

2012 POLICY RESOLUTION ACTIVITY UPDATE

FINANCE AND TAXATION			
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT HENDRIK BRAKEL (HBRAKEL@CHAMBER.CA)			
RESOLUTION	CCC ACTIONS TAKEN	PLANNED CCC ACTIONS	GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO DATE
Fiscal Policy	<p>Aug. 3/12 – Included in pre-Budget submission.</p> <p>Oct. 23/12 – Appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance on pre-budget consultations.</p> <p>Dec. 4/12 – Participated in the CGA-Canada Summit on Tax Simplification.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Feb. 12/13 – Launched the 2013 Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness. Called on governments to make improvements to Canada’s tax system to improve efficiency, neutrality, simplicity and fairness; broaden the tax base; reduce the tax compliance and administration burden; and reform the structure of the system.</p> <p>June 18/13 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty re: tax simplification and reform.</p> <p>June 27 - Issued report “<i>A Competitive Tax Regime: A Building Block of a Vibrant and Productive Economy.</i>”</p> <p>July 17/13 – Letter to Minister of State (Finance) Kevin Sorenson.</p> <p>Dec. 10/13 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Feb. 11/13 - The resolution’s recommendations pertaining to personal income tax rates and tax simplification are the focus of the tax section in the Chamber’s Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness document.</p>		<p>Dec. 12/12 – In its report <i>Jobs, Growth, Productivity and Demographic Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Canada</i>, the House of Commons Finance Committee recommended that the federal government remain focused on returning to balanced budgets in the medium term, and that it vigorously and continually review spending of taxpayers’ money to eliminate all waste and inefficiencies. The Committee also recommended that the government undertake a comprehensive review of the tax system and ensure its fairness as well as neutrality and that it remain vigilant in examining ways to improve Canada’s international tax competitiveness.</p> <p>Mar. 21/13 – The 2013 budget reinforces the government’s intent to balance the books by 2015-16 by restraining spending. The debt-to-GDP ratio is on track to fall below 30% by 2016. The government is committed to controlling administrative costs (including costs related to travel); consolidating and standardizing software procurement; consolidating the number of data centres and streamlining electronic records; controlling overall employee compensation expenses; and reviewing its corporate assets to ensure value for taxpayers. The government noted that it is taking action to enhance the neutrality of the tax system by phasing out tax preferences to reduce tax distortions and improve the allocation of investment and capital within the Canadian economy.</p> <p>Aug. 21/13– Finance Minister Flaherty reiterated the government’s commitment to</p>

			<p>balance its books before voters go back to the polls in the fall of 2015.</p> <p>Oct 16/13 - The Speech from the Throne reiterated the government's commitment to balance the budget by 2015. It also stated that it will reduce the debt-to-GDP ratio to pre-recession levels by 2017. The government said it will introduce balanced-budget legislation, requiring balanced budgets during normal economic times and concrete timelines for returning to balance in the event of an economic crisis. Regarding spending, the government said it will continue to reduce the size and cost of government to ensure that taxpayers get value for money. As part and parcel of this, it will freeze the overall federal operating budget, will make further targeted reductions to internal government spending and will reform the way the federal system manages spending.</p> <p>Nov 12/13 - The <i>Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections</i> put an emphasis on responsible fiscal management to ensure the government is on track to balance its books by 2015 and on freeing up additional assets to invest in priority areas. Going forward, the government will continue its policy of continuously examining departmental spending and examining whole-of-government initiatives to ensure that federal programs are managed efficiently and aligned with taxpayer priorities. The debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to fall below 30% by 2016-17. The government's commitment to strong public finances is consistent with the resolution's recommendations.</p> <p>Dec 11/13 - The House of Commons Finance Standing Committee recommended in its report "<i>The Future We Want: Recommendations for the 2014 Budget</i>" that the federal government remain focused on its plan to return to balanced budgets in 2015; ensure competitive personal income tax rates; explore ways to simplify the <i>Income Tax Act</i> to reduce the complexity and inefficiency of its administration; undertake a comprehensive review of the tax system</p>
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			and ensure its fairness, as well as its neutrality
Taking Advantage of External Expertise in Federal Departments and Agencies	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Gail Shea.</p> <p>July 17/13 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay.</p>		<p>Dec. 6/12 – The government established a senior-level consultative committee made up of public and private sector stakeholders – including payment card network operators, financial institutions and merchant and consumer groups – to meet regularly with Department of Finance officials to discuss emerging payments system issues.</p> <p>March13 – the government appointed a Special Representative on West Coast Energy Infrastructure, Mr. Douglas Eyford, to engage with Aboriginal communities in British Columbia and Alberta on energy infrastructure development.</p> <p>May 23/13– The minister of finance announced the establishment of a Venture Capital Expert Panel consisting of private sector representatives to advance key elements of the government’s <i>Venture Capital Action Plan</i>. Samuel L. Duboc was named the Department of Finance’s Clifford Clark Visiting Economist.</p>
Simplification of the Taxing Statutes	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>June 18/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty re: tax simplification and reform.</p> <p>June 27/12 - Issued report “<i>A Competitive Tax Regime: A Building Block of a Vibrant and Productive Economy.</i>”</p> <p>July 17/12 - Letter to Minister of State (Finance). Kevin Sorenson.</p> <p>Dec. 10/13 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Feb. 11/13 - Recommendations pertaining to personal income tax rates and tax simplification are the focus of the tax section in the Chamber’s <i>Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness</i> document.</p>		<p>Dec. 12/12– In its report <i>Jobs, Growth, Productivity and Demographic Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Canada</i>, the House of Commons Finance Committee recommended that the federal government explore ways to simplify the <i>Income Tax Act</i> to reduce the complexity and inefficiency of its administration, including through the establishment of a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review.</p> <p>Dec 11/13 – The House of Commons Finance Standing Committee recommended in its report “<i>The Future We Want: Recommendations for the 2014 Budget</i>” that the federal government explore ways to simplify the <i>Income Tax Act</i> to reduce the complexity and inefficiency of its administration; undertake a comprehensive review of the tax system and ensure its fairness, as well as its neutrality.</p>

<p>Canada Revenue Agency Impact on Small Business</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter to Minister of State, Small Business and Tourism Maxime Bernier.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of National Revenue Gail Shea.</p> <p>Jan. 14/13 – Meeting with Minister Bernier’s Chief of Staff.</p> <p>July 17/13 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay.</p>		<p>Mar. 21/13 – In the 2013 budget, the government stated that the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has created a dedicated team that is responsible for coordinating and addressing small business issues. The CRA has mandated the team to ensure that the agency takes a “small business lens” approach to service improvements, with a renewed and enhanced focus on cutting red tape. The CRA is helping small business owners avoid costly and time consuming audits by raising awareness of their tax obligations in order to help them to get it right from the start.</p> <p>Apr. 1/13 - The CRA will make the approval process more timely and responsive for the authorization of a third party (e.g., an accountant, lawyer or employee) to conduct business tax matters with the CRA on behalf of the business owner. The CRA will improve its service standard from the current 14 working days to 5 days as an interim step pending the development of additional on-line options planned for April 2014.</p> <p>Jan. 17/14 – The Minister of National Revenue announced a new three-point plan to support small and medium-sized businesses to more easily meet their tax obligations, save time and money, and reduce red tape. The new three-point plan includes: 1) The Liaison Officer Initiative. The CRA will provide in-person information to small and medium enterprises at key points in their business cycle to help them get it right from the start; 2) The Registration of Tax Preparers Program (RTPP). This program proposes to register tax preparers so the CRA can better identify and address common and recurring errors with them before tax returns are filed. This will avoid costly and time-consuming interventions from the CRA after-the-fact; and 3) An enhanced focus on high risk files. The CRA will make better use of advanced business intelligence, specialized audit teams for specific sectors, and novel approaches such as letter writing campaigns,</p>
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			<p>to supplement the CRA's traditional audit approaches.</p> <p>Jan. 28/14 - The CRA announced that in the fall of 2014, the CRA will again conduct red tape reduction consultations with small businesses and their service providers in cities across the country, seeking their views on the CRA's progress on reducing red tape and ensuring the Agency's action plans remain relevant to the needs of small businesses.</p> <p>August/14 - CRA is conducting field meetings re: the above, several of which are being hosted by local chambers.</p> <p>June 2015 - CRA announces measures to cut red tape for SMEs, e.g., easier web access to services and information; improving client telephone services; provide information in understandable language; better explaining the audit process.</p>
Fair Tax Process for Small Business	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Included in letter to Minister of State, Small Business and Tourism Maxime Bernier,</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Gail Shea</p> <p>Jan. 14/13 - Meeting with Minister Bernier's Chief of Staff</p>		
Non-Residents Performing Services in Canada Policy –Waivers from Withholding Obligations Under Regulations 105 and 102	<p>Nov. 19/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty, to Minister of National Revenue Gale Shea, to Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney, to PM's Policy Advisor Phil Harwood, and to Finance Minister's Policy Advisor Jonathan Finkelstein</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Gail Shea</p> <p>June 27/13 - Issued report "A Competitive Tax Regime: A Building Block of a Vibrant and Productive Economy."</p> <p>July 17/13 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay.</p> <p>July 17/13 - Letter to, Minister of State (Finance) Kevin Sorenson.</p>		
A Better Way to Fund Training	<p>Aug. 3/12 - Included in pre-budget submission.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p>		<p>Mar. 21/13 - In budget 2013 the government announced that it is renegotiating the \$1.95 billion per year Labour Market Development Agreements with provinces and territories to reorient training toward labour market</p>

			demand. Employers and employer groups will be consulted during these negotiations.
Strengthening Canada's Workforce through Tax Indexing	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Dec. 10/13 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p>		Mar. 21/13 - In budget 2013 the <i>Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption</i> was increased to \$800,000 and the limit is now indexed to inflation for the first time ever. The first indexation adjustment will occur for the 2015 taxation year.
Increasing Rental Inventory Through Fair Tax Treatment	Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.		
Support Future Mineral Exploration and Mining in Canada	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Jan. 30/13 - Issued report <i>Mining Capital: How Canada has transformed its resource endowment into a global competitive advantage</i>. Resolution's recommendations were included in the report.</p>		<p>Dec. 12/12 - In its report <i>Jobs, Growth, Productivity and Demographic Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Canada</i>, the House of Commons Finance Committee recommended that the federal government consider extending the temporary Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for flow-through share investors for an additional year.</p> <p>Mar. 21/3 - Budget 2013 announced the extension of the 15% <i>Mineral Exploration Tax Credit</i> for flow-through share investors for an additional year.</p> <p>Dec 11/13 - The House of Commons Finance Standing Committee recommended in its report "<i>The Future We Want: Recommendations for the 2014 Budget</i>" that the federal government consider making the 15% Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for flow-through share investors, which is currently a temporary measure, permanent in order to support junior mineral exploration.</p> <p>Feb 11/14 - The federal budget extended the 15% Mineral Exploration Tax Credit for flow-through share investors for an additional year.</p>
GST Exemption for Medical Service Providers	Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.		Mar. 21/13 - Budget 2013 proposes to expand the GST/HST exemption for homemaker services to exempt publicly subsidized or funded personal care services, such as bathing, feeding, and assistance with dressing and taking medication, rendered to

			<p>an individual who, due to age, infirmity or disability, requires assistance in his or her home. The proposal will result in an exemption for home and personal care services that is more in line with current provincial and territorial practices for health-related assistive services delivered to persons in their homes.</p> <p>Feb 11/14 – Budget 2014 included three changes to improve the application of the GST/HST to certain health-related services and medical and assistive devices to reflect the evolving nature of the health care sector: 1) it expanded the current GST/HST exemption for training that is specially designed to help individuals cope with a disorder or disability to also exempt services of designing such training, such as developing a training plan; 2) acupuncturists’ and naturopathic doctors’ professional services would be exempt from the GST/HST; and 3) eyewear specially designed to electronically enhance the vision of individuals with vision impairment that is supplied on the order of a physician or other specified health professional has been added to the list of GST/HST-free (zero-rated) medical and assistive devices.</p>
<p>Mitigating the Negative Effects of the New Tax Exemption Limits for the Canadian Retailers on the U.S.-Canadian border</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty. Dec.11/12 -Letter to the Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews. Dec. 10/13 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p>		<p>Feb. 6/13 – In its report <i>The Canada-USA Price Gap</i>, the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance recommended that the minister of finance conduct a comprehensive review of Canadian tariffs, keeping in mind the impact on domestic manufacturing, with the objective of reducing the price discrepancies for certain products between Canada and the United States. The committee also noted that although the 24-hour length of absence requirement in Canada constitutes a legislative barrier to competition that increases the prices for Canadian consumers, it may be warranted to keep this requirement in order to mitigate some of the adverse consequences of cross-border shopping on the Canadian economy.</p> <p>Mar. 21/13 – Budget 2013 proposes to permanently eliminate all tariffs on baby clothes and sports and athletic equipment. The tariff reductions will be given effect by</p>

			<p>amendments to the <i>Customs Tariff</i> and will be effective in respect of goods imported into Canada on or after April 1, 2013.</p> <p>Aug. 7/13 - The federal government contracted Nielsen to monitor the level of savings for Canadian consumers through recently announced tariff relief measures. Over the next year, Nielsen will be systematically verifying prices of a variety of products on which tariffs were eliminated on April 1, 2013. These products include baby clothing, ice skates, hockey equipment, skis, snowboards, golf clubs and other sporting goods. This undertaking will capture the price trend for items that benefited from the tariff relief as well as some items that did not, to test the link between tariff elimination and consumer prices. Nielsen will visit retail stores in Canada and the United States.</p> <p>Oct 16/13 - The Speech from the Throne noted that Canadians should not be charged more in Canada for identical goods that sell for less in the U.S., and that the government will take further action to end geographic price discrimination against Canadians.</p> <p>Feb 11/ 14 - The 2014 federal budget announced that the government intends to introduce legislation to address price discrimination that is not justified by higher operating costs in Canada, and to empower the Commissioner of Competition to enforce the new framework.</p>
Pooled Registered Pension Plans (PRPPs)	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Included in letter to Minister of State, Small Business and Tourism Maxime Bernier.</p> <p>Jan. 14/13 - Meeting with Minister Bernier's Chief of Staff</p> <p>July 19/13 - Letter to all provincial/territorial premiers</p>		<p>Mar. 21/13 - The government confirmed in the 2013 federal budget that federal PRPP legislation applies to all federally-regulated employers including those in the territories.</p>
Severance Transfers to RRSPs	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p>		
Federal Alignment of Liens Policies with Provincial Counterparts	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p>		

ENVIRONMENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT PHIL TOMLINSON (PTOMLINSON@CHAMBER.CA)

RESOLUTION	CCC ACTIONS TAKEN	PLANNED CCC ACTIONS	GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO DATE
<p>Supporting Canada’s Responsible Resource Development</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver.</p>		<p>March 12 2012 - The government proposed key changes to the <i>CEAA</i> that were in-line with the Chamber’s resolution, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limiting “Environmental effects” to effects on areas under federal jurisdiction. - Limiting Public participation in <i>CEAA</i> assessments that are undertaken by the National Energy Board (NEB) or review panels to parties that are directly affected by the application or persons that have relevant information or experience. - All assessments under the <i>CEAA</i> will be subject to fixed timelines: 365 days for standard assessments, 18 months for reviews by the NEB and 24 months for assessments by a review panel. <p>May 2014 - Minister Rickford announced new measures to enhance Canada’s pipeline and marine safety systems.</p>

<p>Energy Market Diversification</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver.</p> <p>The issue features prominently in the 2013 <i>Top 10 Barriers to Canadian Competitiveness</i>, and was the subject of an aggressive advocacy strategy by the Chamber in 2013, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A report launched Sept 17 - Associated infographic launched on Sept 16 - International Trade Day conference on Oct 29 focused on this topic - Speaking engagements throughout fall 2013 in Vancouver and Calgary 	<p>The Chamber is one of the founding members for the Partnership for Resource Trade and continues to work on developing a national grassroots campaign to create a supportive policy environment for the export of Canadian natural resources, including energy.</p>	<p>Ongoing - Since 2012 the NEB has issued five export permits for a number of LNG facilities in BC, with several additional licenses pending.</p> <p>Jan 2014 - The NEB review process for Trans Mountain expansion was launched. Final decision is due January 25, 2016.</p> <p>March 6 2014 - NEB approved the Line 9B reversal, which will allow Canadian crude to be transported to Eastern markets.</p> <p>June 17 2014 - Cabinet approved the Northern Gateway pipeline project.</p>
<p>Northern Gateway Pipelines Project</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver.</p> <p>Support for the NGP was an element of the Chamber's advocacy for diversified markets for Canadian energy products (see above for details)</p>		<p>Dec 19 2013 - The NEB's joint review panel issued a report supporting the development of the pipeline.</p> <p>June 17 2014 - Cabinet approved the Northern Gateway pipeline project. Final decision from Enbridge is pending.</p>
<p>Support for a Canadian Energy Strategy</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver.</p> <p>July 19/13 - Letter to the premiers regarding the Council of the Federation meeting included a paragraph in support of the energy strategy.</p> <p>The CCC has been participating in the Council of the Federation-led development of a <i>Canadian Energy Strategy</i> through letters and consultation meetings.</p> <p>Support for the development of electricity infrastructure featured prominently in the Chamber's 2013 reports on electricity and mining.</p>		<p>July 2013 - The Council of the Federation published a progress report on the development of a province-led <i>Canadian Energy Strategy</i></p> <p>August 30 2014 - BC and Quebec joined the COF Energy Strategy Initiative. The strategy will be finalized in advance of 2015 meeting.</p>

<p>The Future of Canadian Nuclear Research & Development</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver.</p>		<p>Feb 2013 - Minister Oliver announced that NRCan would be accepting business cases for innovation in the nuclear power sector.</p> <p>Feb 11 2014 - The 2014 Budget made no announcements on a strategy for the nuclear sector, but announced \$117 over two years to maintain safe and reliable operations at the Chalk River facility as the government continues the transition to a government-owner, contractor-managed model.</p>
<p>An Integrated Approach to the Management of Waste and Recyclables</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of the Environment Peter Kent.</p> <p>Jan 18 2014 - The Chamber submitted comments to the Canadian Council of Minister's of the Environment review of <i>their Canada Wide Action Plan on Extended Producer Responsibility</i></p>	<p>The Environment and Natural Resource committee has forward a resolution focused on Extended Producer Responsibility to the 2014 AGM.</p>	<p>Aug 3 2014 - The CCME released its update on the Canada-wide action plan for Extended Producer Responsibility</p>
<p>Accelerating Domestic Styrofoam Reuse and Remanufacture for Environmental and Economic Gain</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of the Environment Peter Kent</p>		
<p>Reduce Costs to Improve Federal Buildings</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Public Works Rona Ambrose</p>		
<p>Involvement of Foreign Foundations in Canada's Domestic Affairs</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Foreign Affairs John Baird</p>		<p>June 18 2012 - The budget included a number of measures in-line with the resolution's recommendations, including increased sanctions on charities that don't comply with the advocacy regulations; an \$8-million special audit by Canada Revenue Agency to see if charities are adhering to the 10-per-cent limit. The budget also announced restrictions on how charitable foundations fund political activities by other organizations and it introduced new reporting rules for charities that use foreign donations to fund these activities.</p>

INDUSTRY

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RESOLUTION	CCC ACTIONS TAKEN	PLANNED CCC ACTIONS	GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO DATE
<p>The Competition Act</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p>		
<p>Intellectual Property Rights Theft</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Robert Nicholson.</p> <p>Dec. 11 – Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p> <p>Meetings with staff of ministers Paradis (Industry) and Toews (Public Safety).</p> <p>Meetings with department officials regarding structure of Bill C-56.</p> <p>Meeting with CBSA regarding operational concerns with Bill C-56.</p> <p>Nov. 20/2013 – presentation to INDU Committee</p>	<p>Public media support of government action on <i>Bill C-56 (Anti-counterfeiting)</i>.</p> <p>Lead review of <i>Bill C-56 (Anti-counterfeiting)</i> with formal submission of recommended amendments and presentation to Parliamentary Committee.</p> <p>Continue to monitor progress of provisions not in force in <i>Copyright Modernization Act</i>.</p> <p>Presentation to Industry, Science and Technology Committee supporting C-56.</p> <p>Meet with CBSA to discuss operational aspects of Bill C-8.</p>	<p>November 7, with the publication of Order in Council P.C. 2012-1392 (the Order) in the <i>Canada Gazette</i>, the Copyright Modernization Act, S.C. 2012, c. 20 (Bill C-11) has mostly been proclaimed into force. This act was a major revision of Canada's <i>Copyright Act</i> and received Royal Assent on June 29, 2012.</p> <p>March 1/12 – The government introduced Bill C-56 <i>An Act to amend the Copyright Act and the Trade-marks Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts</i> which answers many of the concerns raised by the business community over the years, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granting the power of search and seizure (ex officio) to the CBSA • Making it a criminal offense to import goods that infringe on trademark or copyright • Authorizing the CBSA to communicate with brand owners/CIPO/RCMP as necessary • Authorizing the CBSA to seize, hold or destroy counterfeit goods • Empowering rights holders to contact CBSA with information about incoming shipments <p>There is no provision in this bill to create an intellectual property crime task force or other IPR institution, there are concerns about the costs potentially imposed on rights holders and there are no provisions that will adequately address small shipments. The CCC will continue to</p>

			<p>encourage the government to address these issues for the investigation and prosecution of counterfeit crimes as an effective means of combating intellectual property theft.</p> <p>Sep. 28/2013: Bill C-56 reintroduced as Bill C-8 in new Parliament. 1st and 2nd Reading – referred to Committee.</p> <p>Dec. 4/2013: Committee report delivered with amendments.</p> <p>Jan. 31/2014: Concurrence at report stage.</p>
No to Overregulation of Drinks, Food Products, Fast Food and other Consumer Products	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p>		
Intensifying the fight against contraband tobacco	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq.</p> <p>Dec.11/12. - Letter to the Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p> <p>Participated in round table with municipal and aboriginal representatives.</p> <p>Jan. 21/14 - Raised the issue as part of a meeting with Minister of Public Safety Steven Blainey.</p>	<p>Monitor the progress of Bill C-10 and support its passing.</p>	<p>March 5/13 – The government introduced Bill S-16 <i>An Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking in contraband tobacco)</i> which would create a new 50-officer RCMP task force to help combat trafficking and cross-border smuggling of the contraband tobacco, and impose mandatory minimum sentences for repeat offenders.</p> <p>Nov. 5/2013 Bill S-16 reintroduced as Bill C-10 in new Parliament. 1st and 2nd Reading and referred to Committee.</p> <p>Feb. 12/2014 Committee report on Bill C-10 tabled in the House.</p>
Ensuring Canada’s Economic Success Using Information and Communications Technologies	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p> <p>March 7/12- Testimony to Industry Science and Technology Parliamentary Standing Committee</p>		
Restoring Balance in Sector Applicability of SR&ED	<p>Sept. 13/12 – Submission to the Department of Finance.</p> <p>Oct. 23/12 – Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance on pre-budget consultations.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of National Revenue Gail Shea</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 – Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p>		<p>Mar. 21/13 – Budget 2013 did not mention in how the <i>Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED)</i> tax credit could be revised to produce more innovation.</p>

	<p>July 17/13 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Kerry-Lynne D. Findlay.</p>		
<p>Improving the Accuracy and Timeliness of the Scientific Research & Experimental Development (SR&ED) Program</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of National Revenue Gail Shea.</p>		<p>Oct. 31/12 - The CRA indicated that it is enhancing its eligibility self-assessment tool to allow taxpayers to pre-determine whether they should file a SR&ED claim for their projects. Several claimants will be testing a preliminary version of the tool and will provide feedback before it is made available on the CRA website.</p> <p>Dec. 12/12 - In its report "<i>Jobs, Growth, Productivity and Demographic Change: Challenges and Opportunities for Canada</i>", the House of Commons Finance Committee recommended that the federal government continue to streamline and improve the SR&ED tax incentive program.</p> <p>Jan. 24/13- The CRA announced a pilot project to look at the feasibility of a formal pre-approval process for evaluating taxpayers' eligibility for SR&ED incentives. This process is intended to provide real-time or near real-time review of the work being undertaken with the issuance of an eligibility statement as the work progresses. This is a welcome initiative as it appears to address predictability concerns that had been raised by taxpayers in the past. The pilot project will begin during the spring of 2013. If the pilot project is successful, the proposed formal pre-approval process should result in faster claim processing as it will eliminate the need for a post-filing, on-site review of SR&ED claims.</p> <p>Jan. 24/13 - The CRA has hired additional scientific personnel to address SR&ED scientific eligibility issues raised by taxpayers in their notices of objection. In addition, the CRA has expanded the review process to allow for more contact between CRA personnel and taxpayers.</p> <p>Mar. 21/13 -2013 budget provided new funding to CRA to conduct more direct outreach with first-time SR&ED program claimants. A new in-person service will be implemented to ensure that new claimants have access to information about the</p>

			SR&ED program's eligibility requirements, the required supporting documentation, and any other information needed to facilitate the filing of their SR&ED program claim.
From Innovation to Commercialization – An SME Strategy	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Included in letters to , Minister of State, Small Business and Tourism Maxime Bernier; Minister of State (Finance) Ted Menzies.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty.</p> <p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.</p> <p>Jan. 14 /13- Meeting with Minister Bernier's chief of staff.</p> <p>Feb. 27/14 - Submission to Minister of State for Science and Technology public consultation process.</p>		<p>Mar. 21/13 - The budget provides funding for the creation of an <i>Aerospace Technology Demonstration Program</i>. The program will support large-scale technology projects that exhibit strong commercialization potential and promote cross-industry collaboration. The budget also provides funding for a new pilot program to be delivered through NRC-IRAP. The pilot program will enable hundreds of SMEs to commercialize their products or services more quickly and effectively by providing them with credit notes to help pay for research, technology and business development services at universities, colleges and other non-profit research institutions of their choice.</p> <p>Jan-Feb 2014 - Minister of State for Science and Technology consultation on science, Technology and innovation Strategy.</p>
Support to Ranchers in the Removal of Specified Risk Material (SRM)	Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of International Affairs Ed Fast.		
Counteracting the Growing Productivity Gap: Call for the Public Debate	Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Industry Canada Christian Paradis.		

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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CAM VIDLER (CVIDLER@CHAMBER.CA)

RESOLUTION	CCC ACTIONS TAKEN	PLANNED CCC ACTIONS	GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO DATE
<p>Enhancing Canada’s Trade Relationship with Asia Pacific and, in Particular, with Japan</p>	<p>September 22, 2014 – Canada-Korea Business Forum to host President Park & high-level business delegation</p> <p>September 18, 2014 – Meeting with PMO on case for Chinese currency hub in Canada</p> <p>September 9-16, 2014 – Fact-finding mission to Taiwan to meet w/ officials, business groups, think-tanks</p> <p>July 8, 2014 – Business event w/ Canadian Council of Chief Executives on occasion of Trans-Pacific Partnership meetings in Ottawa</p> <p>May 27, 2014 – Meeting with Ed Fast</p> <p>May 2014 – Released <i>Turning it Around: How to Restore Canada’s Trade Success</i>, focused on new for Canada to boost trade promotion & economic diplomacy in new markets; 20+ media hits & testimony to Standing Committee on International Trade to discuss implications for Global Markets Action Plan</p> <p>April 15, 2014 – Roundtable with Ian Burney, Chief Negotiator, Canada-Japan EPA in Vancouver</p> <p>March 27, 2014 – Meeting with Chiefs of Staff for Foreign Affairs & Trade to outline trade promotion & economic diplomacy priorities</p> <p>March 27, 2014 – International affairs committee roundtable with Chief Negotiator, Trans-Pacific Partnership</p> <p>March 6, 2014 – Perrin Beatty moderates business panel at roundtable w/ Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Advisory</p>	<p>May 5, 2015 – International Trade Day 2015 to focus on next steps for Pacific economy</p> <p>November 5-10, 2014 – Perrin Beatty to lead delegation to attend APEC Summit in Beijing; launch Canada-Japan Chambers Council in Tokyo</p> <p>October 20, 2014 – Chamber to release report making case for establishing offshore Chinese currency centre in Canada</p>	<p>Canada-China joint study complete in 2012.</p> <p>Canada joined the TPP negotiations in 2012.</p> <p>Prime Minister Harper visits India and China in 2012.</p> <p>Canada-China FIPA signed in 2012</p> <p>Japan reaches agreement with Canada, others, to reduce age restrictions on beef imports in 2013</p> <p>Government announced <i>Global Markets Action Plan</i> in October, 2013. Will focus resources and attention on priority markets, especially in Asia. Commitment to ongoing private sector input and to leveraging “all diplomatic assets” on behalf of commercial objectives in these markets.</p> <p>Canada-Korea FTA signed in March, 2014</p> <p>Canada and ASEAN agree August, 2014 to develop plans to study potential for closer economic ties</p> <p>Canada-China FIPA ratified by Canada in September, 2014</p> <p>Prime Minister Harper planning delegation to China in November, 2014</p>

	<p>Council of Canada and China</p> <p>January 21, 2014 – Canadian Chamber releases statement calling for completion of Canada-Korea FTA.</p> <p>January 14, 2014 – Perrin Beatty joined first meeting of Canadian Council of Chief Executives’ Canada-Japan CEO Forum featuring chief negotiators from both countries</p> <p>December 9, 2013 – Canadian Chamber hosted roundtable with Cam Mackay, DG, Trade Negotiations, DFATD on Canada-Japan EPA</p> <p>November 8, 2013 – Perrin Beatty gave keynote speech at Canada-Korea Forum, calling for progress in bilateral negotiations.</p> <p>Oct. 16-19, 2013 – Perrin Beatty trip to Seoul, Korea to meet with business counterparts and members.</p> <p>Fall 2013 – Canadian Chamber initiated policy project on Canada’s commercial diplomacy and trade promotion policies. Input sought from corporate, association and chamber members.</p> <p>July 9, 2013 – Hosted joint meetings in Ottawa with US Chamber of Commerce TPP outreach taskforce. Met with senior officials at PCO, Industry Canada, Heritage Canada, Finance Canada, Competition Bureau, International Trade Canada</p> <p>June 12, 2013 – Perrin Beatty gave speech on the promise of regional trade agreements at <i>Conférence de Montréal</i></p> <p>Apr. 25, 2013 – Hosted 2013 Canada-Japan Trade Symposium on Canada-Japan EPA featuring Minister Fast, 100-150 senior executives and public officials</p> <p>Mar. 27, 2013 – Appearance at House of Commons Standing Committee on International Trade to provide recommendations for Canada-India CEPA</p> <p>Mar 4, 2013 – Meeting with Peter McGovern, Assistant Deputy Minister, International Trade</p>		
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	<p>Mar 4, 2013 - Meeting with Minister Fast's staff.</p> <p>Feb. 21, 2013 – P. Beatty keynote speech endorsing Canada-Japan EPA at Japan Society luncheon in Toronto</p> <p>Feb. 20, 2013 – Consultations with Deputy Chief Negotiator for EPA, presented Canada-Japan report.</p> <p>Feb. 13, 2013 – Participation in Canada-India Trade Policy Committee of Canada-India Business Council.</p> <p>Feb. 3-9, 2013 – Perrin Beatty visit to Hong Kong, met with business & government leaders</p> <p>Dec. 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of International Trade Ed Fast.</p> <p>Nov. 1-4, 2012 – Perrin Beatty visit to Japan, met with business & government leaders, spoke at Canada-Japan Trade Symposium on Canada-Japan EPA.</p> <p>Nov. 5-6 – P. Beatty visit to India, met with business & government leaders, spoke at Canada-India Business Forum (CCC a supporting partner).</p>		
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<p>Developing a New Direction for the Canada-U.S. Trade Relationship</p>	<p>Dec. 11, 2012- Letter to Minister of International Affairs Ed Fast</p> <p>Feb 27, 2013 - Meeting with Robert Carberry, Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Cooperation Council Secretariat, Privy Council Office</p> <p>Feb 27, 2013 - Meeting with Kevin O'Shea, Assistant Secretary, Border Implementation Team, Privy Council Office</p> <p>Mar 4, 2013- Meeting with Minister Fast's staff</p> <p>June, 2013 -meetings in Washington D.C. with senior government officials</p> <p>Fall 2013, Meeting with David Moloney</p> <p>Feb. 2014 meeting with DFATD to discuss procurement</p> <p>Feb. 12, 2014 Meeting with Bob Carberry & Kevin O'Shea</p> <p>Regular meetings with U.S. Embassy staff in</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement with the Privy Council Office, relevant federal departments, the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa and the Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C.</p>	<p>Some of the key achievements over the past year involve streamlining and enhancing trusted trader and traveller programs, mutual recognition for passenger baggage screening for the air mode, launched a joint entry/exit pilot project at the land border and the release of a joint cyber security plan.</p> <p>On the regulatory cooperation side, 2012 achievements include: the launch of pilot programs for simultaneous submissions to regulators for crop products, simultaneous reviews by regulators for veterinary drugs and a pilot project for the joint inspection of non-Canadian and non-U.S flagged vessels entering the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway.</p> <p>Canada has joined the TPP negotiations.</p>
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	<p>Ottawa</p> <p>April, 2014 – 3-week fact-finding mission to US regions; meetings with state officials, etc.</p>		<p>A commitment in budget 2013 and 2014 to continue the implementation of the beyond the border and regulatory cooperation action plans in the next five years.</p> <p>Announcement of Joint Forward Plan for Regulatory Cooperation Council in August, 2014</p> <p>Meeting of Executive Steering Committee of Beyond the Borders in September, 2014</p>
<p>Canada’s Free Trade Agreements – a New Dynamic</p>	<p>Dec. 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of International Trade Ed Fast</p> <p>January 14, 2013 – Meeting with Simon Kennedy, DM of International Trade, and Peter McGovern, ADM</p> <p>Mar 4, 2013 - Meeting with Minister Fast’s staff.</p> <p>March 6, 2014 – Perrin Beatty moderates business panel at roundtable w/ Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Advisory Council of Canada and China</p> <p>March 27, 2014 – Meeting with Chiefs of Staff for Foreign Affairs & Trade to outline trade promotion & economic diplomacy priorities</p> <p>May 27, 2014 – Meeting with Ed Fast</p> <p>May 2014 – Released <i>Turning it Around: How to Restore Canada’s Trade Success</i>, focused on new for Canada to boost trade promotion & economic diplomacy in new markets; 20+ media hits & testimony to Standing Committee on International Trade to discuss implications for Global Markets Action Plan</p> <p>May 16, 2014 – Chamber hosts International Trade Day 2014 on next steps for NAFTA</p>	<p>November 2014 – Perrin Beatty to lead delegation to attend APEC Summit in Beijing; host major event of Canada-Japan Business Dialogue in Tokyo.</p>	<p>Government announced <i>Global Markets Action Plan</i> in October, 2013. Will focus resources and attention on priority markets, especially in Asia, based on alignment with Canadian capabilities. Commitment to ongoing private sector input and to leveraging “all diplomatic assets” on behalf of commercial objectives in these markets.</p>
<p>New Border Pact- Beyond the Border Action Plan</p>	<p>Dec. 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of International Trade Ed Fast</p> <p>Dec.11, 2012- Letter to the Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews.</p> <p>Feb. 27, 2013 - Meeting with Deputy Minister Transport Canada Louis Lévesque.</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement with the Privy Council Office, relevant federal departments, the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa and the Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C.</p>	<p>Some of the key achievements over the past year involve streamlining and enhancing trusted trader and traveller programs, mutual recognition for passenger baggage screening for the air mode, launched a joint entry/exit pilot project at the land border</p>

	<p>Feb. 27, 2013 - Meeting with Robert Carberry, Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Cooperation Council Secretariat, Privy Council Office (PCO).</p> <p>Feb. 27, 2013 - Meeting with Kevin O'Shea, Assistant Secretary, Border Implementation Team, PCO.</p> <p>June 2013 -meetings in Washington D.C. with senior government officials</p> <p>Fall 2013, Meeting with David Moloney</p> <p>January 2014 - Meeting with Minister Blaney</p> <p>Feb. 12, 2014 - Meeting with Bob Carberry & Kevin O'Shea</p> <p>May 16, 2014 - Chamber hosts International Trade Day 2014 on next steps for NAFTA</p> <p>Regular meetings with U.S. Embassy staff in Ottawa.</p>		<p>and the release of a joint cyber security plan. On the regulatory cooperation side, 2012 achievements include: the launch of pilot programs for simultaneous submissions to regulators for crop products, simultaneous reviews by regulators for veterinary drugs and a pilot project for the joint inspection of non-Canadian and non-U.S flagged vessels entering the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway.</p> <p>A commitment in budget 2013 to continue the implementation of the beyond the border and regulatory cooperation action plans in the next five years.</p> <p>Meeting of Executive Steering Committee of Beyond the Borders in September, 2014</p>
<p>Canada Border Services Agency - Customs & Immigration Programs</p>	<p>Dec. 11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of International Trade Ed Fast</p> <p>Dec.11, 2012 - Letter to the Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews.</p> <p>Feb 27, 2013 - Meeting with Deputy Minister Transport Canada Louis Lévesque.</p> <p>Feb 27, 2013 - Meeting with Robert Carberry, Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Cooperation Council Secretariat, PCO</p> <p>Feb 27, 2013- Meeting with Kevin O'Shea, Assistant Secretary, Border Implementation Team, PCO</p> <p>June 2013 -meetings in Washington D.C. with senior government officials</p> <p>Fall 2013 Meeting with David Moloney</p> <p>January 2014 - Meeting with Minister Blaney</p> <p>Feb. 12, 2014 - Meeting with Bob Carberry & Kevin O'Shea</p> <p>Regular meetings with U.S. Embassy staff in Ottawa</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement with the Privy Council Office, relevant federal departments, the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa and the Canadian Embassy in Washington D.C.</p>	

SOCIAL POLICY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
 SUSANNA CLUFF-CLYBURNE, SCLUFF-CLYBURNE@CHAMBER.CA – ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS OR
 SARAH ANSON-CARTWRIGHT SANSON-CARTWRIGHT@CHAMBER.CA – SKILLS, TRAINING, IMMIGRATION

RESOLUTION	CCC ACTIONS TAKEN	PLANNED CCC ACTIONS	GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO DATE
<p>Importance of Continuing to Establish Canada’s Educational Brand Internationally</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12- Letter to Minister of International Affairs Ed Fast</p>		<p>Budget 2013 announced Canada’s <i>International Education Strategy</i>, including the provision of \$10 million over two years for international marketing activities, including better promotion of a cohesive Canadian education brand.</p> <p>On Jan. 15, 2014, the government launched the <i>International Education Strategy</i>. Further to Budget 2013, the strategy will be supported by funding of \$5 million a year ongoing. “This investment will be primarily dedicated to branding and marketing Canada as a world-class education destination to audiences within the six priority markets. In addition, the Strategy will provide \$13 million over two years to the Globalink program of Mitacs, a national not-for-profit organization that fosters innovation through research and training programs.”</p>
<p>First Nations Student Education</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada John Duncan. Dec. 11/12 - Recommendations included in the policy paper <i>Developing the economic potential of Canada’s territories</i> and in meeting with Minister of Health and Canadian Northern Economic Development Leona Aglukkaq. Jan. 21/13 – Included in presentation to federal ADM Arctic Council Feb. 25/13 – Letter to Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Bernard Valcourt. Spring 2013 – Meetings with Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business; the Aboriginal Human Resources Council and the Canadian Labour Congress</p>	<p>The workforce participation of aboriginal peoples is one of the priority areas in the skills and training file within the <i>Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness</i> in 2013.</p>	<p>The 2012 federal budget committed \$275 million over three years to First Nations education support. \$175 million would be directed to building and renovating schools on reserves.</p> <p>In December 2012, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada launched consultations (which end in April 2013) for the development of a <i>First Nations Education Act</i> which is to be in place by September 2014.</p> <p>The 2013 federal budget reiterated its commitment to introducing a <i>First Nations Education Act</i> and to sharing draft legislation with First Nations for their</p>

	<p>July 23/13 – Meeting with Shawn Atleo, National Chief, Assembly of First Nations</p> <p>Aug. 27/13 – Meeting with Michael Wernick, DM, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development</p> <p>Sept. 10.13 – Included in speech at Prospects North, Yellowknife</p> <p>Dec. 17/13 – Included in policy report: <i>Opportunity Found: Improving the participation of Aboriginal peoples in Canada’s workforce.</i></p>		<p>input. The government also committed \$241 million over five years to improve the on-reserve <i>Income Assistance Program</i> with First Nations which would be tied to young people pursuing training to equipment them for employment.</p> <p>The government committed \$10 million over two years to <i>Indspire</i>, an organization that promotes Aboriginal education and achievement, to provide support for First Nations and Inuit students pursuing post-secondary studies.</p> <p>On February 7, 2014, the federal government and Assembly of First Nations announced an agreement that would see First Nations direct the education of their peoples and eliminate the two per cent cap on federal funding.</p> <p>In Budget 2014, the government confirmed new upcoming investments (\$1.25 billion from 2016–17 to 2018–19) to establish the structures and standards necessary to ensure that young First Nations people have access to education systems on reserves comparable to provincial and territorial school systems. Additional funding (\$500 million over seven years beginning in 2015-16) is dedicated to building and renovating schools for First Nations students.</p> <p>On April 10, 2014, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development introduced the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act which proposes additional funding (\$1.25 billion over 3 years) for First Nations education, but – in the opinion of many First Nations – would leave too much control in the hands of the federal government. The bill is on hold.</p>
<p>Meeting Canada’s Labour Needs by Attracting and Retaining International Students</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Hon. Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism.</p> <p>Jan. 31/13 – Meeting with Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney.</p>		<p>The government has not yet adopted these recommendations, but Budget 2013 did propose \$42 million over two years to meet growing demand under the <i>Temporary Resident Program</i>, which includes foreign students. Due to the implications of the</p>

	<p>Aug. 29/13 – Meeting with Director of Policy in the office of Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Chris Alexander.</p>		<p>work stoppage by foreign service officers during 2013, the allocation of those funds was delayed. Senior government officials indicate that process improvements should be noticeable in 2014.</p> <p>During the summer of 2013, universities were advised by CIC of limits to the advice they could give to international students, pursuant to changes to Section 91 of the IRPA. Those changes require the services of regulated immigration consultants to provide guidance. However, the universities’ role in providing advice will continue to be recognized.</p>
<p>Attracting Global Talent Key to Canada’s Economic Future</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney.</p> <p>Jan. 31/13 – Meeting with Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney.</p> <p>Mar 4/13 - Meeting with Minister Fast’s staff.</p> <p>April 3/13 – Submitted CCC’s comments on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program consultation to CIC and HRSDC.</p> <p>Aug. 29/13 – Meeting with Director of Policy in the office of Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Chris Alexander.</p> <p>Oct. 21/13 – Meeting with Minister Alexander’s staff, in conjunction with CEO of St. John’s Board of Trade.</p> <p>Dec. 12/13 – Meeting with Minister Alexander’s staff.</p>	<p>Further to the meeting with Minister Kenney on Jan. 31, Canadian Chamber staff participated in consultations with CIC and HRSDC on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) in late March.</p> <p>In addition, the Canadian Chamber is represented on the Employer Technical Reference Group consulting with CIC on its new Expression of Interest system. CCC staff attended the group’s meeting on Feb. 5 and June 18, 2013, and on Feb. 18, 2014.</p>	<p>In Budget 2013, the government proposed to introduce user fees for employers applying for temporary foreign workers through the labour market opinion process. It did not commit to reduce the application turnaround time based on the user fees.</p> <p>On April 29, 2013 the government confirmed its plans to introduce a number of changes to the TFWP, including the immediate suspension of the accelerated labour market opinion process.</p> <p>On July 31, 2013 via regulations, the government imposed the new user fee and a restriction on employers from requiring a language other than English or French for offers of employment of foreign nationals.</p> <p>In Budget 2014, the government proposes to invest \$11.0 million over two years and \$3.5 million per year ongoing in the labour market opinion process “by realigning the application streams to better identify vulnerable temporary foreign workers and improve processing times for certain applications; limiting the use of the program in high-unemployment regions; and ensuring that employers transition to a Canadian workforce through better prevention, detection and response to employer non-compliance.”</p>
<p>Resolving Canada’s Skills Crisis</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism</p>	<p>Further to the meeting with Minister Kenney on Jan. 31, 2013 Canadian Chamber staff spoke with</p>	<p>In Budget 2013, the government commits to work with provinces and territories and</p>

<p>through Increased Immigration</p>	<p>Jason Kenney. Jan. 31/13 – Meeting with Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney. Aug. 28/13 – Submitted the CCC’s response to CIC’s Levels Planning consultation on admission levels for 2014. Aug. 29/13 – Meeting with Director of Policy in the office of Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Chris Alexander.</p>	<p>various officials during the spring to propose the recommendations in this resolution.</p> <p>In addition, the Canadian Chamber is represented on the Employer Technical Reference Group consulting with CIC on its new Expression of Interest system.</p>	<p>stakeholders to support improvements to foreign credential recognition process and address the demand for skilled workers in Canada in additional occupations.</p> <p>The government is meeting with each of the provinces to determine possible changes in provincial caps for 2014 for each of the Provincial Nominee Programs.</p>
<p>Citizenship and Immigration Canada Regional Settlement</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney. Jan. 31/13 – Meeting with Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney. Aug. 29/13 – Meeting with Director of Policy in the office of Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Chris Alexander.</p>	<p>The CCC has been invited to attend a CIC conference on future directions for its national Settlement Program, on Nov. 13-15.</p>	
<p>Address Issues in Foreign Worker Programs</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Hon. Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development. Feb. 28/13 – meeting with Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Diane Finley. April 3/13 – submitted CCC’s comments on the TFW program consultation to HRSDC and CIC. April 18/13 – meeting with Director of Policy, office of the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development. Aug. 23/13 – meeting with staff in the office of the Minister of Employment and Social Development Jason Kenney. Aug. 29/13 – Meeting with Director of Policy in the office of Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Chris Alexander. Sept. 4/13 – letter to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Chris Alexander, signed by 13 organizations including the Canadian Chamber, on the subject of changes to the intra-company transfer rules under the TFW program. Sept. 9/13 – Submitted CCC’s comments on the TFWP transition plan consultation. Jan. 13/14 – Meeting with Minister Kenney.</p>	<p>The government’s review of the <i>Temporary Foreign Worker Program</i> has recently expanded to include the LMO-exempt categories such as intra-company transfers.</p> <p>The Canadian Chamber will continue to meet with government officials to reiterate the recommendations in this resolution, in the context of a review of program policy and processing.</p>	<p>Budget 2013 confirms the government’s intention to create a new and innovative “Expression of Interest” immigration management system for permanent residency for skilled immigrants. Canadian employers, provinces and territories will select skilled immigrants from a pool of applicants that best meet Canada’s labour market needs.</p> <p>In Budget 2013, the government also commits to improving foreign credential recognition for additional target occupations under the <i>Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment of Recognition of Foreign Qualifications</i>.</p> <p>Budget 2013 also cites the government’s plans to reform the <i>Temporary Foreign Workers Program</i> to ensure that temporary foreign workers are relied upon only when Canadians genuinely cannot fill those jobs; to increase the recruitment efforts that employers must make to hire Canadians before they will be eligible to apply for temporary foreign workers, due to lack of qualified Canadian applicants, find ways to ensure that they have a plan to transition to a Canadian workforce over time; and to amend the <i>Immigration and Refugee</i></p>

			<p><i>Protection Regulations</i> to restrict the identification of non-official languages as job requirements when hiring through the <i>Temporary Foreign Worker</i> process.</p> <p>On April 29, 2013 the government announced the changes to the TFWP based on commitments in Budget 2013. Effective this date, the accelerated labour market opinion process was suspended.</p> <p>On July 31, 2013, a new user fee was introduced to apply to each application for a labour market opinion under the TFWP.</p> <p>In Budget 2014, the government proposes to invest \$11.0 million over two years and \$3.5 million per year ongoing in the labour market opinion process “by realigning the application streams to better identify vulnerable temporary foreign workers and improve processing times for certain applications; limiting the use of the program in high-unemployment regions; and ensuring that employers transition to a Canadian workforce through better prevention, detection and response to employer non-compliance.”</p>
Aboriginal Governance	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada John Duncan.</p>		<p>The 2013 federal budget announced \$9 million over two years to make the <i>First Nations Land Management Regime</i> available to an additional 33 First Nations to the regime (including the 8 announced earlier this year).</p>
Métis	<p>Dec. 11/12 – Included in letter sent to Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada John Duncan.</p> <p>April 12/13 – Meeting with the Métis Nation Council.</p> <p>April 22/13 – Letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper.</p> <p>Dec. 17/13 – Included in policy report: <i>Opportunity Found: Improving the participation of Aboriginal peoples in Canada’s workforce.</i></p>	<p>The workforce participation of aboriginal peoples is one of the priority areas in the skills and training file within the Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness in 2013.</p> <p>We will be producing a short paper before the end of 2013 that highlights best practices of businesses and Aboriginal peoples working together to improve their workforce participation success and make recommendations to the federal government.</p>	<p>The government is challenging a January 2013 Federal Court ruling that Métis and non-status Indians fall under federal responsibility.</p> <p>June 2015 – Minister of Aboriginal Affairs appoints Tom Isaac, as Special Representative to provide a framework for the federal government meeting its Section 35 (of the Constitution Act) within 3 months. CCC invited to meet with him to discuss 2013 letter to the Prime Minister, however, meeting is postponed until after the federal election.</p>

Reforming the Canadian Healthcare System	Dec. 11/12 - Included in letter sent to Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq.		
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TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT WARREN EVERSON (WEVERSON@CHAMBER.CA)

RESOLUTION	CCC ACTIONS TAKEN	PLANNED CCC ACTIONS	GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO DATE
<p>Addressing Canada’s Public Infrastructure Challenge</p>	<p>Dec 11, 2012 - Letter to Denis Lebel, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec Feb 27, 2013- Meeting with Deputy Minister of Transport Canada Louis Lévesque. Feb 27, 2013- Meeting with Robert Carberry, Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Cooperation Council Secretariat, PCO. Feb 27, 2013 - Meeting with Kevin O'Shea, Assistant Secretary, Border Implementation Team, PCO. January 2013- official launch of Public Infrastructure Sponsored project. December 2013- release of CCC White Paper on Public Infrastructure February 2014- Meeting with senior representatives from Infrastructure Canada.</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, relevant federal departments and other stakeholders to promote the findings of the Infrastructure White paper.</p>	<p>Budget 2013 allocated more than \$53 billion in investments, including over \$47 billion in new funding over 10 years starting in 2014-15.</p> <p><i>Building Canada Plan 2014</i> allocated \$14 billion to infrastructure investments over the next ten years.</p>
<p>Ensuring Competitiveness for Canada’s Marine Transportation Industry in the Great Lakes Region</p>	<p>Dec.11, 2012 - Letter to Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews. Dec. 11, 2012 Letter to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec Denis Lebel. Feb. 27, 2013 - Meeting with Louis Lesvesque, Deputy Minster Deputy Minister Transport Canada Feb. 27,2013 - Meeting with Kevin O'Shea, Assistant Secretary, Border Implementation Team, PCO. Mar. 29, 2013 - Letter to Transport Canada on new Ballast Water regulations in the great lakes. Feb. 2014- Meeting with Bob Carberry, Regulatory Cooperation Council</p>		

<p>Completion of an All-Weather North-South Trans Canada Highway</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Included in the policy paper <i>Developing the economic potential of Canada's territories</i> and in meeting with Minister of Health and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Leona Aglukkaq. Jan. 21/13 - Included in presentation to federal ADM Arctic Council presentation. Dec. 11/12- Letter to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec Denis Lebel Feb. 27/13 - Meeting with Deputy Minister Transport Canada Louis Lévesque.</p>		<p>March, 2013- the Canadian government commits to another \$50 million in support of the construction of an all-weather highway from Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk, raising their total commitment for the project to \$200 million.</p>
<p>Harmonize the CBSA Boater Reporting System with the U.Ss</p>	<p>Dec.11/12- Letter to the Minister of Public Safety Vic Toews. Dec 11/12 - Letter to Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec Denis Lebel. Feb 27/13- Meeting with Deputy Minister Transport Canada Louis Lévesque. Feb 27/13 - Meeting with Robert Carberry, Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Cooperation Council Secretariat, Privy Council Office Feb 27/13- Meeting with Kevin O'Shea, Assistant Secretary, Border Implementation Team PCO June 2013 -meetings in Washington D.C. with senior government officials Fall 2013, Meeting with David Moloney January 2014, Meeting with Minister Blaney Feb. 12, 2014 Meeting with Bob Carberry and Kevin O'Shea</p> <p>Regular meetings with U.S. Embassy staff in Ottawa.</p>		
<p>Fraser River Sustainability and Flood Management</p>	<p>Dec. 11/12 - Letter to Minister of International Affairs Ed Fast Dec 11/12- Letter to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec Denis Lebel Feb 27/13 - Meeting with Deputy Minister Transport Canada Louis Lévesque.</p>		