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Appointments to VIA Rail Canada Inc.

News Release

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OTTAWA — The Honourable Steven Fletcher, Minister of State (Transport), today announced the appointments of Ms. Elizabeth Van den Eynden and Ms. Ramona Materi to the board of VIA Rail Canada Inc. for a term of three years.

“I am very pleased that Ms. Van den Eynden and Ms. Materi have accepted these positions,” said Minister Fletcher. “Their expertise, leadership skills and notable track records in their professions will be valuable assets to VIA Rail.”

Ms. Van den Eynden is managing partner of the law firm MacIntosh, MacDonnell & MacDonald and has advised major institutional clients and private sector corporations on labour, employment and policy matters. She has also been a labour and employment practice group leader since 2009. Ms. Van den Eynden has a bachelor of arts degree from St. Francis Xavier University, a law degree from the University of New Brunswick and was called to the Nova Scotia bar in 1988. She has served as a member of Bar Council and on committees for the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society. She has also lectured in business law at St. Francis Xavier University and served as director and president of the Pictou County Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Materi is president of Ingenia Consulting and has managed many human resource development projects. She is also a frequent speaker at Canadian and international conferences. Ms. Materi has developed a report on issues related to supervisory training in the trucking, marine and construction sectors to inform the Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table. Ms. Materi's firm is currently developing skills training plans for the Northwest and Northeast Regional Workforce Tables in British Columbia. Ms. Materi has a bachelor of arts from McGill University in Montreal, a master of public affairs from the University of Texas, U.S.A. and a master of education from Athabasca University. In addition, she has served as National Board Member of the Canadian Society for Training and Development.

VIA Rail Canada Inc., a Crown corporation, was created in 1977 and operates Canada's national passenger rail service. The board of directors is responsible for overseeing the business activities and other affairs of the corporation.

- 30 -

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