. The monument relocation project was funded by the Gordie Howe International Bridge Community Benefits Plan, and the land was donated by the Windsor Port Authority.

Dr. William Tape, a professor of Civil and Construction Technologies in the School of Engineering Technologies at St. Clair College helped with the monument's foundation. He saw it as the perfect opportunity to bring students into the process and use it as an experiential learning opportunity. Twenty-five students participated in the geotechnical investigations, observing core drilling, soil sampling and learning about the various aspects of planning a project of this magnitude.

Learn more on [Stclaircollege.ca](http://Stclaircollege.ca).



## 2025 COMMUNITY BENEFITS INVESTMENTS

The Gordie Howe International Bridge Community Benefits Plan is investing \$3.5 million (CDN) into 11 new and 12 existing initiatives that will enhance Sandwich/west Windsor, Delray/Southwest Detroit and the region overall.

The funding is part of the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Strategy, a \$23 million (CDN) direct community investment on both sides of the border. The new investments are in response to a call for proposals issued in summer 2024, that focused on community programming in Sandwich/west Windsor and Delray/Southwest Detroit, as well as regional tourism and economic development. The \$3.5 million will be invested in the following community priority areas:

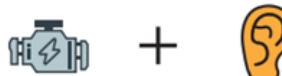
- \$913,600 towards regional tourism and economic development.
- \$730,500 towards economic benefits and business development
- \$723,200 towards community partnerships
- \$646,000 towards food security and wellness
- \$433,200 towards local history and culture
- \$62,000 towards Aesthetics, landscaping and green initiatives

The new initiatives have an anticipated completion date of March 2026. Learn more on our website.

## KID ZONE

Use the emojis to guess these words, which are related to the Gordie Howe International Bridge project.

1. Person Who Designs and Builds Bridges



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Canadian Town



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Measures that Protect Workers from Harm



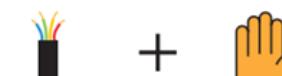
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. American Hockey Team



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Type of Bridge



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Machine Used to Move Heavy Objects



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Machine Used to Push Materials



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Answers:

1. Engineer
2. Safety
3. Cable-Stayed
4. Bulldozer
5. Sandwich
6. Red Wings
7. Forklift

