

AAPA 2013 Conference—Canadian Delegation Opening Ceremonies response

Port Canaveral

Good morning everyone,

Mr. Chairman, President Nagle, honourable government officials, fellow delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

My name is Bernie Dumas, I am President and CEO of the Nanaimo Port Authority on Vancouver Island British Columbia Canada.

It's truly a pleasure for me and the Canadian Delegation to be here in Port Canaveral with all of you to experience the 102th AAPA Annual Convention.

Port Canaveral has had an exciting past as a strategic base for the military, the home of the space program , as an important deep water cargo gateway for the southern United States as well as a home port for the cruise industry.

I think I speak for all my Canadian colleagues when I say that the impressive capital improvements and expansion projects by Port Canaveral over the last decade have only been surpassed by the hospitality extended to us in Orlando since we arrived. As many of us discovered at last night's Opening Reception in the birth place of the space program it was certainly out of this world!

Each year the AAPA hosts this fine affair for us to celebrate our collective growth and shared successes, but also to collaborate on concerning issues and convey important wisdom on one another. As we tackle challenging topics like global economic recovery, best practice innovations environmental and community awareness, we can all be confident that old friends and new acquaintances from across the Americas will offer sincere ideas, intelligent opinions for us to take home to your respective ports. It is this comradely

between AAPA members (and a little bit of work by the AAPA staff and hosting Port Authority) that makes this annual conference such a success.

With that shared spirit in mind, on behalf of the Canadian Delegation I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable experience this week, thank the entire AAPA staff for making this possible, and express our gratitude to the Port Canaveral Team and the Community of Orlando for their gracious hospitality.

Thank you.