POLICY REPORT CARD **2015**

Prepared for:
127th Annual General Meeting
Holiday Inn Peterborough Waterfront
March 30th, 2016

GREATER
Peterborough
Chamber of Commerce

THE CHAMBER IS YOUR ADVOCATE IN BUSINESS

YOUR CONCERNS ARE OUR CONCERNS. THEY FORM THE BASIS FOR OUR LOBBYING EFFORTS AT EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT.

"We focus on making sure government is aware of and considers the impact of legislation on business and the economy. This is the core work of the Chamber. We are committed to helping create the conditions for growth and to improving the competitiveness of the Peterborough business community."

Sandra Dueck
Policy Analyst
Peterborough Chamber of Commerce

POLICY EVENTS & INITIATIVES

Policy Wins in 2015

- Tax Ratio Reduction Program reinstated for commercial/industrial taxpayers in the City of Peterborough at one half the original schedule
- Electronic Signs – New by-law introduced by City of Peterborough. Chamber part of co-ordinated lobbying effort that resulted in a one year grace period
- Temporary Foreign Worker Service Technician – Part of co-ordinated lobbying effort that successfully pushed for an exemption from the $1000 Labour Market Information Assessment

Policy Resolutions in 2015

- Support for TransCanada's Energy East Project – new jobs, investment and growth for Ontario – Presented and approved at Ontario Chamber of Commerce AGM - May 2015
- Unrealized "Heads and Beds Levy" hurts Ontario's Economic Competitiveness – Presented and approved at Ontario Chamber of Commerce AGM – May 2015
- Addressing the Pension Issue – Presented and approved at Canadian Chamber of Commerce AGM – October 2015
- Support for TransCanada's Energy East Project – Presented and approved at Canadian Chamber of Commerce AGM – October 2015

Surveys

- Pre-budget Survey with Ontario Chamber of Commerce - January 2015
- Emerging Stronger Survey with Ontario Chamber of Commerce - January 2015
- Regional Economic Outlook Survey with Peterborough Chamber Policy Committee – January 2015
- Annual General Meeting Policy Survey - March 2015

Roundtables/Debates/Policy Committee Presentations

- GTAA Global Hub Impact Study - January 2015
- Temporary Foreign Worker Technician Issue - February 2015
- Vital Signs Overview - March 2015
- Workforce Development Board – Labour Market Gateway - April 2015
- Ray Dart – Leaders Lunch – April 2015
- PDI Roundtable - May 2015
- College of Trades Roundtable - May 2015
- Startup Peterborough – June 2015
- Karl Baldauf – Vice President Policy & Government Relations, Ontario Chamber of Commerce – August 2015
- Partnered with Kawartha Manufacturers' Association on All Candidates Debate - September 2015
- All Candidates PBX - October 2015

Talks/Meetings/Speeches

- Premier Wynne Luncheon – May 2015
- Presenter at United Way Good Jobs Summit – June 2015
- Evergreen Mid Size Cities Project Peterborough Lead – July 2015
- Vital Signs Peterborough – August 2015
- Peterborough Immigrant Partnership Strategic Plan – August 2015
- Climate Change Action Plan Committee – September 2015
- Presentation to Selwyn Township Economic Development Committee – September 2015
- Sandra Dueck, Policy Analyst, Chair of the Ontario Caucus at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting – July – October 2015

Policy Tool Kits

- Federal Election Page at peterboroughchamber.ca
- Federal Election Hub Page on Facebook

Business 911 on the New CHEX Daily

- Continued through 2015 on Wednesdays at 5:40pm
- Video segment is then posted to peterboroughchamber.ca under "Lobbying" and to Twitter and Facebook

Media Releases (specific to lobby issues)

- Peterborough Economy Experiences Gangbuster 2014, Growth Expected to Taper in 2015 – January 2015
- Enhancing competitiveness and job creation is the focus of a business-driven economic agenda for Ontario – February 2015
- Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce call for greater transparency on the sale of Hydro One – August 2015
- Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce and a Coalition of Employers call for clarity and express deep concern about proposed pension plan – September 2015

Media Commentary

- Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce urges exemption for defined contribution plan members from planned new Ontario Retirement Pension Plan – Peterborough Examiner – June 2, 2015
- Chamber calls for guarantee that electricity prices won't rise with the sale of Hydro One – Peterborough Examiner – August 20, 2015
- Helping refugees find work in Peterborough – Peterborough Examiner – December 31, 2015
- Various CHEX Newswatch stories on the dollar and other business related issues including one called "Chamber notifies public of scam" – January 2015 and "Business Summit offers advice and inspiration" – November 2015

Articles

- Monthly for Cottage Country Connection

LinkedIn

- 1,464 members on LinkedIn
- Increased views on posts (962) since mid - August-December 2015
- Comments used as Voice of Business content

Business Summit 2015

- Successful inaugural event in November 2015 featuring an economic outlook, four panel discussions with 12 of Peterborough's business leaders, and a one-on-one interview with Erica Cherney

Peterborough

Chamber Policy Role

- "Business Challenges? Here's your chance to tell Premier Wynne" Voice of Business Article – February 26, 2015
- "Premier's visit highlights the work of the Chamber" Voice of Business Article – May 7, 2015
- "From the Voice of Business Blog: Fraud Prevention" Voice of Business Article – May 28, 2015
- "Chamber of Commerce: what we do for the business community" Voice of Business Article – August 27, 2015
- "Helping to strengthen the Peterborough business community" Voice of Business Article – September 10, 2015
- "Chamber Membership: Always working for you" Voice of Business Article – November 5, 2015
- "In business? The Chamber has your back" Voice of Business Article – December 31, 2015

Jobs Strategy

- "Good jobs & changing workplaces; making it work" Voice of Business Article – July 9, 2015

Tax Ratio Reduction

- Letters to City Council with Kawartha Manufacturers' Association and Peterborough and the Kawarthas Association of Realtors - January, May, July and December 2015

YPG Policy Forum

- "Policy Forum 2014: we all have a role to play in public safety" Voice of Business Article – January 8, 2015
- "Policy Forum 2014: Collaborating for Social Service Success" Voice of Business Article – January 15, 2015
- "Reporting in for the New Year: what to watch for in the coming months" Voice of Business Article – January 15, 2015
- "Policy Forum 2014: Sustainability = Quality of Place" Voice of Business Article – January 22, 2015
- "Policy Forum 2014: creating inclusive transportation systems" Voice of Business Article – January 29, 2015
- "Connecting the dots for a better #Ptbo continues..." Voice of Business Article – May 21, 2015

Roads

- "A policy 'road' win for the Peterborough Chamber of Commerce" Voice of Business Article – January 29, 2015
- "Peterborough needs more than a road win" Voice of Business Article – May 28, 2015

Peterborough General

- "Planting the seeds of a diverse Peterborough economy" Voice of Business Article – March 5, 2015
- "Peterborough ranks 72nd out of 209 municipalities" Voice of Business Article – June 11, 2015
- "Peterborough's past has a lot in common with today" Voice of Business Article – August 13, 2015
- "City of Peterborough looking for input on transit & recreation" Voice of Business Article – September 17, 2015
- "It's in the data – the story of rebuilding Ptbo" Voice of Business Article – December 17, 2015

Electronic Sign By-Law

- Letter: Electronic Sign By-law – January 2015
- "Proposed size of electronic signs might not deliver results for city" Voice of Business Article – February 12, 2015

Business Partnerships

- "Collaboration is a long term investment for the future" Voice of Business Article – April 23, 2015
- "Local business and Chamber member saves on energy with new program" Voice of Business Article – March 12, 2015
- "Learning not just for students at Community Innovation Forum" Voice of Business Article – April 2, 2015
- "Brilliant showing for #TMACPtbo" Voice of Business Article – June 18, 2015
- "Businesses: Take Advantage of Energy-Efficiency Upgrade Programs" Voice of Business Article – October 22, 2015
- "One-stop shopping for Federal Government programs for business" Voice of Business Article – February 5, 2015

#lovelocalptbo

- "Peterborough, let's #lovelocalptbo businesses in 2015" Voice of Business Article – April 30, 2015

Excellence Awards

- "The road to #PtboExcellence: be up to the challenge" Voice of Business Article – May 14, 2015
- "Last call for nominations for #PtboExcellence Awards" Voice of Business Article – May 21, 2015
- "The countdown is on to #PtboExcellence... don't miss out" Voice of Business Article – September 24, 2015
- "Congratulations to all #ExcellencePtbo recipients" Voice of Business Article – October 22, 2015
- "What's on the minds of Peterborough businesses?" Voice of Business Article – October 29, 2015

Business Summit

- "Don't miss out! Business Summit 2015: Energize Your Business" Voice of Business Article – November 5, 2015
- "Business Summit 2015: A peek into 2016" Voice of Business Article – December 10, 2015

Networking

- "PBX at The Mount: Bringing Peterborough history back to life" Voice of Business Article – June 11, 2015
- "PBX: X marks the spot to be for networking" Voice of Business Article – June 18, 2015
- "X marks the spot: the value of face-to-face time" Voice of Business Article – December 24, 2015

Other Reports

- "Make summer productive for your business in a number of ways" Voice of Business Article – July 2, 2015
- "Enjoy summer by starting to gear up for fall" Voice of Business Article – August 13, 2015
- "Experience China with the Peterborough Chamber" Voice of Business Article – November 26, 2015
- "A New Year; A New Business Plan" Voice of Business Article – December 31, 2015

Purchasing Policy By-Law

- "Love me tender…process" Voice of Business Article – March 26, 2015

Ontario

Ontario College of Trades

- "College of Trades still a point of contention for business" Voice of Business Article – April 9, 2015
- "Peterborough Chamber Roundtable Sessions: College of Trades" Voice of Business Article – June 4, 2015
- "Review complete on the polarizing College of Trades" Voice of Business Article – November 26, 2015

Business Education

- "Changing workplaces: a business perspective" Voice of Business Article – September 17, 2015
- "Creating financially literate generations make sense" Voice of Business Article – November 12, 2015

Ontario Budget

- "Chamber members: have your say on the 2015 provincial budget" Voice of Business Article – January 22, 2015
- "OCC: What does business want to see in the 2015 Ontario Budget?" Voice of Business Article – March 26, 2015

OCC AGM 2015	• "Ontario Chamber Network to set official lobbying mandate" Voice of Business Article – April 30, 2015 • "The Voice of Business ringing out loud and clear" Voice of Business Article – May 7, 2015
Economic Outlook	• "Emerging Stronger 2016: How confident are you in Ontario's economy?" Voice of Business Article – October 29, 2015 • "The business community is helping drive the economic agenda for Ontario" Voice of Business Article – February 19, 2015 • "The making of a Christmas wish list for business" Voice of Business Article – December 3, 2015
WSIB	• "The reality of an ineffective WSIB for small business" Voice of Business Article – March 12, 2015 • "What business needs to know: Changes to WSIB" Voice of Business Article – September 10, 2015 • "New rate framework on the way...have your say on WSIB" Voice of Business Article – December 24, 2015
Provincial Policy Statement	• "OCC: Rapid Policy Update on Accessibility Requirements" Voice of Business Article – January 8, 2015 • "OCC Rapid Policy Update: The Government is Set to Put a Price on Carbon" Voice of Business Article – March 5, 2015 • "OCC Rapid Policy Update: Ontario Credit Rating Downgrade" Voice of Business Article – July 16, 2015
Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP)	• "Businesses concerned over proposed pension policy" Voice of Business Article – February 5, 2015 • "Economy & jobs should be considered with ORPP" Voice of Business Article – June 4, 2015 • "The ORPP: comparing apples and oranges?" Voice of Business Article – August 20, 2015 • "Concern over proposed pension plan very real" Voice of Business Article – September 24, 2015
Cap and Trade System	• "OCC: What business needs to know about cap and trade system" Voice of Business Article – April 16, 2015

Selling of Hydro One	• "OCC: Selling off Hydro One – the key details for business" Voice of Business Article – April 23, 2015 • "Peterborough Chamber calls for transparency around Hydro One sale" Voice of Business Article – August 27, 2015
Toronto Pan AM & Parapan Games	• "OCC: Beyond the finish line – Toronto Pan AM & Parapan Games" Voice of Business Article – July 2, 2015
Accessibility	• "OCC: A number of ways to make Accessibility Work" Voice of Business Article – July 23, 2015
Electricity Report	• "A competitive energy regime will power business forward" Voice of Business Article – April 16, 2015 • "Empowering Ontario: staying competitive in the electricity market" Voice of Business Article – July 16, 2015 • "Political parties respond to Chamber electricity report" Voice of Business Article – July 30, 2015
Provincial Burden Reduction Report	• "OCC: Responds to the Provincial Burden Reduction Report" Voice of Business Article – August 6, 2015 • "OCC: Response to the Provincial Burden Reduction Report" Voice of Business Article – August 13, 2015
Sharing Economy	• "Evaluating the new sharing economy" Voice of Business Article – September 3, 2015
Ontario Economic Summit	• "OCC: Premier's address to Ontario Economic Summit online" Voice of Business Article – November 19, 2015
Waste Diversion Act	• "OCC: Calling for major reforms as Waste Diversion Act re-evaluated" Voice of Business Article – December 10, 2015
Regulatory Updates 2015	• "OCC: Regulatory updates – Winter 2015" Voice of Business Article – February 12, 2015 • "The Chamber Network: regulatory updates & platform launch" Voice of Business Article – May 21, 2015 • "OCC: Regulatory Update December 2015" Voice of Business Article – December 31, 2015 • "From the Voice of Business Blog: Spring sitting at Queen's Park" Voice of Business Article – June 11, 2015

Co-branded Reports with Ontario Chamber of Commerce

*Reports or letters Ptbo Chamber signed

- Getting It Right: The Business Perspective on the Undersaving Challenge in Ontario*
- Constructive Criticism: Submission to the Dean Review of the Ontario College of Trades
- Chamber Network provides feedback to government on Cap and Trade System*
- Ontario Retirement Pension Plan: Chamber Network leads employer coalition to push for expanded exemptions*
- Empowering Ontario: Constraining Costs and Staying Competitive in the Electricity Market
- Partial Sale of Hydro One draws response from Ontario Chamber Network*
- In Focus: Federal Priorities for the Ontario Economy
- Harnessing the Power of the Sharing Economy
- Response to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Boards Proposed Preliminary Rate Framework
- Maintaining Ontario's Competitive Edge: The Business Perspective in Labour Reform*
- Chamber Network leads employer coalition expressing outstanding concerns with proposed pension plan*
- Clean Profits: Pricing Carbon and Embracing the Economic Potential of Cap and Trade
- Spotlight Ontario: How the federal parties stack up
- Sustainable Recycling for the next generation

Canada

Federal Election 2015

- "AGM: The scoop on federal election issues" Voice of Business Article – March 19, 2015
- "A Canada that Wins' is good for Peterborough" Voice of Business Article – June 25, 2015
- "Jobs, jobs, jobs: Federal Election 2015" Voice of Business Article – July 23, 2015
- "Canadian businesses asking for access to win" Voice of Business Article – August 6, 2015
- "Provincial business priorities and the federal election" Voice of Business Article – August 27, 2015
- "What the local candidates are saying re: CPP & labour market information" Voice of Business Article – October 1, 2015
- "What the local candidates are saying re: rail and pipelines" Voice of Business Article – October 8, 2015
- "What the local candidates are saying to the business community" Voice of Business Article – October 15, 2015

General

- "CCC: New report on protecting Canada's environment" Voice of Business Article – January 8, 2015
- "CCC: Is this the end of the commodity supercycle?" Voice of Business Article – March 12, 2015
- "Federal mandate letters reveal government's stance on business" Voice of Business Article – November 19, 2015

CCC AGM 2015

- "Chambers of Commerce set lobbying agenda in Ottawa" Voice of Business Article – October 22, 2015

Business Barriers

- "CCC: 2015 Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness" Voice of Business Article – February 12, 2015
- "Business barriers or opportunity for innovation?" Voice of Business Article – March 19, 2015
- "CCC: Business win! Commitment to reduce international trade barriers" Voice of Business Article – June 18, 2015

Canadian Economy

- "What businesses need to know about the Canadian economy" Voice of Business Article – April 2, 2015
- "A tale of two budgets: federal and provincial" Voice of Business Article – April 30, 2015
- "CCC: What does 2015 hold for Canadian growth?" Voice of Business Article – April 9, 2015
- "CCC: Export Revolution – When Zero Is Actually Pretty Good" Voice of Business Article – August 20, 2015
- "CCC: What does it mean for Canada when U.S. interest rates go up?" Voice of Business Article – December 3, 2015
- "CCC: What does COP21 mean for Canadian business?" Voice of Business Article – December 17, 2015

Protecting Personal Information Online

- "CCC: New laws protecting personal information online" Voice of Business Article – June 25, 2015

Stats Canada

- "From the Stats Canada desk – June 2015" Voice of Business Article – July 2, 2015
- "Stats Canada: Business Dynamics Measures released" Voice of Business Article – July 9, 2015

Syrian Refugees

- "The role of business at a time of giving" Voice of Business Article – December 10, 2015

Tax Cuts

- "CCC: How to help the middle class" Voice of Business Article – December 24, 2015

FACTS + **FIGURES**

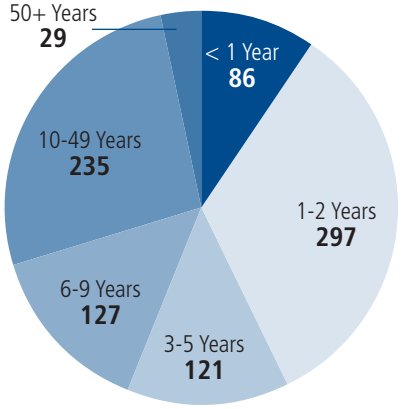
SECTOR

	% of Membership
Business & Professional Services	15.5
Real Estate & Construction	13.1
Finance & Insurance	8.4
Health Care	8.2
Family, Community & Non-Profit	7.7
Communications	7.5
Restaurants, Food & Beverages	6.9
Automotive, Aviation & Marine	6.6
Shopping & Specialty Retail	6.3
Industrial & Manufacturing	4.6
Home & Garden	4.4
Arts, Culture & Entertainment	2.7
Computers, IT & Technology	2.7
Lodging, Travel & Tourism	2.6
Government & Education	2.0
Pets & Veterinary	0.5
Agriculture, Fishing & Forestry	0.3

MEMBER RETENTION

93%

YEARS AS A MEMBER



Seniors Trade Show

Business Summit

100 ATTENDEES

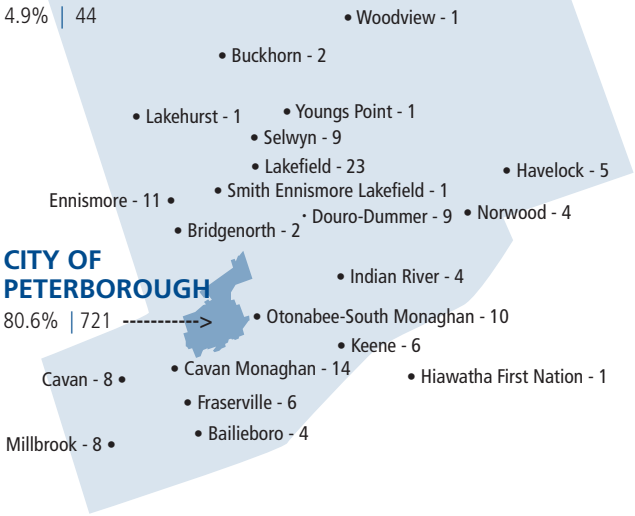
LOCATION

of Member Businesses

COUNTY
14.5% | 130

OTHER
4.9% | 44

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH
80.6% | 721



EXCELLENCE

51 award finalists
17 award recipients
4 under 40 recipients
2 student bursaries awarded
1 Business Citizen of the Year

ANNUAL EVENT ATTENDANCE

126th Annual Chamber Gala	130
2015 Annual General Meeting	44
2015 Business Excellence Awards	500
44th Annual Golf Tournament	160
5 Star Leaders Lunch	24
Business Summit 2015: Energize your Business	100
Talking Accessibility w/ Ontario Chamber of Commerce	15
Seniors Showcase	1003
LoveLocalPtbo Expo	1110

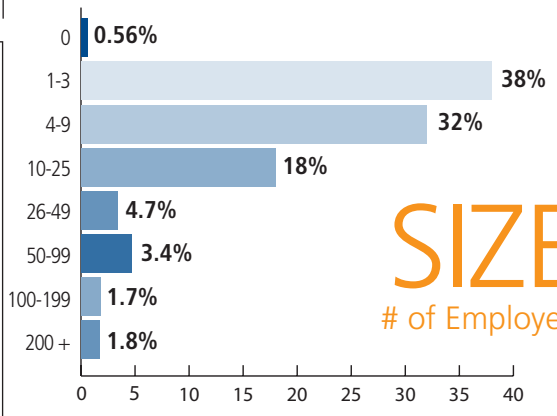
NETWORKING EVENT ATTENDANCE

Breakfast Club	300
Holistic Group	90
Lunch Box Learning	330
Peterborough Business Exchange	1000
Young Professionals Group	160

TOTAL ATTENDEES **4966**

SIZE

of Employees



TWITTER FOLLOWERS **5948**

FB FOLLOWERS **1141**

LINKEDIN GROUP **1464**