

## **OMNIBUS VOTE**

### **01. Clarifying the Impact Assessment Act**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Suspend the implementation of Bill C-69 until such time as it clarifies:
  - a. Industry's role in consulting in an Agency-led engagement process;
  - b. What Indigenous knowledge is, how it will be considered, and what weight it will be given in the assessment process; and
  - c. The meaning of "the intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors", providing a clear explanation of how these factors will be objectively and measurably evaluated alongside other criteria.
2. Ensure that mining projects currently in the assessment process can continue under the current assessment regime unless proponents indicate they would like to transition to the new regime.
3. Make assessment substitution the mandated default in the case of equivalent assessments across jurisdictions.
4. Require all ministerial interventions in environmental assessments to be accompanied by a clear, evidence-based explanation of the reason for the intervention.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER SUDBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THUNDER BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TIMMINS CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

**THE INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEES  
SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION**

## **OMNIBUS VOTE**

### **01. Clarifying the Impact Assessment Act**

**Motion 1:** Add the words “and energy” between “mining” and “projects” to Recommendation 2, to read: Ensure that mining and energy projects currently in the assessment process ...”

Proposed by Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Suspend the implementation of Bill C-69 until such time as it clarifies:
  - a. Industry's role in consulting in an Agency-led engagement process;
  - b. What Indigenous knowledge is, how it will be considered, and what weight it will be given in the assessment process; and
  - c. The meaning of “the intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors”, providing a clear explanation of how these factors will be objectively and measurably evaluated alongside other criteria.
2. Ensure that mining and energy projects currently in the assessment process can continue under the current assessment regime unless proponents indicate they would like to transition to the new regime.
3. Make assessment substitution the mandated default in the case of equivalent assessments across jurisdictions.
4. Require all ministerial interventions in environmental assessments to be accompanied by a clear, evidence-based explanation of the reason for the intervention.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER SUDBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THUNDER BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TIMMINS CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

**THE INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEES  
SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION**

## **02. Improving Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada's (IRCC) Regional Settlement Strategy**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Conduct a cost-benefit analysis of offering immigration services in rural and northern communities that faced IRCC closures. This analysis should include different options such as transferring in experienced staff to rural and northern communities to be able to take on this role, hiring IRCC service staff at existing government buildings to assist newcomers and international students or re-opening select or targeted offices based on the results of the research;
2. Ensure that there is a regional strategy to apply fairly the resources required to meet settlement needs for newcomers in all regions of the country;
3. Build on existing programs such as the Atlantic Immigration Pilot and examine their potential for increasing migration to smaller communities;
4. Take action to include a national vision and strategy aimed at increasing immigration to rural and northern communities across the country by 2021; and
5. Take action to develop a strategy to increase international student retention rates in rural and northern communities.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER SUDBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THUNDER BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

### **03. Support SMEs to Become Exporters**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government, along with Export Development Canada:

1. Work with chambers of commerce and stakeholders to develop free business-friendly guides that are easily accessible to SMEs, and include (but not limited to) such information as:
  - A basic introduction to exporting, including an outline of steps required to develop the capacity to export,
  - A very preliminary self-assessment guide,
  - An introduction to Canadian Trade Commission Services and Export Development Canada, and other useful resources: what they do, and at what level of readiness would be required before engaging,
  - An easy-to-understand introduction to the rules, regulations, trade agreements, compliance requirements, etc.,
  - Regional considerations of potential products (such as agricultural products) to export, and potential global markets that extend beyond the traditional North American market, and
  - Exporting services guide – intellectual property, trade agreements, etc.
2. Work with chambers of commerce and stakeholders to utilize their vast network to develop outreach and awareness strategies.

**SUBMITTED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

### 03. Support SMEs to Become Exporters

**Motion 1:** Replace “Work with chambers of commerce and stakeholders” with “Work with business organizations, such as chambers of commerce and other stakeholders,...” in Recommendation 1.

**Motion 2:** Replace “Work with chambers of commerce and stakeholders” with “Work with business organizations, such as chambers of commerce and other stakeholders,...” in Recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government, along with Export Development Canada:

3. Work with [business organizations, such as](#) chambers of commerce and [other](#) stakeholders to develop free business-friendly guides that are easily accessible to SMEs, and include (but not limited to) such information as:
  - A basic introduction to exporting, including an outline of steps required to develop the capacity to export,
  - A very preliminary self-assessment guide,
  - An introduction to Canadian Trade Commission Services and Export Development Canada, and other useful resources: what they do, and at what level of readiness would be required before engaging,
  - An easy-to-understand introduction to the rules, regulations, trade agreements, compliance requirements, etc.,
  - Regional considerations of potential products (such as agricultural products) to export, and potential global markets that extend beyond the traditional North American market, and
  - Exporting services guide – intellectual property, trade agreements, etc.
4. Work with [business organizations, such as](#) chambers of commerce and [other](#) stakeholders to utilize their vast network to develop outreach and awareness strategies.

**SUBMITTED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

## **04. Reform Statistics Canada for Effective and Independent Data-Gathering**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Make Statistics Canada an independent agency that is not subject to Ministerial direction.
2. Ensure that the governance of this independent agency includes representatives of the public sector, businesses, academia, non-profits, and other groups that depend upon or heavily utilize its products, to ensure that the agency conducts research that reflects their data needs.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER NIAGARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE INNOVATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION BUT EXPRESSED CONCERNS REGARDING THE COST OF THE PROPOSAL**

## 04. Reform Statistics Canada for Effective and Independent Data-Gathering

**Motion 1:** Add the following recommendations:

3. Develop an advisory council to provide continuous feedback and/or guidance to the NGO's governance.
4. Ensure FREE public access to statistical data tables is guaranteed and all data gathering activities are transparent and inline with best practice.

Proposed by the Surrey Board of Trade

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Make Statistics Canada an independent agency that is not subject to Ministerial direction.
2. Ensure that the governance of this independent agency includes representatives of the public sector, businesses, academia, non-profits, and other groups that depend upon or heavily utilize its products, to ensure that the agency conducts research that reflects their data needs.
3. Develop an advisory council to provide continuous feedback and/or guidance to the NGO's governance.
- 3-4. Ensure FREE public access to statistical data tables is guaranteed and all data gathering activities are transparent and inline with best practice.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER NIAGARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE INNOVATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION BUT EXPRESSED CONCERNS REGARDING THE COST OF THE PROPOSAL**

## **05. Protecting the National Economy by Managing the Lower Fraser River (2018)**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government work with the BC Government to:

1. Either independently and/or collectively establish a task force, agency or committee to examine the issues and create a mandate and a comprehensive plan that would include (but not be limited to) the following:
  - a. Broad stakeholder consultation
  - b. Flood protection
  - c. Navigation management
  - d. Seal level rise
  - e. Agriculture / industrial land protection and enhancement
  - f. Asia Pacific Gateway potential and the new CP-TPP markets
  
2. And that the established entity commences collective and cooperative action for the objectives outlined.

**SUBMITTED BY RICHMOND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE AND GREATER LANGLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

## 05. Protecting the National Economy by Managing the Lower Fraser River (2018)

**Motion 1:** Amend Recommendation 1.a) to read: "Broad stakeholder consultation, including Alberta and Saskatchewan regarding commodities shipment"

Proposed by Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** Remove Recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government work with the BC Government to:

3. Either independently and/or collectively establish a task force, agency or committee to examine the issues and create a mandate and a comprehensive plan that would include (but not be limited to) the following:
  - g. Broad stakeholder consultation, including Alberta and Saskatchewan commodities
  - h. Flood protection
  - i. Navigation management
  - j. Seal level rise
  - k. Agriculture / industrial land protection and enhancement
  - l. Asia Pacific Gateway potential and the new CP-TPP markets

~~4. And that the established entity commences collective and cooperative action for the objectives outlined.~~

**SUBMITTED BY RICHMOND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE AND GREATER LANGLEY CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

## **06. Strengthen Canada's Workforce Through Tax Indexing**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Add consistency to the Tax Act by applying indexing all exemptions, deductions and contribution limits

**SUBMITTED BY MEDICINE HAT & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY RED DEER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 06. Strengthen Canada's Workforce Through Tax Indexing

**Motion 1:** Insert the word "Income" before "Tax" in Recommendation 1.

**Motion 2:** Delete the word "applying" from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Add consistency to the Income Tax Act by ~~applying~~ indexing all exemptions, deductions and contribution limits

**SUBMITTED BY MEDICINE HAT & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY RED DEER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **07. A National Strategy to Address Mountain Pine Beetle**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Fully support the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) November 2017 document entitled "A Strategic Approach to Slow the Spread of Mountain Pine Beetle Across Canada" and all mitigation actions or recommendations outlined therein;
2. Reinstate the Federal Mountain Pine Beetle Program with funds equivalent in scale to the \$200M allocated during the 2007 – 2010 program period
  - o Funds from this program will
    - Support provinces that are already infested with Mountain Pine Beetle on community and regional safety programs, or initiatives, including additional funding for FireSmart program.
    - Provide resources for community and economic diversification and resiliency to communities affected by Mountain Pine Beetle.
    - Support mitigation efforts outlined in the CCFM document referenced in recommendation (1).

**SUBMITTED BY HINTON & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY ALBERTA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **08. Let The Provinces Decide on Transitioning to a Low-Carbon Economy**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Canada to:

1. Let the provinces decide on how best to approach a price on carbon and rather than the federal government imposing a one size fits all approach.
2. In Provinces and Territories where a carbon pricing mechanism has been established, encourage and support cost mitigation programs/policies for affected businesses.

**SUBMITTED BY WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY GREATER KITCHENER WATERLOO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, LONDON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER KINGSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

## 08. Let The Provinces Decide on Transitioning to a Low-Carbon Economy

**Motion 1:** Replace Recommendation #1 with the following: "Ensure that the federal government is more responsive and inclusive of the different approaches taken by provinces to transition to a low carbon economy."

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 2:** Remove Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 3:** Replace recommendation 2 with, "Require revenue neutrality in the collection and distribution of carbon taxes."

Proposed by the Kamloops Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Canada to:

1. ~~Ensure that the federal government is more responsive and inclusive of the different approaches taken by provinces to transition to a low carbon economy. Let the provinces decide on how best to approach a price on carbon and rather than the federal government imposing a one size fits all approach.~~
2. In Provinces and Territories where a carbon pricing mechanism has been established, encourage and support cost mitigation programs/policies for affected businesses.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Canada to:

1. ~~Let the provinces decide on how best to approach a price on carbon and rather than the federal government imposing a one size fits all approach.~~
- 2.1. In Provinces and Territories where a carbon pricing mechanism has been established, encourage and support cost mitigation programs/policies for affected businesses.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Canada to:

1. Let the provinces decide on how best to approach a price on carbon and rather than the federal government imposing a one size fits all approach.
2. Require revenue neutrality in the collection and distribution of carbon taxes.~~In Provinces and Territories where a carbon pricing mechanism has been~~

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~~established, encourage and support cost mitigation programs/policies for affected businesses.~~

**SUBMITTED BY WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY GREATER KITCHENER WATERLOO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, LONDON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER KINGSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

## **09. Realizing The Potential Of Aquaculture In Canada**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal government:

1. Through regional engagement, develop a federal aquaculture act, to establish national environmental standards and clarify industry responsibilities.
2. Ensure that Federal consultation with First Nations clarifies and is beneficial to resolving concerns and provides a framework that meets the needs of the industry for timely decisions;
3. Support efforts to build public confidence in aquaculture management and place a focus on science and solution; and
4. Create a truly modern federal management regime that is science based, agile, adaptable and focused on performance outcomes that ensure highest standards of sustainability and protection.

**SUBMITTED BY CAMPBELL RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 09. Realizing The Potential Of Aquaculture In Canada

**Motion 1:** add to the second element, at the end, "according to priorities established by the provinces."

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Proposed by the FCCQ

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal government:

1. Through regional engagement, develop a federal aquaculture act, to establish national environmental standards and clarify industry responsibilities.
2. Ensure that Federal consultation with First Nations clarifies and is beneficial to resolving concerns and provides a framework that meets the needs of the industry for timely decisions according to priorities established by the provinces.;
3. Support efforts to build public confidence in aquaculture management and place a focus on science and solution; and
4. Create a truly modern federal management regime that is science based, agile, adaptable and focused on performance outcomes that ensure highest standards of sustainability and protection.

**SUBMITTED BY CAMPBELL RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **10. Attracting And Retaining International Students Through Canadian Work Experience**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list, to qualify for the Canada Summer Jobs program.
2. Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list, to participate in voluntary co-op terms and internships without obtaining a separate work permit.
3. Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list, to count all time spent in Canada as an international student towards citizenship eligibility (i.e. increase from half time to full time).

**SUBMITTED BY FREDERICTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

## 10. Attracting And Retaining International Students Through Canadian Work Experience

**Motion 1:** Reformat all Recommendations for easier reading, as follows:

1. Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list to:

- a) qualify for the Canada Summer Jobs program
- b) participate in voluntary co-op terms and internships without obtaining a separate work permit
- c) count all time spent in Canada as an international student towards citizenship eligibility (i.e increase from half time to full time)

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

~~1.~~ Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list, to:

~~1.~~ ~~a.~~ qualify for the Canada Summer Jobs program

~~1.~~

~~b.~~ Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list, to participate in voluntary co-op terms and internships without obtaining a separate work permit

~~2.~~

~~3.~~ ~~c.~~ Allow international students attending either a public institution, or private institution in any province or territory, that is registered on the Designated Institution list, to count all time time spent in Canada as an international student towards citizenship eligibility (i.e. increase from half time to full time).

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**SUBMITTED BY FREDERICTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

## **11. Collections of Duty and Taxes at Canada/US Border**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Examine current policies and protocols to identify efficiencies or additional resource commitments that would enable the consistent collection of prescribed duties and taxes with no effect on the free flow of commercial traffic.
2. Research implementation of a self-reporting model (similar to Nexus) whereby the reporting onus will be placed on the individual, and Border Personnel will continue to be responsible for performing random checks.
3. Increase penalties and restrictions whereby non-compliant residents will incur penalties that are sufficiently onerous to deter abuse of the process and offset costs of enforcement, and where abusers of a self-reporting model would become ineligible.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER LANGLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **12. Accelerate the twinning of Highway 185**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. work with the Province of Quebec and to the extent necessary, the Atlantic provinces to accelerate the timeline for twinning Highway 185 from Saint-Antonin to Saint-Louis-du-Ha! Ha!

**SUBMITTED BY FREDERICTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER MONCTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SAINT JOHN REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

### **13. Abandoned Vessels: Improving Oversight And Accountability**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal government:

1. Designate Coast Guard as the agency responsible for directing the removal and recycling of abandoned vessels;
2. Improve vessel registration so that owners can be held accountable;
3. Fund a study of the Washington State model of fee collection for the costs of disposal of abandoned and wrecked vessels on the West Coast;
4. Create a pilot "turn-in" program for safe disposal and recycling of abandoned vessels; and
5. Work with the Provincial Government of British Columbia in the development of a West Coast wide strategy in cooperation with First Nations and local governments to build a comprehensive regulatory framework for addressing the financial and environmental risks of abandoned vessels.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER NANAIMO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY CAMPBELL RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, COMOX VALLEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SAANICH  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND LADYSMITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

### 13. Abandoned Vessels: Improving Oversight And Accountability

**Motion 1:** Remove the specificity to the West Coast by replacing "West Coast" with "West, East, and Northern Coasts" in Recommendation 3.

**Motion 2:** Remove the specificity to the West Coast by replacing "west Coast" With "West, East, and Northern Coasts" in Recommendation 5.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 3:** Replace "work with the government of BC in the development of a west coast strategy" with "work with provinces in the development of a strategy."

Proposed by the FCCQ

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal government:

1. Designate Coast Guard as the agency responsible for directing the removal and recycling of abandoned vessels;
2. Improve vessel registration so that owners can be held accountable;
3. Fund a study of the Washington State model of fee collection for the costs of disposal of abandoned and wrecked vessels on the West, East, and Northern Coasts;
4. Create a pilot "turn-in" program for safe disposal and recycling of abandoned vessels; and
5. Work with the provinces Provincial Government of British Columbia in the development of a West, East, and Northern Coasts wide strategy in cooperation with First Nations and local governments to build a comprehensive regulatory framework for addressing the financial and environmental risks of abandoned vessels.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER NANAIMO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY CAMPBELL RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, COMOX VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SAANICH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND LADYSMITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **14. Maximizing Value For Taxpayer Dollars on Public Infrastructure Projects And Defending The Rights Of Canadian Companies And Workers**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Institute a policy that all Federal dollars going toward public infrastructure projects must allow 'open tendering'.

**SUBMITTED BY: GREATER LANGLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 14. Maximizing Value For Taxpayer Dollars on Public Infrastructure Projects And Defending The Rights Of Canadian Companies And Workers

**Motion 1:** Insert recommendation #2: Have an unbiased third party audit contracts over a certain threshold to ensure transparency and value for money on government projects, and publicly report the results.

Proposed by the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** amend the wording after "Institute a policy" to "that it will not commit federal dollars toward public infrastructure projects unless such projects allowed for an "open tender" process" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government:

1. Institute a policy that ~~it will not commit all Federal-federal~~ dollars ~~going~~ toward public infrastructure projects ~~must allow~~ unless such projects ~~allowed for an "open tender" process~~ 'open tendering'.
2. ~~Have an unbiased third party audit contracts over a certain threshold to ensure transparency and value for money on government projects, and publicly report the results.~~

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**SUBMITTED BY: GREATER LANGLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

**15. ONE DIG: Increase economic activity by mandating that conduit be automatically included in all transportation and utility infrastructure activities**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Mandate that any infrastructure projects contain a conduit for the future use of broadband/fibre.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER BARRIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY PORT HOPE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **15. ONE DIG: Increase economic activity by mandating that conduit be automatically included in all transportation and utility infrastructure activities**

**Motion 1:** Insert the words “partially or fully funded federal government” between “any” and “infrastructure projects.”

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 2:** Add to the end of recommendation 1, “and that it is engineered and installed according to telecommunications fibre to the home standards.”

Proposed by Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Mandate that any [partially or fully funded federal government](#) infrastructure projects contain a conduit for the future use of broadband/fibre [and that it is engineered and installed according to telecommunications fibre to the home standards](#).

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER BARRIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY PORT HOPE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **16. CANADA-U.S. Border Pact: Pre-Clearance Agreement**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the federal government, working with the U.S. government:

1. formulates Pre-Clearance regulations through cross-border constituent review, input and concurrence, to ensure that appropriate safeguards, due process and dispute resolution options exist regarding any use of legal authority, such as expedited removal provisions, at inland ports of entry by the U.S. CBP.

**SUBMITTED BY THE BC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THE SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **17. Helping More Small Businesses Improve Their Energy Productivity and Efficiency**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Help small businesses overcome the barriers of increasing energy efficiency by ensuring more federal sustainability programs and incentives are dedicated to small businesses, and encourage small business uptake by addressing the issues of scale, complexity and up-front funding.

**SUBMITTED BY BURNABY BOARD OF TRADE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 17. Helping More Small Businesses Improve Their Energy Productivity and Efficiency

**Motion 1:** Amend the Recommendation so that it reads: "Help small businesses overcome the barriers of increasing energy efficiency by ensuring that future federal sustainability programs and incentives better allow for small business participation, and encourage small business uptake by addressing the issues of scale, complexity and up-front funding."

Proposed by Burnaby Board of Trade

**Motion 2:** Add a second recommendation: "Allow provinces where such programs and action plans already exist to op-out with full financial compensation".

Proposed by the FCCQ

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Help small businesses overcome the barriers of increasing energy efficiency by ensuring ~~more that future~~ federal sustainability programs and incentives ~~are dedicated to~~ better allow for small businesses participation, and encourage small business uptake by addressing the issues of scale, complexity and up-front funding.
- ~~2.~~ 2. Allow provinces, where such programs and action plans already exist, to op-out with full financial compensation.

**SUBMITTED BY BURNABY BOARD OF TRADE  
CO-SPONSORED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

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## **18. Supporting Canadian Students' Transition to Employment Through Work Placements**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. create flexible financial incentives accessible through a single point of entry, to support employers offering high-quality work-integrated learning placements.
  - a. Government should give special consideration to small and medium-sized businesses and to those who have not previously offered work placements, and ensure support is accessible in formats that match the needs of employers, across a broad range of sectors.
  - b. Examples of more accessible funding include (but are not limited to) refundable tax credits, employment insurance premium reductions, and more flexible grant programs. Other formats that meet the standards of accessibility and appropriateness for small and medium sized businesses can also be considered.
2. That government support programs adopt an expansive definition for "Work-Integrated Learning" in all funding mechanisms, to ensure that a diversity of high quality, paid work-integrated learning opportunities are supported and available.
  - a. Support should acknowledge the role of apprenticeship, co-op placements, applied research programs, and all other forms of WIL, and be accessible to employers regardless of the format used.

**SUBMITTED BY THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

## **19. Support biotech in agriculture**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Encourage increased science-based communication and education of Genetic Engineering in agriculture
2. Support Health Canada's stance that has declared GMO foods are safe for consumption.
3. Continue to support scholarly, peer-reviewed, and government research of Genetic Engineering in agriculture.

**SUBMITTED BY RED DEER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE IS GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE RESOLUTION BUT BELIEVES THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS COULD BE MORE CLEAR AND SPECIFIC IN RECOMMENDING DIRECT ACTION.**

## 19. Support biotech in agriculture

**Motion 1:** Replace Recommendation #3 with "Support R&D funding for agriculture to maintain Canada's leadership in innovation, the competitiveness of our agri-food industry, and our ability to feed the world."

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Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 2:** add the words "and social-science based" communication after the words "Encourage increased science" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Encourage increased science and social-science-based communication and education of Genetic Engineering in agriculture
2. Support Health Canada's stance that has declared GMO foods are safe for consumption.
3. Support R&D funding for agriculture to maintain Canada's leadership in innovation, the competitiveness of our agri-food industry, and our ability to feed the world~~Continue to support scholarly, peer reviewed, and government research of Genetic Engineering in agriculture.~~

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### SUBMITTED BY RED DEER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE IS GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE RESOLUTION BUT BELIEVES THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS COULD BE MORE CLEAR AND SPECIFIC IN RECOMMENDING DIRECT ACTION.**

## **20. GROWTH ENGINE Digital Media Industry**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Continue tax credits to enable emerging digital-based companies to set up and expand;
2. Support, through increased funding formulas, local educational institutions, pre- and post-secondary to create industry-recognized accreditation for digital media skills;
3. Expand training tax credits to include foreign productions;
4. Support program delivery through broadening intake numbers and tuition funding, to align with provincial programs including LMP/CJCG/PBLMT funding;
5. Endorse post-secondary temporary working permits for graduates of provincial digital media programs.

**SUBMITTED BY KELOWNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, KELOWNA, BC**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 20. GROWTH ENGINE Digital Media Industry

**Motion 1:** Add the words "by Canadian based companies" to the end of recommendation #3 after " foreign productions;"

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Continue tax credits to enable emerging digital-based companies to set up and expand;
2. Support, through increased funding formulas, local educational institutions, pre- and post-secondary to create industry-recognized accreditation for digital media skills;
3. Expand training tax credits to include foreign productions by Canadian based companies;
4. Support program delivery through broadening intake numbers and tuition funding, to align with provincial programs including LMP/CJCG/PBLMT funding;
5. Endorse post-secondary temporary working permits for graduates of provincial digital media programs.

**SUBMITTED BY KELOWNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, KELOWNA, BC**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **ENERGY**

### **21. The Importance to the Economy of Expanded Oil Pipeline Infrastructure**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Articulates a clear plan to remove the remaining obstacles to construction of the TMX project;
2. Limit its investment in the TMX project to the time needed to ensure its successful completion and restore the project to the private sector as soon as is practicable;
3. Re-asserts its constitutional authority over inter-provincial pipelines through a motion of legislation of Parliament;
4. Ensures any changes to our regulatory framework for resource development creates clear, certain and predictable process; and
5. engage Chambers and other organizations in project pipeline construction communities to maximize opportunities for local businesses during construction and operation of all major projects, including increased opportunities for further Indigenous participation.

**SUBMITTED BY THE BC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 21. The Importance to the Economy of Expanded Oil Pipeline Infrastructure

**Motion 1:** Add the following Recommendation between existing Recommendations 4 & 5:

"Ensure that the National Energy Board clearly understands the scope of work (assessment of mainland and marine impact) and carries out a thorough and transparent review of the project; and"

Proposed by Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** Delete recommendation 3

**Motion 3:** Change the beginning of recommendation 5 to "Ensure that the project proponent engages Chambers..."

Proposed by the FCCQ

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government:

1. Articulates a clear plan to remove the remaining obstacles to construction of the TMX project;
2. Limit its investment in the TMX project to the time needed to ensure its successful completion and restore the project to the private sector as soon as is practicable;
- ~~3. Re-asserts its constitutional authority over inter-provincial pipelines through a motion of legislation of Parliament;~~
3. Ensures any changes to our regulatory framework for resource development creates clear, certain and predictable process; and
4. Ensure that the National Energy Board clearly understands the scope of work (assessment of mainland and marine impact) and carries out a thorough and transparent review of the project; and
5. Ensure that the project proponent engages Chambers and other organizations in project pipeline construction communities to maximize opportunities for local businesses during construction and operation of all major projects, including increased opportunities for further Indigenous participation.

**SUBMITTED BY THE BC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **22. Clean Technology & The Renewable, Sustainable Energy Sector In Canada**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

To ensure that Canada is able to move quickly to establish ourselves as a global leader, we should look to best practices globally to identify programs that encourage the production, sale and purchase of renewable energy and green products. Canada has a unique opportunity. Canada has an undeniable advantage to be at the vanguard of addressing the challenges raised by today's industrial and environmental issues. This will require consultation and a focused effort by government to play a leadership role in partnership with the private sector.

These technologies are in demand worldwide and will be a catalyst in driving a diverse 21st century economy in Canada. Jurisdictions around the world are looking to lead. Without a coordinated plan we will quickly see Canada overtaken and left behind in the new global economy, missing huge economic opportunities.

We recommend that the federal government:

1. Develop and implement a plan to advance Canada's contribution to select aspects of a new global economy, the conservation and efficiency industry, clean energy and clean technology sector; and
2. Implement industrial, commercial and residential green programs, based on cost-effective market implementation to support, attract and retain clean technology and renewable, sustainable energy technologies in Canada; and
3. Continue to work with the business community, provinces/territories, and international institutions and governments to further develop emerging clean technologies and to work toward a common target for emissions reductions.

**SUBMITTED BY SECHLT & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY GREATER LANGLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND GREATER WESTSIDE BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION - THERE IS INSUFFICIENT EXPLANATION OF THE BARRIERS TO OVERCOME, AND THE RESOLUTION DOES NOT ADDRESS THE ACTUAL ISSUE FACING BUSINESS**

## **23. Supporting A Globally Competitive Lng Industry In Canada**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Ensures that proposed LNG projects can be reviewed and approved in a timeframe that competes with other jurisdictions; and
2. Examine Canada's fiscal structure for LNG projects in comparison to other LNG jurisdictions to ensure that Canadian LNG is competitive in the global market; and
3. Provide certainty that the large, complex pre-fabricated LNG modules required by projects and not manufactured anywhere in Canada will not be subject to anti-dumping tariffs; and
4. Realign the Canadian LNG CCA regime to ensure greater parity other Canadian manufacturing and processing industries and to be competitive with the U.S. CCA regime; and
5. Provide a context of certainty and stability of process including respect for past approval decisions, clarification of First Nations rights and appropriate enforcement to prevent obstructions by opposing parties.

**SUBMITTED BY TERRACE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY DAWSON CREEK AND DISTRICT, KITIMAT AND FORT ST. JAMES  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD**

### **25. Canadian Food Inspection Agency limits export opportunities for Canadian Business**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Complete a thorough and substantive review of the testing procedures for consistency of methodology and to make sure the methodology is based on science.
2. Instruct CFIA to limit its enforcement policies to products sold in Canada for Canadian consumption and not apply Canadian Standards for products that are marked for export.
3. Treat all chemicals listed in the proposal consistently, as components of total feed, in accordance with Section 19(j) and (k) or the Regulations for the Feed Act.
4. Immediately provide for a challenge procedure so that new or unique products can be shown to be safe for the use intended.
5. Strictly limit the use of "incorporation by reference" to cases such as adding a new product to the allowed list of products for use in livestock feeds
6. Allow all exports of products to countries where the product meets the import regulations and keep exports from being regulated by CFIA.

**SUBMITTED BY KAMLOOPS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

**COMMENT FROM INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE RESOLUTION. THE CONSENSUS AT THE COMMITTEE WAS TO NOT TAKE A POSITION. THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION COULD SET PRECEDENTS FOR OTHER SECTORS, BEYOND THE ONE FOCUSED ON IN THIS RESOLUTION. AS A RESULT, IT WOULD BE A GOOD DEBATE TO HAVE ON THE FLOOR OF THE AGM.**

## **26. Ensuring front-of-package labelling regulations for food products do not affect Canadian business competitiveness**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Choose a labeling model that properly informs Canadian consumers while providing information that is more balanced and pertinent (such as nutritional values) than the logos proposed by Health Canada that are simplistic and misleading

If the government goes forward with the proposed regulations by Health Canada, it should:

2. Request reciprocal regulations for foreign suppliers, so they do not create a competitive advantage for imported products.

3. Extend the transition period to help firms adapt to the new regulations.

**SUBMITTED BY LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE SAGUENAY-LE FJORD  
CO-SPONSORED BY LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE DE SHERBROOKE ET LA  
FCCQ**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE IS SUPPORTIVE OF A RESOLUTION ON FOP LABELLING, BUT BELIEVES THAT RECOMMENDATION 1 COULD BE INTERPRETED AS SOMETHING MORE ONEROUS FOR INDUSTRY THAN WHAT IS CURRENTLY BEING PROPOSED BY HEALTH CANADA AND THAT RECOMMENDATION 2 IS A PROBLEMATIC RESPONSE TO THE ISSUE.**

## 26. Ensuring front-of-package labelling regulations for food products do not affect Canadian business competitiveness

**Motion 1:** Delete the sentence that begins with "If the government goes forward...", replace it with "If the federal government adopts a new front-of-package labelling regime" and move it in front of recommendation 1

Proposed by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

~~That the federal government~~If the federal government adopts a new front-of-package labelling regime:

1. Choose a labeling model that properly informs Canadian consumers while providing information that is more balanced and pertinent (such as nutritional values) than the logos proposed by Health Canada that are simplistic and misleading

~~If the government goes forward with the proposed regulations by Health Canada, it should:~~

2. Request reciprocal regulations for foreign suppliers, so they do not create a competitive advantage for imported products.
3. Extend the transition period to help firms adapt to the new regulations.

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SUBMITTED BY LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE SAGUENAY-LE FJORD  
CO-SPONSORED BY LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE DE SHERBROOKE ET LA FCCQ

THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE IS SUPPORTIVE OF A RESOLUTION ON FOP LABELLING, BUT BELIEVES THAT RECOMMENDATION 1 COULD BE INTERPRETED AS SOMETHING MORE ONEROUS FOR INDUSTRY THAN WHAT IS CURRENTLY BEING PROPOSED BY HEALTH CANADA AND THAT RECOMMENDATION 2 IS A PROBLEMATIC RESPONSE TO THE ISSUE.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES AND SKILLS**

### **27. Open Canada Job Grant Eligibility to Small Business Owners**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Allow small business owners access to Canada Job Grant subsidies for their own training needs
2. Continue offering the Canada Job Grant after the initial 6-year program has ended in 2020
3. Increase funding to the Canada Job Grant relative to the increased demand from small business owners accessing the program.

**SUBMITTED BY PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

**THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 27. Open Canada Job Grant Eligibility to Small Business Owners

**Motion 1:** In Recommendation 1, add the words "and family members employed by the business" between "owners" and "access", to read: Allow small business owners and family members employed by the business access to Canada Job Grant Subsidies for their own training needs".

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Proposed by Stony Plain & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Allow small business owners and family members employed by the business access to Canada Job Grant subsidies for their own training needs
2. Continue offering the Canada Job Grant after the initial 6-year program has ended in 2020
3. Increase funding to the Canada Job Grant relative to the increased demand from small business owners accessing the program.

**SUBMITTED BY PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

**THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **28. Increasing Immigrant Workforce Participation through Employment-focused Language Training**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Introduce and support the use of employment-focused language training to better enable immigrant workers to access the labour market as early as possible, and
2. Work with Industry and Business organizations to increase the use of new and innovative ways to deliver language training in the workplace.

**SUBMITTED BY ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THE SURREY AND BRAMPTON BOARDS OF TRADE**

**THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION  
THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **28. Increasing Immigrant Workforce Participation through Employment-focused Language Training**

**Motion 1:** Remove the words "Introduce and" from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Brampton Board of Trade

**Motion 2:** Remove the words "Introduce and" from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. ~~Introduce and~~ Support the use of employment-focused language training to better enable immigrant workers to access the labour market as early as possible, and
2. Work with Industry and Business organizations to increase the use of new and innovative ways to deliver language training in the workplace.

**SUBMITTED BY ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THE SURREY AND BRAMPTON BOARDS OF TRADE**

**THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION  
THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **29. Addressing labour needs through immigration policy**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. introduce a 5-year pilot permanent residency category for low-skilled positions with labour shortages to permit international workers who reside in communities with populations of less than one million and have at least two years (3,120 hours) of related work experience to qualify for permanent residence.

**SUBMITTED BY THUNDER BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY GREATER SUDBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, HAMILTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH BAY & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SAULT STE MARIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

### **30. Creating Private, Public (Municipal, Federal & Provincial/Territorial) and Indigenous Partnerships to Address the Skills Gap**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Launch a Special (Regional) Pilot Project with Indigenous peoples with a focus to:
  - o Facilitate a consultative process that will be co-created with private and public sector employers, representative business associations and Indigenous peoples in understanding the barriers to employment, and scope out viable solutions to skills shortage gap that aligns itself to Canada's fastest growing population (i.e., Indigenous peoples);
  - o Identify the skills gap and skills shortage respecting Indigenous peoples while highlighting training needs emerging from new technology, experiential learning and understanding cultural practices;
  - o Foster an employment training curriculum with cultural sensitivity training and construct new knowledge on the customs, practices and traditions of Indigenous peoples;
  - o Prepare a high level supply and demand needs assessment with public and private businesses that affect and impact Indigenous trades and apprenticeships;
  - o Develop a strategic implementation plan, which includes relevant partners that involve the trades to address, recruit and fill anticipated skill shortages while respecting other needs and processes; and
  - o Conduct a needs assessment and develop required solutions to ensure cultural sensitivity training is provided to and by SMEs.
2. Identify, with provincial/territorial and municipal governments, economic development agencies, private and public sector employers, regional infrastructure barriers that negate Indigenous workforce participation, such as lack of transportation from remote communities to places of work.
3. Develop a financial support mechanism through the Gas Tax that will allow for regional Private, Public (e.g. Municipal Government) and Indigenous Partnerships (PIPs) to develop solutions to Indigenous workforce participation.
4. Commit to a National Accord with private and public sector employers and Indigenous peoples that commits all parties to improve and address the skills gap leading to the improvement of socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples and Canada.

**SUBMITTED BY SAULT STE. MARIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

### 30. Creating Private, Public (Municipal, Federal & Provincial/Territorial) and Indigenous Partnerships to Address the Skills Gap

**Motion 1:** Remove bullets 3-5 in Recommendation 1.

**Motion 2:** Remove the words "through the Gas Tax" from Recommendation 3 to read: "Develop a financial support mechanism that will allow for..."

**Motion 3:** Delete Recommendation 4 in its entirety.

Proposed by Stony Plain & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 4:** Add "in collaboration" before the words "with provincial/territorial and municipal governments" in Recommendation 2.

**Motion 5:** Change the word "remote" to "reserve" in Recommendation 2.

**Motion 6:** Remove reference to "gas tax" from Recommendation 3.

**Motion 7:** Delete Recommendation 4.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Launch a Special (Regional) Pilot Project with Indigenous peoples with a focus to:
  - o Facilitate a consultative process that will be co-created with private and public sector employers, representative business associations and Indigenous peoples in understanding the barriers to employment, and scope out viable solutions to skills shortage gap that aligns itself to Canada's fastest growing population (i.e., Indigenous peoples);
  - o Identify the skills gap and skills shortage respecting Indigenous peoples while highlighting training needs emerging from new technology, experiential learning and understanding cultural practices;
  - o Foster an employment training curriculum with cultural sensitivity training and construct new knowledge on the customs, practices and traditions of Indigenous peoples;
  - ~~o Prepare a high level supply and demand needs assessment with public and private businesses that affect and impact Indigenous trades and apprenticeships;~~

- ~~o Develop a strategic implementation plan, which includes relevant partners that involve the trades to address, recruit and fill anticipated skill shortages while respecting other needs and processes; and~~
  - ~~o Conduct a needs assessment and develop required solutions to ensure cultural sensitivity training is provided to and by SMEs.~~
- 2. Identify, in collaboration with provincial/territorial and municipal governments, economic development agencies, private and public sector employers, regional infrastructure barriers that negate Indigenous workforce participation, such as lack of transportation from remote-reserve communities to places of work.
- 3. Develop a financial support mechanism through the Gas Tax that will allow for regional Private, Public (e.g. Municipal Government) and Indigenous Partnerships (PIPs) to develop solutions to Indigenous workforce participation.
- ~~4. Commit to a National Accord with private and public sector employers and Indigenous peoples that commits all parties to improve and address the skills gap leading to the improvement of socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples and Canada.~~

**SUBMITTED BY SAULT STE. MARIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

## 31. Improving the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Ensure that any further changes to the TFWP reflect economy needs on a regional and sectoral basis.
2. Modernize LMIA applications and feedback by:
  - a. Increasing the use of online applications with streamlined forms.
  - b. Instituting an appeal process for denied LMIA applications.
  - c. Giving clearly detailed explanations to applicants when LMIA applications are denied.
  - d. Removing restrictions for full-time employment on the LMIA application.
  - e. Setting a maximum processing time for all LMIA applications.
  - f. Notifying employers of any changes to processes or information utilized in the calculation and submission of their initial LMIA application
3. Create a temporary foreign worker (TFW) labour pool where semi-skilled or skilled TFWs who have been terminated without cause can register with an open work permit, creating a 'pool' from which other qualified industry specific employers from across Canada can recruit.
4. Revise program standards according to business labour needs, particularly for the use of TFW in a single facility, which should be capped at 20 percent for all employers.
5. Implement Recommendations from the September 2016 HUMA TFW Report by:
  - a. Reviewing the LMIA process to increase speed and efficiency.
  - b. Implementing a "Trusted Employer Program" to reduce application processing times.
  - c. Permitting contract modifications for TFWs if both parties consent, to alter agreed-upon wages or change duties.
  - d. Exempting high-wage TFWs from the Transition Plan requirement.
  - e. Reviewing pathways to permanent residency for any TFW fulfilling a permanent labour market need.
6. Adopt measures to meet chronic and local labour shortages by:
  - a. Exempting companies engaged in workforce development from the obligation to provide transition plans for trades and professions experiencing chronic shortages;
  - b. Expand the use of Global Skills Strategy categories for occupation-specific work permits for TFWs that are excluded from the requirement to apply for an LMIA.

- c. Review National Occupation Classification (NOC) Code processes in all provinces, and establish flexible, responsive practices that incorporate rural, urban and regional labour market needs.
  - d. Amend the advertising criteria for LMIA's to allow companies from the same sector to jointly advertise rather than as individual organizations.
  - e. Permit the application process for low wage temporary foreign worker positions in regions where there is full employment (i.e. less than 6% unemployment) located in large economic regions as defined by Statistics Canada and used in the Temporary Foreign Worker Program
7. Include industry representatives in TFW Working Groups prescribed in the Annex Agreements.

**SUBMITTED BY LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE ET D'INDUSTRIE DE SHERBROOKE  
THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION AS AMENDED**

## **32. Lifelong Learning**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the federal government:

As part of the Future Skills initiative, fully recognize the skills, experience and expertise of existing partnerships in the provinces in order to develop and implement workforce training programs such as the CPMT in Quebec.

2. Implement a Voluntary Continuing Education Savings Plan (VCESP) in order to expand Canadian labour participation in work-related training.

**SUBMITTED BY LA FÉDÉRATION DES CHAMBRES DE COMMERCE DU QUÉBEC**

**THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 32. Lifelong Learning

**Motion 1:** Delete the words "such as the CPMT in Quebec" from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by Stony Plain & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the federal government:

As part of the Future Skills initiative, fully recognize the skills, experience and expertise of existing partnerships in the provinces in order to develop and implement workforce training programs ~~such as the CPMT in Quebec.~~

2. Implement a Voluntary Continuing Education Savings Plan (VCESP) in order to expand Canadian labour participation in work-related training.

**SUBMITTED BY LA FÉDÉRATION DES CHAMBRES DE COMMERCE DU QUÉBEC**

**THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **33. Supporting Canada's International Airports**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce recommends that the federal government, along with their provincial and municipal partners seize the opportunity to develop greater transit connectivity between Canada's cities and their international airports that enable local, regional and national economies to better compete in this globally competitive market. This should be done by supporting regional planning efforts, feasibility studies and continued dedicated funding for transit connectivity.

**SUBMITTED BY MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **34. National Trade Corridors Fund**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Allocate more non-transit funding from the long-term federal infrastructure plan to the National Trade Corridors Fund to help meet the demand for trade-enabling infrastructure projects in Canada.
2. Maximize the value of investments through the National Trade Corridors Fund by prioritizing projects that incent transportation infrastructure innovation, have high levels of stakeholder alignment and that can help improve the capacity of existing infrastructure.

**SUBMITTED BY THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **35. Supporting Canada's Growth and Access to Markets by Developing a Northern Infrastructure Corridor**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government, along with provincial, territorial, municipal and Indigenous governments:

1. Support further research into the proposed northern infrastructure corridor.
2. Establish an integrated, national Transportation/Utility Corridor network plan with the aim to enable efficient market access for goods and services from all provinces and territories to any Canadian coast.
3. Coordinate and secure the appropriate right-of-ways to enable an integrated, national TUC network, consistent with the principles and objectives outlined by the Northern Corridors Initiative.
4. Ensure that the process for moving forward requires thorough consultations in good faith with Indigenous communities, landowners, municipalities and businesses.

**SUBMITTED BY EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **INNOVATION**

### **36. Advance Canada's Bioeconomy**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Work in partnership with all relevant government departments, non-governmental agencies and private sector partners to develop a national bioeconomy framework that builds on existing models.
2. Take the lead in working with the provinces, territories, non-governmental agencies and private sector partners to develop a national bioeconomy strategy.
3. Continue to fund successful business accelerators and venture capitalists that support bioindustrial companies and projects.

**SUBMITTED BY SARNIA LAMBTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE INNOVATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 36. Advance Canada's Bioeconomy

**Motion 1:** Add "provinces and territories" to Recommendation 1.

**Motion 2:** Replace Recommendation 2 with the following: "Continue to fund successful business accelerators and venture capitalists that support bioindustrial companies and projects."

Proposed by Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 3:** Add "provinces and territories" after the words "governmental agencies" in Recommendation 1.

**Motion 4:** Remove Recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 5:** Replace the word "fund" with the word "incentivize" in Recommendation 3.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Work in partnership with all relevant government departments, non-governmental agencies, provinces and territories and private sector partners to develop a national bioeconomy framework that builds on existing models.
2. Continue to fund successful business accelerators and venture capitalists that support bioindustrial companies and projects.~~Take the lead in working with the provinces, territories, non-governmental agencies and private sector partners to develop a national bioeconomy strategy.~~
3. Continue to fund successful business accelerators and venture capitalists that support bioindustrial companies and projects.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Work in partnership with all relevant government departments, non-governmental agencies and private sector partners to develop a national bioeconomy framework that builds on existing models.
- ~~2. Take the lead in working with the provinces, territories, non-governmental agencies and private sector partners to develop a national bioeconomy strategy.~~
- 3-2. Continue to fund-incentivize successful business accelerators and venture capitalists that support bioindustrial companies and projects.

**SUBMITTED BY SARNIA LAMBTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
THE INNOVATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **38. Unsticking Our International Border Crossings - An Economic and Environmental Turning Point**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal and Provincial/Territorial Governments work jointly to address this growing concern by:

1. Undertaking a thorough study to determine peak flows of commercial and vehicular traffic with the goal of matching customs and immigration personnel to meet that demand.
2. Determining through both provincial/territorial and federal trade offices the anticipated impact of increased trade/exports at our border crossings resulting from a re-negotiated NAFTA deal as well as new opportunities coming out of CETA/TPP and other international trade deals.
3. Commissioning both provincial/territorial and federal environment ministries to undertake studies to accurately determine the impact that border crossing delays have in GHG emissions with the resultant impact and costs to our health care infrastructure and budgets.
4. Strategically designing advanced pre-clearance facilities 30-60 minutes away from border crossing entry points that would, through current and new technologies, allow for the pre-clearance of commercial vehicles equipped with tamper-proof transponders thus enabling quicker, pass-through processing at international border points and relieving pent up pressures and bottlenecks that we experience far too frequently.

**SUBMITTED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY WINDSOR, SARNIA-LAMBTON, SAULT STE. MARIE, GREATER NIAGARA,  
PETERBOROUGH**

**THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 38. Unsticking Our International Border Crossings - An Economic and Environmental Turning Point

**Motion 1:** Delete Recommendation 3.

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** Replace the phrase "30-60 minutes" with "at appropriate distances" so that Recommendation 4 reads: "Strategically designing advanced pre-clearance facilities at appropriate distances away from border..."

Proposed by Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 3:** Delete Recommendation 3.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal and Provincial/Territorial Governments work jointly to address this growing concern by:

1. Undertaking a thorough study to determine peak flows of commercial and vehicular traffic with the goal of matching customs and immigration personnel to meet that demand.
2. Determining through both provincial/territorial and federal trade offices the anticipated impact of increased trade/exports at our border crossings resulting from a re-negotiated NAFTA deal as well as new opportunities coming out of CETA/TPP and other international trade deals.
- ~~3. Commissioning both provincial/territorial and federal environment ministries to undertake studies to accurately determine the impact that border crossing delays have in GHG emissions with the resultant impact and costs to our health care infrastructure and budgets.~~
- ~~4.~~<sup>3.</sup> Strategically designing advanced pre-clearance facilities ~~30-60 minutes~~<sup>at appropriate distances</sup> away from border crossing entry points that would, through current and new technologies, allow for the pre-clearance of commercial vehicles equipped with tamper-proof transponders thus enabling quicker, pass-through processing at international border points and relieving pent up pressures and bottlenecks that we experience far too frequently.

**SUBMITTED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY WINDSOR, SARNIA-LAMBTON, SAULT STE. MARIE, GREATER NIAGARA,  
PETERBOROUGH**

**THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **OTHER**

### **39. Stress Test Policy**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Direct OFSI to reduce the 200 basis point stress test and move to one that is independent of major banks' post rates to one that is based on forwarding rates or the market forecasts.
2. Modify the stress test to different market divisions, or modify it to different term lengths.

E.g. Mortgages with 10-year fixed terms could be approved with their financial institution contract rates without the addition of the 200 point addition.

**SUBMITTED BY THE SHERWOOD PARK & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION -- THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT THE RATIONALE FOR THE NEW MORTGAGE RULES AND 200 BASIS POINT STRESS TEST IS SOUND ECONOMIC POLICY**

### 39. Stress Test Policy

**Motion 1:** Replace recommendation 1 with, "Default Insured - Direct OFSI to ensure the stress test applied to default insured mortgages is one based on a qualifying rate set and controlled by the bank of Canada. The qualifying rate needs to be established utilizing criteria designed to account for real time market conditions, regional/community risk assessments and allow for regional adjustments as unique community risks arise."

**Motion 2:** Replace recommendation 2 with, "Uninsured - direct OFSI to ensure the stress test applied to uninsured mortgages is one based on a review of practical criteria directly correlated to an application's Loan To Value and borrower's ability to service the debt, rather than an arbitrary 200 basis point increase to the mortgagor's proposed interest rate. The qualifying rate also needs to be established utilizing criteria designed to account for real time market conditions, regional/community risk assessments and allow for regional adjustments as unique community risks arise."

Proposed by the Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. ~~Default Insured - Direct OFSI to ensure the stress test applied to default insured mortgages is one based on a qualifying rate set and controlled by the bank of Canada. The qualifying rate needs to be established utilizing criteria designed to account for real time market conditions, regional/community risk assessments and allow for regional adjustments as unique community risks arise." Direct OFSI to reduce the 200 basis point stress test and move to one that is independent of major banks' post rates to one that is based on forwarding rates or the market forecasts.~~
2. ~~Uninsured - direct OFSI to ensure the stress test applied to uninsured mortgages is one based on a review of practical criteria directly correlated to an application's Loan To Value and borrower's ability to service the debt, rather than an arbitrary 200 basis point increase to the mortgagor's proposed interest rate. The qualifying rate also needs to be established utilizing criteria designed to account for real time market conditions, regional/community risk assessments and allow for regional adjustments as unique community risks arise." Modify the stress test to different market divisions, or modify it to different term lengths.  
  
E.g. Mortgages with 10-year fixed terms could be approved with their financial institution contract rates without the addition of the 200 point addition.~~

SUBMITTED BY THE SHERWOOD PARK & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION -- THE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THAT THE RATIONALE FOR THE NEW MORTGAGE RULES AND 200 BASIS POINT STRESS TEST IS SOUND ECONOMIC POLICY**

## **40. Considering the Layered Costs of Government Policies**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. fully consult businesses on policy changes, and work with provincial governments to undertake a "layered cost assessment" as part of the policy development process.
2. stop any further employer-paid increases to Federal employment premiums such as CPP and EI. Look for other ways to decrease labour costs so that minimum-wage businesses can remain competitive.
3. In the face of U.S. tax reform, help Canadian businesses grow by adopting a more competitive corporate tax rate regime.
4. Encourage the growth of businesses looking to expand within Canada by working with the provinces to harmonize regulatory barriers to interprovincial trade.

**SUBMITTED BY CALGARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY ALBERTA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, EDMONTON CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE, SAINT JOHN REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION  
THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 40. Considering the Layered Costs of Government Policies

**Motion 1:** Delete Recommendations 2, 3 & 4.

**Motion 2:** Clarify “layered cost assessment” phrasing in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 3:** Amend Recommendation 2 to read as follows: “Stop any further employer-paid increases to Federal employment premiums such as CPP and EI.; look for other ways to decrease labour costs so that minimum-wage businesses can remain competitive; and set a federal ceiling on minimum wage costs so that jurisdictions across Canada can be equitable and competitive;”

**Motion 4:** Amend Recommendation 3 to read as follows: “In the face of U.S. tax reform, establish a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review of taxing statutes guided by the principles of simplification and modernization, as well as having the goal of reducing compliance costs to make Canada a competitive tax regime once again.”

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 5:** At the beginning of recommendation 2, insert, “Reduce layered costs on businesses by stopping any...” and make recommendations 2, 3 and 4 sub points a, b and c.

Proposed by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. fully consult businesses on policy changes, and work with provincial governments to undertake a “layered cost assessment” as part of the policy development process.
- ~~2. stop any further employer paid increases to Federal employment premiums such as CPP and EI. Look for other ways to decrease labour costs so that minimum wage businesses can remain competitive.~~
- ~~3. In the face of U.S. tax reform, help Canadian businesses grow by adopting a more competitive corporate tax rate regime.~~
- ~~4. Encourage the growth of businesses looking to expand within Canada by working with the provinces to harmonize regulatory barriers to interprovincial trade.~~

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. fully consult businesses on policy changes, and work with provincial governments to undertake a "layered cost assessment" as part of the policy development process.
2. Stop any further employer-paid increases to Federal employment premiums such as CPP and EI; ~~Look~~ look for other ways to decrease labour costs so that minimum-wage businesses can remain competitive; and set a federal ceiling on minimum wages costs so that jurisdictions across Canada can be equitable and competitive.
3. In the face of U.S. tax reform, establish a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review of taxing statutes guided by the principles of simplification and modernization, as well as having the goal of reducing compliance costs to make Canada a competitive tax regime once again, help Canadian businesses grow by adopting a more competitive corporate tax rate regime.
4. Encourage the growth of businesses looking to expand within Canada by working with the provinces to harmonize regulatory barriers to interprovincial trade.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. fully consult businesses on policy changes, and work with provincial governments to undertake a "layered cost assessment" as part of the policy development process.
  - 2-a. Reduce layered costs on business by stopping any further employer-paid increases to Federal employment premiums such as CPP and EI. Look for other ways to decrease labour costs so that minimum-wage businesses can remain competitive.
  - 3-b. In the face of U.S. tax reform, help Canadian businesses grow by adopting a more competitive corporate tax rate regime.
  - 4-c. Encourage the growth of businesses looking to expand within Canada by working with the provinces to harmonize regulatory barriers to interprovincial trade.

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**SUBMITTED BY CALGARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY ALBERTA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE, EDMONTON CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE, SAINT JOHN REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION  
THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **41. Carefully Analyze the Impacts of Proposed Amendments to the Patented Medicines Regulations**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Carry out a more extensive consultation with all major stakeholders as well as a rigorous cost-benefit analysis in order to carefully evaluate the impacts of such a revision on Canada's health systems, economy, patients and life sciences ecosystem.

**SUBMITTED BY LA FÉDÉRATION DES CHAMBRES DE COMMERCE DU QUÉBEC**

**THE INNOVATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **41. Carefully Analyze the Impacts of Proposed Amendments to the Patented Medicines Regulations**

**Motion 1:** Add the words “and make the results public” after “rigorous cost-benefit analysis” in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Carry out a more extensive consultation with all major stakeholders as well as a rigorous cost-benefit analysis and make the results public in order to carefully evaluate the impacts of such a revision on Canada's health systems, economy, patients and life sciences ecosystem.

**SUBMITTED BY LA FÉDÉRATION DES CHAMBRES DE COMMERCE DU QUÉBEC**

**THE INNOVATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **REGULATORY AND INTERNAL TRADE**

### **42. Addressing Barriers to Interprovincial Trade**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Work with the provincial and territorial governments on the mutual recognition of regulations, rules and policies to allow for the free movement of labour, goods, and services in Canada and the reduction of exceptions as currently established within the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.
2. Conduct a full review of the CFTA with a view to further eliminating barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility, ensuring that the agreement:
  - Covers all sectors of the economy and includes all government entities including ministries, crown corporations and regional and local governments, without exception;
  - Institutes a dispute resolution mechanism for persons that includes access to a panel with binding and enforceable powers, including the ability to impose higher financial penalties that are more appropriately reflective of the stakes inherent in interprovincial trade;
  - Include a specific focus on the removal of barriers to inter-provincial trade in wine, beer and spirits; and
  - Ensures that the agreement includes the elimination of non-tariff trade barriers to encourage competition and ensure a level playing field for signatories and their respective businesses.

**SUBMITTED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, KELOWNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 42. Addressing Barriers to Interprovincial Trade

**Motion 1:** Delete the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet from Recommendation 2.

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** Replace the words "in wine, beer, and spirits" with the words "that contribute the most to GDP" in bullet 3 of Recommendation 2.

**Motion 3:** Insert recommendation #3: Accelerate the pace of CFTA negotiations.

Proposed by the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Work with the provincial and territorial governments on the mutual recognition of regulations, rules and policies to allow for the free movement of labour, goods, and services in Canada and the reduction of exceptions as currently established within the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.
2. Conduct a full review of the CFTA with a view to further eliminating barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility, ensuring that the agreement:
  - Covers all sectors of the economy and includes all government entities including ministries, crown corporations and regional and local governments, without exception;
  - Institutes a dispute resolution mechanism for persons that includes access to a panel with binding and enforceable powers, including the ability to impose higher financial penalties that are more appropriately reflective of the stakes inherent in interprovincial trade;
  - ~~Include a specific focus on the removal of barriers to inter-provincial trade in wine, beer and spirits; and~~
  - Ensures that the agreement includes the elimination of non-tariff trade barriers to encourage competition and ensure a level playing field for signatories and their respective businesses.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Work with the provincial and territorial governments on the mutual recognition of regulations, rules and policies to allow for the free movement of labour, goods, and services in Canada and the reduction of exceptions as currently established within the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.
2. Conduct a full review of the CFTA with a view to further eliminating barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility, ensuring that the agreement:
  - Covers all sectors of the economy and includes all government entities including ministries, crown corporations and regional and local governments, without exception;
  - Institutes a dispute resolution mechanism for persons that includes access to a panel with binding and enforceable powers, including the ability to impose higher financial penalties that are more appropriately reflective of the stakes inherent in interprovincial trade;
  - Include a specific focus on the removal of barriers to inter-provincial trade [in wine, beer and spirits that contribute the most to GDP](#); and
  - Ensures that the agreement includes the elimination of non-tariff trade barriers to encourage competition and ensure a level playing field for signatories and their respective businesses.
3. [Accelerate the pace of CFTA negotiations.](#)

**SUBMITTED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, KELOWNA CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

### **43. Funding Transparency for Special Interest Groups**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Require intervenors in public consultations (including environmental impact assessments and National Energy Board hearings) as part of their applications to publicly declare the sources of their foreign and domestic funding for amounts greater than \$2,000.
2. Require all charities registered in Canada to make their complete donation records available to the public.

**SUBMITTED BY ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY SASKATCHEWAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION**

### **43. Funding Transparency for Special Interest Groups**

**Motion 1:** Add "registered charities, and intervenors for special projects..." after "public consultations" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Require intervenors in public consultations, registered charities, and intervenors for special projects (including environmental impact assessments and National Energy Board hearings) as part of their applications to publicly declare the sources of their foreign and domestic funding for amounts greater than \$2,000.
2. Require all charities registered in Canada to make their complete donation records available to the public.

**SUBMITTED BY ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY SASKATCHEWAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION**

## **44. Cannabis Legalization: Patient Rights and Level Playing Field for Business**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Advance the introduction of the full range of cannabis derivative products to the earliest possible time.

**SUBMITTED BY ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

#### **44. Cannabis Legalization: Patient Rights and Level Playing Field for Business**

**Motion 1:** add to recommendation 1: [...] after consultation has duly taken place with stakeholders and the industry.

**Motion 2:** Add a recommendation 2, "Uses a portion of revenues generated by marijuana sales to fund the development and implementation of effective detection tests;

Proposed by the on FCCQ

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Advance the introduction of the full range of cannabis derivative products to the earliest possible time after consultation has duly taken place with stakeholders and the industry.
- ~~2.~~ Uses a portion of revenues generated by marijuana sales to fund the development and implementation of effective detection tests.

**SUBMITTED BY ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESS**

### **45. Helping SMEs Prepare for International Success**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. help prepare SMEs for success internationally by making access to international regulatory expertise available through Canadian officials and vetted in-country consultants. The most business-friendly means of providing this information would be a digital platform that builds on the tools from ISED and BDC that enables searching by country, region/state/province, vertical and sector.

**SUBMITTED BY THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SME POLICY COMMITTEE**

## 45. Helping SMEs Prepare for International Success

**Motion 1:** amend Recommendation 1 to simply read as follows: "Provide an integrated digital platform that builds on the tools from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, the Business Development Bank of Canada, TFO Canada and Export Development Canada that also expands on search functionality to include search customization including not only country, but region/state/province, vertical and sector".

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Provide an integrated digital platform that builds on the tools from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, the Business Development Bank of Canada, TFO Canada and Export Development Canada that also expands on search functionality to include search customization including not only country, but region/state/province, vertical and sector. help prepare SMEs for success internationally by making access to international regulatory expertise available through Canadian officials and vetted in-country consultants. The most business friendly means of providing this information would a digital platform that build on the tools from ISED and BDC that enables searching by country, region/state/province, vertical and sector.

**SUBMITTED BY THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SME POLICY COMMITTEE**

## **46. Changing the Canada Anti-Spam Legislation to Help Small Business**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the federal government:

1. amend the Canada Anti-spam Legislation to permit an initial email contact to a prospective business client with the option to indicate that no further communication is desired by the recipient after the initial contact.

**SUBMITTED BY MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **SOCIAL POLICY**

### **47. Making Canada Truly Accessible and Inclusive**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Adopt the RHF Accessibility Certification program to operate as a complement to the accessibility requirements of the National Building Code guideline B-651-12.
2. Conduct a baseline rating of all buildings they manage directly or have jurisdiction over (e.g. Crown corporations) with an aim to certifying as many as possible.
3. Work in partnership with the provincial, territorial, municipal and indigenous governments as well as the private sector to support the national scale-up of the RHF Accessibility Certification program.

**SUBMITTED BY MILTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 47. Making Canada Truly Accessible and Inclusive

**Motion 1:** Add the word "voluntary" between the words "a" and "complement" in Recommendation 1 to read: "...Certification program to operate as a voluntary complement..."

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** Replace the word "adopt" with the phrase "Examine adopting" in Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 3:** Add in a 4th recommendation to state:

4. Notwithstanding the recommendations above, give reasonable consideration to preservation of our historic resources and potential costs and challenges associated with bringing older buildings to compliance, implementing a grandfathering clause to buildings over a certain age (i.e. 100 years +).

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Examine ~~Adopt~~ adopting the RHF Accessibility Certification program to operate as a voluntary complement to the accessibility requirements of the National Building Code guideline B-651-12.
2. Conduct a baseline rating of all buildings they manage directly or have jurisdiction over (e.g. Crown corporations) with an aim to certifying as many as possible.
3. Work in partnership with the provincial, territorial, municipal and indigenous governments as well as the private sector to support the national scale-up of the RHF Accessibility Certification program.
4. Notwithstanding the recommendations above, give reasonable consideration to preservation of our historic resources and potential costs and challenges associated with bringing older buildings to compliance, implementing a grandfathering clause to buildings over a certain age (i.e. 100 years +).

**SUBMITTED BY MILTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **48. Reforming the Canada Health Act to Achieve System Efficiencies**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government in partnership with all provinces and territories:

1. Review and revise the Canada Health Act (CHA) for explicitly allowing provinces to implement reforms including private sector delivery as an option for generating cost efficiencies and more effective service models.

**SUBMITTED BY THE GREATER KITCHENER WATERLOO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THE ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 48. Reforming the Canada Health Act to Achieve System Efficiencies

**Motion 1:** Add words to Recommendation 1 to read: "...more effective service models, while protecting the universality of health care for all and evaluating options for implementation through best practice models world-wide".

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government in partnership with all provinces and territories:

1. Review and revise the Canada Health Act (CHA) for explicitly allowing provinces to implement reforms including private sector delivery as an option for generating cost efficiencies and more effective service models, while protecting the universality of health care for all and evaluating options for implementation through best practice models world-wide.

**SUBMITTED BY THE GREATER KITCHENER WATERLOO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY THE ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **49. Addressing Entrepreneur & Employee Mental Health**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Develop a national strategy on mental health using the model of the veterans PTSD "Centre of Excellence", applying the model to mental health in business more broadly. These centers should examine the impacts to business through dedicated research, prevention and treatment of mental illnesses supported by academia, government, health professionals and private business by:
  - a. Advancing research efforts with small business to identify the factors that contribute to mental health challenges;
  - b. Developing strategies to support wellbeing in the workplace, especially for independent entrepreneurs; and
  - c. Funding research chairs to contribute to a national strategy through focused and collaborative research.
2. Collaborate with all levels of government, government departments and other organizations, to stimulate awareness and increase supports for entrepreneur mental health, such as the development of programs to educate and identify mental health issues within the workplace, as well as raising awareness of treatment or support options to improve outcomes.
3. Ensure federal health-care funding investments earmarked for mental health initiatives include provincial or territorial goals to deliver measurable outcomes for residents with the greatest impact possible, reducing wait times and "red tape" improving access to timely professional support for those in immediate need.
4. Examine the existing Employment Insurance system to ensure it meets the mental health needs of entrepreneurs and workers in new forms of work arrangements.

**SUBMITTED BY THE TRURO & COLCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY CO-SPONSORED BY THE PICTOU COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
THE ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE STRAIT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
AND THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION  
THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 49. Addressing Entrepreneur & Employee Mental Health

**Motion 1:** Replace all of the recommendations with the following:

1. Develop a national strategy to address mental health in partnership with provinces and territories that includes consideration for mental health challenges for business owners and entrepreneurs
2. Support a national research project and encourage provincial health agencies to provide data on mental health outcomes of individual programs
3. Provide sufficient funding for provincial/territorial plans to address mental health challenges
4. Clarify that mental illness qualifies employment insurance applicants for funding under the illness category.

Proposed by the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 2:** to remove the phrase "in new forms of work arrangements;" from Recommendation 4.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 3:** replace recommendation 3 with "Allocate relevant existing funding envelopes to provincial/territorial plans to address mental health challenges."

Proposed by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce

**Motion 4:** Replace recommendation 1 with the following: "Develop a national strategy to address mental health in partnership with provinces and territories that includes consideration for mental health challenges for business owners and entrepreneurs."

**Motion 5:** Replace recommendation 2 with the following: "Support a national research project and encourage provincial health agencies to provide data on mental health outcomes of individual programs."

**Motion 6:** Replace recommendation 3 with the following: "Ensure that government benefits/compensation programs for individuals with mental health issues does not disproportionately place the cost burden on employers."

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Develop a national strategy to address mental health in partnership with provinces and territories that includes consideration for mental health challenges for business owners and entrepreneurs
2. Support a national research project and encourage provincial health agencies to provide data on mental health outcomes of individual programs
3. Provide sufficient funding for provincial/territorial plans to address mental health challenges
4. Clarify that mental illness qualifies employment insurance applicants for funding under the illness category.

1.

1. ~~Develop a national strategy on mental health using the model of the veterans PTSD "Centre of Excellence", applying the model to mental health in business more broadly. These centers should examine the impacts to business through dedicated research, prevention and treatment of mental illnesses supported by academia, government, health professionals and private business by:
  - a. ~~Advancing research efforts with small business to identify the factors that contribute to mental health challenges;~~
  - b. ~~Developing strategies to support wellbeing in the workplace, especially for independent entrepreneurs; and~~
  - c. ~~Funding research chairs to contribute to a national strategy through focused and collaborative research.~~~~
2. ~~Collaborate with all levels of government, government departments and other organizations, to stimulate awareness and increase supports for entrepreneur mental health, such as the development of programs to educate and identify mental health issues within the workplace, as well as raising awareness of treatment or support options to improve outcomes.~~
3. ~~Ensure federal health care funding investments earmarked for mental health initiatives include provincial or territorial goals to deliver measurable outcomes for residents with the greatest impact possible, reducing wait times and "red tape" improving access to timely professional support for those in immediate need.~~
4. ~~Examine the existing Employment Insurance system to ensure it meets the mental health needs of entrepreneurs and workers in new forms of work arrangements.~~

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Develop a national strategy on mental health using the model of the veterans PTSD "Centre of Excellence", applying the model to mental health in business more broadly. These centers should examine the impacts to business through dedicated research, prevention and treatment of mental illnesses supported by academia, government, health professionals and private business by:
  - a. Advancing research efforts with small business to identify the factors that contribute to mental health challenges;
  - b. Developing strategies to support wellbeing in the workplace, especially for independent entrepreneurs; and
  - c. Funding research chairs to contribute to a national strategy through focused and collaborative research.
2. Collaborate with all levels of government, government departments and other organizations, to stimulate awareness and increase supports for entrepreneur mental health, such as the development of programs to educate and identify mental health issues within the workplace, as well as raising awareness of treatment or support options to improve outcomes.
3. ~~Allocate relevant existing funding envelopes to provincial/territorial plans to address mental health challenges. Ensure federal health care funding investments earmarked for mental health initiatives include provincial or territorial goals to deliver measurable outcomes for residents with the greatest impact possible, reducing wait times and "red tape" improving access to timely professional support for those in immediate need.~~
4. Examine the existing Employment Insurance system to ensure it meets the mental health needs of entrepreneurs and workers ~~in new forms of work arrangements.~~

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. ~~Develop a national strategy to address mental health in partnership with provinces and territories that includes consideration for mental health challenges for business owners and entrepreneurs. Develop a national strategy on mental health using the model of the veterans PTSD "Centre of Excellence", applying the model to mental health in business more broadly. These centers should examine the impacts to business through dedicated research, prevention and treatment of mental illnesses supported by academia, government, health professionals and private business by:~~

- a. ~~Advancing research efforts with small business to identify the factors that contribute to mental health challenges;~~
  - b. ~~Developing strategies to support wellbeing in the workplace, especially for independent entrepreneurs; and~~
  - c. ~~Funding research chairs to contribute to a national strategy through focused and collaborative research.~~
2. Support a national research project and encourage provincial health agencies to provide data on mental health outcomes of individual programs. Collaborate with all levels of government, government departments and other organizations, to stimulate awareness and increase supports for entrepreneur mental health, such as the development of programs to educate and identify mental health issues within the workplace, as well as raising awareness of treatment or support options to improve outcomes.
  3. Ensure that government benefits/compensation programs for individuals with mental health issues does not disproportionately place the cost burden on employers."
  3. ~~Ensure federal health care funding investments earmarked for mental health initiatives include provincial or territorial goals to deliver measurable outcomes for residents with the greatest impact possible, reducing wait times and "red tape" improving access to timely professional support for those in immediate need.~~
  4. Examine the existing Employment Insurance system to ensure it meets the mental health needs of entrepreneurs and workers in new forms of work arrangements.

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**SUBMITTED BY THE TRURO & COLCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY CO-SPONSORED BY THE PICTOU COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
THE ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE STRAIT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
AND THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION  
THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **50. Ensuring a National Pharmacare Plan is Effective And Sustainable**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

If a federal pharmacare plan is to be introduced, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Canada to:

1. Focus on a 'gaps approach' to pharmacare, in which the public and private sectors collaborate to ensure that no Canadian lacks access to the medicines they need. Leverage the existing public-private coverage system to provide for patient choice, harness the efficiency of private sector administration, and ensure the fiscal sustainability of a pharmacare plan.
2. Consult with private sector stakeholders (such as pharmaceutical companies, benefits providers, and health care practitioners) when designing and implementing a national pharmacare program to prevent unintended consequences, i.e. loss of access to medicines.
3. Use a national pharmacare approach to support local innovation and R&D across the country, particularly clinical trials, to ensure Canadians continued to have access to a high quality of care.
4. Collaborate with the Provinces and Territories to ensure the plan is effective across diverse health care systems, delivers equitable access for all Canadians who require it, and is implemented independent of cost-cutting legislation.

**SUBMITTED BY MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 50. Ensuring a National Pharmacare Plan is Effective And Sustainable

**Motion 1:** In recommendation 1 add "timely, equitable" between "equitable" and "access" and add "new innovative medicines" so that recommendation 1 reads "no Canadian lacks equitable, timely access to the new innovative medicines they need."

**Motion 2:** In recommendation 2 add "and engage" after "Consult"

**Motion 3:** In recommendation 3 add "and in such a way that supports Canada as an attractive environment for investment in the life sciences sector" to the end of the resolution.

**Motion 4:** In recommendation 4 add "and in a manner that respects provinces/territories jurisdiction and autonomy as it relates to healthcare." to the end of the resolution.

Proposed by the FCCQ

### RECOMMENDATIONS

If a federal pharmacare plan is to be introduced, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Canada to:

1. Focus on a 'gaps approach' to pharmacare, in which the public and private sectors collaborate to ensure that no Canadian lacks timely, equitable access to the new innovative medicines they need. Leverage the existing public-private coverage system to provide for patient choice, harness the efficiency of private sector administration, and ensure the fiscal sustainability of a pharmacare plan.
2. Consult and engage with private sector stakeholders (such as pharmaceutical companies, benefits providers, and health care practitioners) when designing and implementing a national pharmacare program to prevent unintended consequences, i.e. loss of access to medicines.
3. Use a national pharmacare approach to support local innovation and R&D across the country, particularly clinical trials, to ensure Canadians continued to have access to a high quality of care and in such a way that supports Canada as an attractive environment for investment in the life sciences sector.
4. Collaborate with the Provinces and Territories to ensure the plan is effective across diverse health care systems, delivers equitable access for all Canadians who require it, and is implemented independent of cost-cutting legislation and in a manner that respects provinces/territories jurisdiction and autonomy as it relates to healthcare.

**SUBMITTED BY MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SPECIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **51. Grays Bay Road and Port Project**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. support the social and economic strengthening of Canada and its territorial communities by funding the Grays Bay Road and Port Project by:
  - a. Supporting the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's 2018 funding proposal to Transport Canada's National Trade Corridor Fund, which will be focused on securing up to 75% of the total \$25.95 million, i.e., \$19.46 million, required to make the project 'shovel ready'; and
  - b. Recognizing the national importance of the project and providing federal support for the remaining \$529 million in capital costs. Sources could include the Canada Infrastructure Bank, existing infrastructure programs or one-time contributions.

**SUBMITTED BY TERRITORIAL POLICY COMMITTEE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY YELLOWKNIFE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 51. Grays Bay Road and Port Project

**Motion 1:** replace bullet 1 with the following: "Providing sufficient funding to ensure the project is 'shovel ready,' and;"

Proposed by the Territorial Policy Committee

**Motion 2:** Remove Recommendation #1.a

**Motion 3:** Incorporate the text of recommendation 1.b into the main recommendation.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government:

1. support the social and economic strengthening of Canada and its territorial communities by funding the Grays Bay Road and Port Project by:
  - a. ~~Providing sufficient funding to ensure the project is 'shovel ready,' and; Supporting the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's 2018 funding proposal to Transport Canada's National Trade Corridor Fund, which will be focused on securing up to 75% of the total \$25.95 million, i.e., \$19.46 million, required to make the project 'shovel ready'; and~~
  - b. Recognizing the national importance of the project and providing federal support for the remaining \$529 million in capital costs. Sources could include the Canada Infrastructure Bank, existing infrastructure programs or one-time contributions.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government:

1. support the social and economic strengthening of Canada and its territorial communities by funding the Grays Bay Road and Port Project by recognizing the national importance of the project and providing federal support for the remaining \$529 million in capital costs. Sources could include the Canada Infrastructure Bank, existing infrastructure programs or one-time contributions.
- ~~+~~ ~~÷~~
  - a. ~~Supporting the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's 2018 funding proposal to Transport Canada's National Trade Corridor Fund, which will be focused on securing up to 75% of the total \$25.95 million, i.e., \$19.46 million, required to make the project 'shovel ready'; and~~
  - b. ~~Recognizing the national importance of the project and providing federal support for the remaining \$529 million in capital costs. Sources could include the Canada Infrastructure Bank, existing infrastructure programs or one-time contributions.~~

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**SUBMITTED BY TERRITORIAL POLICY COMMITTEE  
CO-SPONSORED BY YELLOWKNIFE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **52. Protect Vital Trade Infrastructure on the Isthmus of Chignecto**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Move quickly to complete the risk assessment of trade and transportation infrastructure located in the Isthmus of Chignecto;
2. Ensure that the Class 1 railway company is consulted in the process of evaluating and recommending minimum necessary flood protection standards, and is part of any funding arrangement;
3. Commit to reliable timelines to implement improvements in both public and private sector flood protection infrastructure.

**SUBMITTED BY ATLANTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY TRURO & COLCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AMHERST AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER MONCTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **53. Air Travellers Security Screening and Customs Service Standards**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. take immediate steps to make Canadian airports and carriers the services of choice for Canadian and international travellers by funding government services at airports, CATSA and CBSA, to achieve an internationally globally competitive standard that sees 95% of travellers screened and processed within 10 minutes with no traveller waiting more than 20 minutes.

**SUBMITTED BY BRAMPTON BOARD OF TRADE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE, EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **54. Air Crew-Duty Hours: Ensuring the availability of safe, affordable and accessible air travel**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. delay implementation of the regulatory changes to air crew duty hours until:
  - a. Meaningful consultation is held between Transport Canada and industry to assess the impact the proposed changes on short-haul and regional air service providers;
  - b. The government is able to conduct an analysis of the impact of these changes on rural and northern communities; and,
  - c. Air service providers have had sufficient time to develop and implement policies and procedures to address regulatory changes.

**SUBMITTED BY THUNDER BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY FREDERICTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GREATER SUDBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH BAY & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SAULT STE MARIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 55. Canada's Rail Service

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government work to:

1. Implement a consultation requirement prior to Notification of Service Changes. This would include:
  - a. Strengthening sections 140 to 146 of the Act to require railways to ensure and demonstrate community input into railway actions resulting in service disruptions, reductions, closures or abandonments.
  - b. Requiring railways to seek regulatory approval before making decisions to reduce or cut service to communities and provide affected parties with the ability to provide information as interveners.
2. Implement an enhanced dispute resolution process through the Canada Transportation Agency to provide leadership with a voluntary mediation service for railways and shippers to resolve disputes before those disputes become formal complaints.
3. Implement transparent performance reporting requirements.

### SUBMITTED BY FORT NELSON & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**THE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION AS IT BELIEVES THAT MARKET FORCES, AS OUTLINED IN THE CANADA TRANSPORTATION ACT SHOULD GUIDE THE DEVELOPMENT OF CANADA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND SHOULD BE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF CANADA'S RAIL SYSTEM. THE CANADA TRANSPORTATION ACT, CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION AGENCY AND C-49 ALSO ALREADY HAVE CLEARLY DEFINED PROCESSES AND SERVICES TO ADDRESS MANY OF THE ISSUES IN THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

## **FINANCE**

### **56. Protect Canadians with a Taxpayer Charter of Rights**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. develop and enact legislation that would see the establishment of a Taxpayer Charter in place of the current Taxpayer Bill of Rights. This change affects both the Income Tax Act and the Excise Tax Act.

**SUBMITTED BY WHITBY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY AJAX PICKERING BOARD OF TRADE; BROCK BOARD OF TRADE;  
OSHAWA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

**THE HR COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION.**

## 57. Federal Fiscal Policy – Ensuring Fiscal Balance in Canada

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

#### Fiscal Responsibility

1. Achieve and maintain a debt-to-GDP ratio below 30% with financial contributions to debt reduction as necessary to sustain that position.
2. Establish a long-term plan to achieve a balanced budget by limiting operational expenditure growth. Maintain this policy until Canadian economic performance is generating sustained government revenues sufficient to support increased spending with overall rates of taxation and fee collection at levels similar to the existing regime.
3. Negotiate government labour agreements due for renewal with a target of no operational cost increase.
4. Undertake a thorough review of all government spending programs to identify programs that are redundant. Apply more rigour to new and existing program reviews across all ministries and departments to ensure clear mandates are in place, performance metrics are regularly reviewed, and their outcomes are measured against the cost of the programs to provide maximum return on investment.
5. Implement a cash-pooling arrangement within and among all departments and ministries whereby any annual budget surpluses (or unspent money) could be allocated by the Finance Minister to either pay down debt or re-allocate to other departmental/ministerial projects instead of borrowing to finance them. Encourage departments to avoid unnecessary spending by offering incentives when expenses come under budget, while not withholding funding in subsequent periods when additional spending may be required.

#### Investment Attraction

6. Accept all recommendations of the December 2017 Report of the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance, particularly "That the Government of Canada undertake an independent comprehensive review of Canada's tax system with the goal of reducing complexity, ensuring economic competitiveness, and enhancing overall fairness."
7. Reduce Canada's heavy reliance on income and profit taxes, while increasing consumption-based taxes, such as the GST/HST.
8. Monitor tax changes and other investment attraction tools being undertaken in the United States, ensuring that Canada remains a strong competitor in global trade.

**SUBMITTED BY THE EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; ST. JOHN'S BOARD OF TRADE  
THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **TAX POLICY**

### **58. Reforming Canada's Tax System**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Immediately appoint an independent, non-partisan commission or committee of tax policy experts to conduct an accelerated, comprehensive review of Canada's tax system to produce recommendations for reforms with the following aims:
  - a. Promoting fairness and reasonable integration between the personal and corporate tax systems.
  - b. Simplify and streamline the tax system to promote efficiency and ease of compliance for all individual and business taxpayers.
  - c. Promote Canada's competitiveness in the global market and reward risk-takers, growth and innovation.
2. Adjust the tax mix (across the entire tax spectrum of business taxation, personal taxation, VAT, digital taxation, and property taxes) to encourage the attraction and retention of the investments, businesses, people, and skills needed to compete in today's global economy;
3. Allow businesses to fully expense the cost of new machinery and equipment in one year to support productivity, investment, and innovation;
4. Reduce the administrative burden of the Canadian tax system.

**SUBMITTED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY OAKVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; GREATER KITCHENER-  
WATERLOO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; NEWMARKET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE;  
VAUGHAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 58. Reforming Canada's Tax System

**Motion 1:** amend the text of Recommendation 1 before the bullets to state:

"Immediately establish a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the taxing statutes guides by the principles of simplification and modernization, as well as having the goal of:"

**Motion 2:** And add a fifth recommendation to state "Establish a standing committee with active representation from the SME community to support the Royal commission by continuously monitoring changes and publicly reporting progress at least annually"

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Immediately establish a royal commission to undertake a comprehensive review of the taxing statutes guides by the principles of simplification and modernization, as well as having the goal of: ~~appoint an independent, non-partisan commission or committee of tax policy experts to conduct an accelerated, comprehensive review of Canada's tax system to produce recommendations for reforms with the following aims:~~
  - a. Promoting fairness and reasonable integration between the personal and corporate tax systems.
  - b. Simplify and streamline the tax system to promote efficiency and ease of compliance for all individual and business taxpayers.
  - c. Promote Canada's competitiveness in the global market and reward risk-takers, growth and innovation.
2. Adjust the tax mix (across the entire tax spectrum of business taxation, personal taxation, VAT, digital taxation, and property taxes) to encourage the attraction and retention of the investments, businesses, people, and skills needed to compete in today's global economy;
3. Allow businesses to fully expense the cost of new machinery and equipment in one year to support productivity, investment, and innovation;
4. Reduce the administrative burden of the Canadian tax system.
5. Establish a standing committee with active representation from the SME community to support the Royal commission by continuously monitoring changes and publicly reporting progress at least annually.

**SUBMITTED BY LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CO-SPONSORED BY OAKVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; GREATER KITCHENER-  
WATERLOO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; NEWMARKET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE;  
VAUGHAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **59. Canada Revenue Agency Audit Requests Costly for Business**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government direct the Canada Revenue Agency to:

1. Provide evidence that the strategy to substantially increase small business audit requests is necessary to be balanced with the cost to businesses and the Canadian economy to comply;
2. Only send out business audit requests where there is clear evidence of an error;
3. Instead of asking for evidence of compliance years after a return is filed, determine what evidence is required from businesses well in advance to ensure compliance and provide an effective and efficient manner to submit requested documents with the tax return; and,
4. Live up to the spirit and intent of the Taxpayers Bill of Rights to minimize costs of compliance

### **SUBMITTED BY THE SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION BUT RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE COMBINED WITH OTHERS ADDRESSING TAX POLICY (I.E., FAIR TAX PROCESS FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND CANADA REVENUE AGENCY IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS). THE TAXATION COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION BECAUSE LOCAL CHAMBERS DECLINED TO COMBINE A NUMBER OF SIMILAR PROVISIONS IN AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION**

## **60. Fair Tax Process for Small Business**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. review the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA's) internal policies for small business so that there is assistance for small business to resolve conflicts with the CRA.

### **SUBMITTED BY BURLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION AND SUGGESTED IT BE COMBINED WITH OTHERS ADDRESSING TAX POLICY (I.E., CRA AUDIT REQUESTS COSTLY FOR BUSINESS AND CANADA REVENUE AGENCY IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS).**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION BECAUSE LOCAL CHAMBERS DECLINED TO COMBINE A NUMBER OF SIMILAR PROVISIONS IN AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION**

## **61. Removing HST Charges On Top of Provincial and Municipal Taxes and Charges**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Remove the HST charges on all taxes imposed by provincial, territorial or municipal governments in Canada.

**SUBMITTED BY MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **62. Preventing Disputed HST Collection Efforts**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Amend the Excise Tax Act to preclude collection efforts during the dispute process with possible limited exceptions.

**SUBMITTED BY AJAX-PICKERING BOARD OF TRADE  
CO-SPONSORED BY MARKHAM BOARD OF TRADE, MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE,  
WHITBY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND WINDSOR-ESSEX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 62. Preventing Disputed HST Collection Efforts

**Motion 1:** Amend Recommendation 1 with to read: Amend the Excise Tax Act to preclude collection efforts during the dispute process."

Proposed by Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade

**Motion 2:** Remove the words "with possible limited exceptions" from Recommendation 1, to read: "Amend the Excise Tax Act to preclude collection efforts during the dispute process"

Proposed by Stony Plains & District Chamber of Commerce

**Motion 3:** Remove the phrase "possible limited exceptions" from Recommendation 1.

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Amend the Excise Tax Act to preclude collection efforts during the dispute process, ~~with possible limited exceptions.~~

**SUBMITTED BY AJAX-PICKERING BOARD OF TRADE  
CO-SPONSORED BY MARKHAM BOARD OF TRADE, MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE,  
WHITBY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND WINDSOR-ESSEX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 63. Canada Revenue Agency Impact On Small Business

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the federal government:

1. Instill flexibilities into Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) systems to allow frontline staff to manage communications amongst CRA streams on behalf of small business owners, and take initiative to resolve small businesses' issues in a timely fashion, maintaining a client-oriented, customer-service approach.
2. Assign a case officer, with the appropriate training, to small business files to make compliance faster, cheaper, and simpler.
3. Instruct the CRA to correct and respond regarding CRA errors within 30 days of notification by the taxpayer or taxpayer's representative.
4. Hold the CRA accountable for its actions and decisions by implementing open government practices, and by correcting and corresponding regarding CRA errors within 30 days of notification by the taxpayer or taxpayer's representative.

### SUBMITTED BY RED DEER & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**THE SME COMMITTEE SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION AND SUGGESTED IT BE COMBINED WITH OTHERS ADDRESSING TAX POLICY (I.E., CRA AUDIT REQUESTS COSTLY FOR BUSINESS AND FAIR TAX PROCESS FOR SMALL BUSINESS)**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION BECAUSE LOCAL CHAMBERS DECLINED TO COMBINE A NUMBER OF SIMILAR PROVISIONS IN AN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION.**

## **64. Excluding Real Estate From Passive Asset Taxation in Private Corporations**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. remove net rental income from passive income, making it subject to normal corporate taxation rates for business income
2. Until this change happens, specifically exclude net rental income from investment income subject to the thresholds that grind a private corporation's access to the small business tax rate.
3. If it is necessary to include net rental income as part of the passive investment income subject to the new proposed thresholds, then:
  - a. Significantly increase thresholds to reflect economic reality and debt servicing requirements;
  - b. Provide exclusions for investments that provide access to affordable residential housing or subsidized employee housing;
  - c. Provide exclusions for commercial real estate that is connected to or attached to an operating business, or subject to a business succession plan; and
  - d. Provide more appropriate criteria around what is active vs. passive as the "deemed as active" rules are not able to (nor intended to) identify real estate ownership situations and changes in circumstances that should qualify as active

**SUBMITTED BY WHISTLER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **65. Bridging the Digital Tax Divide to Ensure a Fair and Equitable Fiscal Environment for All Businesses**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the federal government:

1. Examine how to apply VAT evenly and predictably across provinces and sectors in a digital world, including an assessment of potential revenue from foreign digital companies.
2. Require foreign digital companies to charge an appropriate provincial VAT (e.g. GST/HST) on sales related to the purchase of their services in Canada and remit the revenues from these taxes to the proper tax authorities.
3. Require foreign digital companies to register with the Canada Revenue Agency.

**SUBMITTED BY GREATER PETERBOROUGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**CO-SPONSORED BY: PORT HOPE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DU MONTRÉAL MÉTROPOLITAIN; AND LA FÉDÉRATION DES CHAMBRES DE COMMERCE DU QUÉBEC**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## **66. Changes to CRA Interpretation of the Tax Code to Allow for Golf Fees for Business Expense**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Federal Government:

1. Encourage the CRA to change their interpretation of the tax code to permit golf fees as a business expense
2. Conduct a review and provide an explanation on the rationale for having different business expensing rules apply to golf fees.

**SUBMITTED BY MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**

## 66. Changes to CRA Interpretation of the Tax Code to Allow for ~~Golf Fees~~Sports Entertainment Expenses for Business Expense

**Motion 1:** Replace "golf fees" in title with "Sports Entertainment Expenses"

**Motion 2:** Replace "golf fees" in Recommendation 1 with "Sports Entertainment Expenses"

**Motion 3:** Replace "golf fees" in Recommendation 2 with "Sports Entertainment Expenses"

Proposed by the Ontario Caucus Advisory Council

**Motion 4:** Replace the phrase "golf fees as a business expense" with "expenses of recreation facilities used for business purposes as a regular business entertainment expense while specifically excluding expenses related to club dues and memberships."

**Motion 5:** Remove recommendation 2.

Proposed by the Medicine Hat & District Chamber of Commerce

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government:

1. Encourage the CRA to change their interpretation of the tax code to permit Sports Entertainment Expenses ~~golf fees~~ as a business expense
2. Conduct a review and provide an explanation on the rationale for having different business expensing rules apply to Sports Entertainment Expenses ~~golf fees~~.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Federal Government:

1. Encourage the CRA to change their interpretation of the tax code to permit expenses of recreation facilities used for business purposes as a regular business entertainment expense while specifically excluding expenses related to club dues and memberships ~~golf fees as a business expense~~
2. ~~Conduct a review and provide an explanation on the rationale for having different business expensing rules apply to golf fees.~~

**SUBMITTED BY MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**THE TAXATION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS RESOLUTION**