

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Canada's Chambers adopt policy agenda and is set to engage new Liberal federal government**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Vancouver, October 22, 2015** – Canada's Chambers of Commerce gathered at this year's AGM in Ottawa, the weekend before the federal election, to put policies in place to engage the newly elected Liberal government, 10 B.C. crafted policies will be a part of the Canadian Chamber and BC Chambers federal advocacy efforts for the next three years.

“We want to congratulate Prime Minister-designate Trudeau and his Liberal team on winning a majority government.” said Jon Garson, president and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce. “The BC Chamber looks forward to working with the newly elected government to move the policy agenda set at the Canadian Chamber AGM forward, policies built by BC Chambers for the benefit of B.C. and Canada's business community alike.

Garson added. Our role as Chambers of Commerce is to be the ‘Voice of Business’. At this year's Canadian AGM, BC Chambers put forward and business leaders across Canada have stood together to call for opening up trade with the Asia-Pacific, expanding needed oil pipeline infrastructure, a renewed focus on the Canada-US Border Pact, and further development of the renewable and clean technologies sector. The BC Chamber will be sure to work closely with the newly elected federal government, while keeping them to task, ensuring businesses in our province and across our country are competitive.

Chamber delegates from across Canada backed made-in-B.C. policies calling for:

- federal government ratify the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), with focus on the next steps to expand Canada's Trade relationship with the Asia-Pacific; (See the draft policy, *Next Steps for Canada's Trade Relationship with the Asia-Pacific*, [here](#). Please note that edits may have been made on the resolution floor);
- continued federal support of a responsible framework for expanded oil pipeline infrastructure (See the draft policy, *The Importance to the Economy of Expanded Oil Pipeline Infrastructure*, [here](#). Please note that edits may have been made on the resolution floor);
- harmonization of regulatory process to streamline traffic and trade with a renewed focus on Canada – US Border Pact (See the draft policy, *Renewing the Canada-U.S. Trade Relationship*, [here](#). Please note that edits may have been made on the resolution floor);

- development and expansion of Canada’s Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Sector (See the draft policy, *Clean Technology and the Renewable Energy Sector in Canada*, [here](#). Please note that edits may have been made on the resolution floor);

“B.C.’s Chamber network had great success at this year’s Canadian Chamber AGM. We are proud of the policies put forward. These policies are of major significance to our province that will keep our economy strong and moving forward” said Garson.

Attending this year’s Canadian Chamber AGM in Ottawa were representatives from the following B.C. chambers/boards of trade:

Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce,  
Fort Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce,  
Greater Langley Chamber of Commerce,  
Great Vernon Chamber of Commerce,  
Kamloops Chamber of Commerce,  
Kelowna Chamber of Commerce,  
Penticton and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce,  
Prince George Chamber of Commerce,  
Quesnel and District Chamber of Commerce,  
Sechelt Chamber of Commerce,  
Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce,  
Vancouver Board of Trade, and  
Whistler Chamber of Commerce.

*The BC Chamber is the largest and most broadly-based business organization in the province. Representing more than 125 Chambers of Commerce and 36,000 businesses of every size, sector and region of the province, the BC Chamber of Commerce is “The Voice of Business in BC.”*

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