Cooperation in the Detroit-Windsor area

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- Border and relationship explanations
- Detroit and Windsor
  - Cooperation and its quality
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The Canadian-US borders

- Can be traced back till 1783
- Last changes made in 1825
- Are 8.891 kilometres long
The relations between Canada and US

- More than two centuries of relations
- Are each other’s main economic partners
- Stable and mutually-beneficial relationship
Detroit-Windsor
Nature of cooperation (2000)

- One cross-border organization administered by an economic development agency
- Small number of complex cross-border partnerships, developed purely out of local initiative
Nature of cooperation (2000-2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interlocal (bi-lateral)</th>
<th>Metropolitan/Interregional (multilateral)</th>
<th>International (led by senior levels of government)</th>
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<td>Mutual aid agreements, i.e. fire protection</td>
<td>TranslinkeD (Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, Windsor-Essex)</td>
<td>Great Lakes Commission/International Joint Commission</td>
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<td>Joint events, i.e. Red Bull Air Race</td>
<td>Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative</td>
<td>Detroit River International Crossing Study</td>
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<td>Detroit-Windsor Tunnel Corporation</td>
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<td>Ontario-Michigan Declaration of Partnership and MOU on Cooperation</td>
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<td>University exchange agreements</td>
<td>Northern Border for Economic Security &amp; Trade (NBEST)</td>
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<td>Conventions of consultation</td>
<td>Council of Great Lakes Governors</td>
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<td>Great Lakes Information Partnership</td>
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<td>The Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge</td>
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Quality of the cooperation between Detroit and Windsor

- Bilateral interlocal partnerships have low levels of institutional integration
- Multilateral cross-border cooperation in the Detroit-Windsor region is relatively weak
- International partnerships are driven by international, rather than regional, interests

“There are no significant forms of cross-border cooperation within the cross-border metropolitan area of Detroit and Windsor” (Brunet-Jailly, 2000, p.395)
Explanatory factors

- Local competition
- Lack of cooperative impetus
- Lack of empowerment resulting in cooperation among local governments
- Social and political tendency to direct activity inwards and away from the border
Conclusion

- Reluctance in creating a single joint corporation in various fields
- Little communication
- Little cooperation between local authorities has been established
Thank you very much

Questions?