

---

## NEWS RELEASE

### BC CHAMBER CALLS ON MAYORS COUNCIL TO PASS THE MOVING FORWARD SUPPLEMENTAL IN THE REGIONAL INTEREST

---

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Vancouver, October 6, 2011** – The BC Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of local Chambers and 32,000 businesses across BC, calls on the Mayors Council to take a regional approach and pass the Translink Moving Forward Supplemental Plan.

“The health and vitality of the region and the province has always been intrinsically linked to the strength of our transportation network,” said John Winter, President & CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce. “With this in mind, is it important that when we look at the investment proposed in the plan we do it with a view to the long term benefits this will bring to individuals, businesses and communities across the region.”

The Translink Moving Forward Supplemental Plan provides for significant investment in a range of projects that will facilitate the movement of people and goods across the Metro Vancouver region. The plan proposes an increase in fuel tax of 2 cents a litre and proposes an increase in property tax to take effect if a more sustainable funding mechanism is not identified.

Our region continues to grow, and our transportation infrastructure must grow with it. Postponing the improvements that come with this package – for the Tri-Cities area, for south of the Fraser River, the North Shore and for the region – is not an option,” continued Winter. ““It is good to see the leadership shown by several Mayors on this issue. We need to move beyond politics and recognize that our collective future is dependent on our role as a Gateway. Delaying, or even losing, this critical infrastructure investment puts at risk not just the health of the region but the economic health and vitality of the province,” continues Winter.

“While our members have expressed concern over the reliance on fuel tax, they recognize that there is a need to move forward on these critical investments. They are therefore prepared to accept this increase with an understanding that this is a temporary measure as we move into a discussion about truly sustainable funding for the region.”

-30 -

For more information please contact:

John Winter  
President & CEO  
BC Chamber of Commerce

W 604 638 8110  
C 604.376.3577  
E [jwinter@bcchamber.org](mailto:jwinter@bcchamber.org)