



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

Executive Order 2020-02

An order establishing a United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Trade Council

WHEREAS, free trade is of vital importance to the continued success of New Hampshire's vibrant economy and that of the businesses that call New Hampshire home; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 New Hampshire trade accounted for over \$17 billion, over forty-percent of which was with Canada and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, foreign direct investment (FDI) from Canada and Mexico, amongst other international partners, in New Hampshire is a fundamental part of our state's development strategy; and

WHEREAS, Canada and Mexico are two of New Hampshire's oldest and strongest trading partners, a relationship that has only grown stronger since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) went into effect on January 1, 1994; and

WHEREAS, on November 30th, 2018 the United States, Canada, and Mexico signed a new trade agreement the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement commonly referred to as USMCA, which is going to greatly benefit the citizens of all three countries; and

WHEREAS, Congress on January 16th, 2020 passed the USMCA overwhelmingly, ushering in a new era for free trade between New Hampshire, Canada, and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, with every new trade agreement there are new processes, rules, and regulations that change the methods through which trade occurs, requiring exporters and importers to change their methods of operation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me pursuant to part II, article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. There is established a New Hampshire, Canada, and Mexico Trade Council. The Council shall consist of the following members:
 - a. The Governor of the State of New Hampshire, or designee
 - b. The Commissioner of the Department of Business and Economic Affairs, or designee
 - c. A representative from the New Hampshire Office of U.S. Commercial Service

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- d. A representative of the University System of New Hampshire from one of the member institutions
 - e. A representative from Dartmouth College
 - f. The Consul General of Canada in Boston, or designee
 - g. The Consul General of Mexico in Boston, or designee
 - h. The Quebec Delegate to New England, or designee
 - i. Members of the New Hampshire business community
2. The Governor shall designate a member of the council to serve as chair.
3. The Council shall monitor developments pertaining to the United States-Mexico-Canada-Agreement or related processes and keep strategic partners apprised of new developments.
4. The Council shall focus on assessing the needs of New Hampshire exporters with regards to the USMCA, and shall, as it deems necessary, take actions to assist New Hampshire exporters. This shall be done through but not limited to:
 - a. Seminars
 - b. Training materials
 - c. Webinars
 - d. Individual meetings
5. The Council shall work on fostering stronger relationships between each participant's home constituencies, this shall include but not limited to the following constituencies:
 - a. Private sector leaders
 - b. Local, municipal, state, and national officials
 - c. Academic leaders
6. The Council shall identify opportunities to attract, and facilitate further FDI into New Hampshire, and opportunities for New Hampshire companies to expand their operations.
7. The Council shall meet at least once per quarter, and shall, beginning in 2020, submit to the Governor written report(s) as needed which detail new developments pertaining to the USMCA within the Council's purview and any recommendations that the Council may develop. The Council shall also submit an annual report to the Governor on or before November 1st of each year. The annual report shall summarize the Council's activities during the prior year and detail any recommendations that the Council develops which have not previously been submitted to the Governor.

8. In between reports, the Council shall provide recommendations to the Governor as the Council deems appropriate and as the Governor may request.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord this 21st day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and the independence of the United State of America, two hundred and forty-four.



GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE