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Policy Report Card 2014

Prepared for:
126th Annual General Meeting
Holiday Inn Peterborough Waterfront
March 27, 2015

Policy Events & Initiatives	
Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-budget Survey - Ontario Chamber of Commerce– January 2014 • Chamber Membership Survey – January 2014 • AGM Policy Survey – March 2014 • Municipal Election Issues Survey – September – October 2014 • How confident are you in Ontario’s economy? Ontario Chamber of Commerce Survey – October 2014
Roundtables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Phillips, Economist, Trent University – January 2014 • Jane Voll, Senior Economist, Bank of Canada – February 2014 • Tim Hudak, Ontario PC Leader – March 2014 • Thomas Mulcair, Federal NDP Leader – March 2014 • PC Leadership Candidate Lisa McLeod – November 2014
connectingptbo series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Nuclear Association Luncheon – April 2014 • Provincial All-Candidates Business Debate – with DBIA & WBN – May 2014 • Mayoral Debate – with DBIA & WBN – October 2014 • GST/HST Session – with Peterborough Economic Development – October 2014
Media Releases (specific to lobby issues)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Government must Listen to Employers on New Immigration System– January 2014 • Potential music licensing fees for business – January 2014 • Business Confidence in Peterborough among the Highest in the Province – January 2014 • What You Need to Know About Canada’s New Anti-Spam Legislation – February 2014 • Peterborough Chamber of Commerce and OCC call on political parties to focus on improving provincial business climate – May 2014 • Hours added back to Trent Severn Waterway Schedule – June 2014 • Chamber launches “Peterborough 2014 Municipal Election Hub” – September 2014 • Chambers engage in Pension Day of Advocacy – October 2014
LinkedIn (Peterborough Chamber)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,378 members as of December 31, 2014 • Used for discussion around lobbying issues • Comments used as Voice of Business content
Talks/Speeches/ Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Stakeholder Meeting – Ontario NDP – January 2014 • Chamber Member John Knight participated in Life Sciences Panel at Ontario Chamber of Commerce – February 2014 • Chair Bob Doornenbal & Sandra Dueck – Speech to Rotary – February 2014 • Federal Budget teleconference call with Canadian Chamber of Commerce – February 2014 • Destination Canada Meeting re: Employer Opportunities – February 2014 • Peterborough 2030 Research Project Meetings – March and June 2014 • Stakeholder participant for Peterborough Economic Development Strategic Plan – April and July 2014 • Vital Signs Think Tank – June and August 2014 • Fleming College Strategic Plan participant – November 2014

Policy Events and Initiatives (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbying in Business-Minded Magazine – March 2014 • Canada Anti-Spam Legislation in Business-Minded Magazine – June 2014
Policy Tool Kits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Election Tool Kit – Website 2014 • Municipal Election Hub – Facebook 2014
Business 911 on the New CHEX Daily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued through 2014 on Wednesdays at 5:45pm • Video of segment is then posted to peterboroughchamber.ca under “News and Advocacy”, to Twitter and Facebook
Media Commentary	<p>(These articles reflect media asks for a quote on issues relevant to the Chamber of Commerce)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bad week for local retail Peterborough This Week – January 30, 2014 • Nuclear expert says industry could create jobs in Peterborough Peterborough This Week – April 9, 2014 • Chamber urges infrastructure spending Peterborough Examiner - May 15, 2014 • Budget’s second coming disappoints some Peterborough Examiner - July 15, 2014 • Reaction to the Provincial Budget still pouring in 90.5FM ExtraPtbo - July 16, 2014 • New look at Nordia Peterborough Examiner - December 26, 2014 • A look back at March, April Peterborough Examiner - December 30, 2014
Local - Peterborough	
Issue	Action
Chamber Policy Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “125 years of strengthening the Peterborough economy” Voice of Business article – January 2, 2014 • “125 years in Peterborough and going strong” Chair Bob Doornenbal’s Inaugural Speech and Voice of Business article – February 27, 2014 • “Talk is not cheap: an audience with the opposition” Voice of Business article March 13, 2014 • State of the Chamber Address at the 125th Annual General Meeting – March 25, 2014 • “Working for you and your business” Voice of Business article – August 7, 2014 • “How the Chamber of Commerce drives change” Voice of Business article – October 16, 2014
Trent Severn Waterway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of Support for the Trent Severn Waterway Working Group – February 2014 • Press Release: Hours added back to Trent Severn Waterway Schedule – June 2014 • “Lock it in: canal collaboration is a must” Voice of Business article – March 20, 2014 • “Federal Government extends Trent Severn Waterway hours” Voice of Business article – July 3, 2014
Tax Ratio Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014-2018 Council to consider putting the program on hold for one year to provide relief to the residential taxpayer • Information gathering from key stakeholders as to impact • Letter to council planned for 2015
Jobs Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Came to Policy Committee out of the Policy Forum in 2013 • A similar discussion is happening amongst a number of not-for-profit groups • This is was also an issue anticipated to be tackled in the Peterborough Economic Development Strategy – Chamber will wait to see what comes of that – January 2014

2014 Policy Report Card

Annual Report 2014

Local - Peterborough (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
YPG Policy Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Committee investigated the possibility of making the policy forum more like the OCC and CCC sessions this has since transformed into Business Summit 2015, which is in the planning stages • Policy Forum 2014: Connecting the Dots – November 2014 • “Connecting the dots to a prosperous Peterborough” Voice of Business article – November 6, 2014 • Based on Don Tapscott article; 7 tables on 7 issues affecting municipalities; approx 49 participants (Chamber members and Community leaders) • 7 articles planned December 2014 – January 2015 • “Policy Forum 2014: Creating a cohesive culture of entrepreneurial success” – Voice of Business article December 4, 2014 • “Policy Forum 2014: Cultivating a culture of openness with City Hall” – Voice of Business article December 11, 2014 • “Policy Forum 2014: Celebrate community to reinvent local democracy” – Voice of Business article December 18, 2014 • More discussion and possibly a white paper expected in 2015
Louis Street Urban Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to City Council supporting the park; asking Council to commit to erecting a sign or planting trees to show “the good things to come” – February 2014
Harness Racing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The race to get racing at Kawartha Downs” Voice of Business article – January 9, 2014 • Discussion with MPP Jeff Leal about this industry and importance to Peterborough
Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The road construction conundrum...” Voice of Business article June 12, 2014
Investment Ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Let’s be investment ready, Peterborough” Voice of Business article – March 27, 2014 • “Ontario needs to discover its rural route” Voice of Business article – March 6, 2014 • Land Planning Session presentation made to Policy Committee by Committee member Dave H. – February 2014
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Infrastructure is a linchpin of the economy” Voice of Business article – January 16, 2014
Peterborough General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Business confidence in Peterborough among highest in province” Voice of Business article – January 30, 2014 • “Driving local economic growth through support for innovation & entrepreneurship” Voice of Business article – April 10, 2014 • “Peterborough connection on Canadian Trade Mission” Voice of Business article – April 10, 2014 • “Embracing Peterborough’s international future” Voice of Business article – June 12, 2014 • “The power of Twitter in Peterborough” Voice of Business article – July 24, 2014 • “Ask the Expert: Social media strategies a business-must” Voice of Business article – August 7, 2014
Music License Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Potential music licensing fees for business” Voice of Business article – January 30, 2014 • SOCAN letter out to members through Constant Contact/News Article on Website/LinkedIn

Local - Peterborough (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Electronic Sign By-law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Sign of the times...City introduces regs for electronic signs” Voice of Business article May 8, 2014 • Letter to City Council re: Sign By-law – May 2014 • Stuart H. in conversation via telephone and email with working group (includes approximately five businesses) • Sandra D. met with Brian Buchardt, Planner, City of Peterborough in May 2014 • Discussed by Policy Committee - May 2014
Business Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Angels stepping up in Canada to fund medical innovation start-ups” Voice of Business article – July 17, 2014 • “Peterborough Economic Development is having a good year helping our economy grow” Voice of Business article – October 30, 2014 • “Peterborough Region Angel Network receives FedDev Investment” Voice of Business article – December 4, 2014 • “Collaborating for success: a Peterborough partnership for progress” Voice of Business article – December 18, 2014
Municipal Election 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The path to City Hall: what are the issues for your business?” Voice of Business article – August 21, 2014 • “Opening the communication between voters and candidates” Voice of Business article – September 18, 2014 • YPG committee held a candidate mixer at The Venue – September 2014 • “Business issues drive mayoral debate in Peterborough” Voice of Business article – October 16, 2014
Vacancy Rebate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy committee concerned this may be an incentive for landlords not to invest in their buildings • Chamber held a stakeholder meeting with Chamber members, DBIA and city planning and tax officials – determined that the vacancy tax rebate was not an incentive • Policy committee asked if OCC had a policy position on this issue. Sandra contacted OCC policy team, but there is no official position
#lovelocalptbo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Buying locally in a click of a button, cross-border kind of world” Voice of Business – November 20, 2014 • “Lovin’ #lovelocalptbo as the holiday shopping season kicks into high gear” Voice of Business article – November 27, 2014 • “OCC: Letter highlights impact of cross-border shopping” Voice of Business article – April 17, 2014
Policy Resolutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Committee discussed a number of issues in the format of OCC Policy Resolutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping Healthcare at Healthy Levels – discussed but came after Policy Committee meeting with no real background – April 2014 • Tying Public Sector Wages to CPI – this issue came back to the committee several times and discussion was fulsome, but in the end it was concluded that CPI may not be the best economic indicator as it could lead to higher wages in the public sector - April 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received letter from Tom Phillips with his thoughts on the policy resolution

Local - Peterborough (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Cameras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “For business, cameras make sense” Voice of Business article – October 2, 2014
Methadone Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Methadone clinics: when visions collide...” Voice of Business article – June 26, 2014
AGM Policy Survey Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poll of attendees at the 125th AGM • Issues listed in order of greatest number of responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads and Transportation • Job Strategy • Community Vision • Trent Severn Waterway • CPI to Public Sector Wages • Youth • Government Incentives (e.g. tax breaks and land granting)
Other Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Committee also heard about the following reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peterborough Profile (Peterborough Social Planning Council) • Vital Signs (Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough) • Housing is Fundamental
Provincial - Ontario	
Issue	Action
Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OCC: Pension Reform White Paper released” Voice of Business article – April 3, 2014 • “Funding the future: understanding pension pressures” Voice of Business article – July 10, 2014 • “Business community holds day of pension advocacy” Voice of Business article – October 9, 2014 • “New retiree plans for owners and principles” Voice of Business article – November 13, 2014 • “OCC: Call to defer Pension Plan legislation until questions answered” Voice of Business article – December 11, 2014 • ORPP mentioned in the following articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Jobs the top issue in provincial election” Voice of Business article • “Taking the business platform to the ballot box” Voice of Business article – May 29, 2014 • “Budget basics for the business community” Voice of Business article – July 24, 2014 • Pension Day of Advocacy held Wednesday, October 8, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media Release and Interviews (Paper and Radio) • Chamber created own Video on the issue and distributed it through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and website • Peterborough Chamber of Commerce and 50 other Chambers signed a letter to Associate Minister Mitzi Hunter outlining concerns • Participated in a teleconference call with the Minister on October 2, 2014 • Anticipated more direct lobbying to come in 2015 with the passing of Bills 56 and 57 on December 8, 2014

Provincial - Ontario (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Minimum Wage Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What we’re hearing: Minimum Wage” Voice of Business – February 6, 2014 • “Chamber Network encouraged tying Minimum Wage to CPI” Voice of Business – November 13, 2014 • Bill 18 “Stronger Workplaces for a Stronger Economy Act” was passed in November 2014
Ontario College of Trades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OCC: First steps to College of Trades reform?” Voice of Business article – October 30, 2014 • Concerns about the College of Trades mentioned during roundtables with then Ontario PC Leader Tim Hudak, PC Leadership candidate Lisa McLeod and Minister and Peterborough MPP Jeff Leal • OCC is preparing a submission to the Provincial Government as part of the consultation on the review mentioned above. Given the opportunity the Peterborough Chamber will likely co-brand on the release • At the OCC AGM in Sault Ste.Marie, the Peterborough Chamber attended a breakout session on the College of Trades in which we brought forward the Chamber policy committee’s concerns about secondary ratios. Concerns about enforcement and the College’s mandate were also made known
Interest Arbitration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Tying public sector wages to the Consumer Price Index just makes sense (cents)” Voice of Business article April 3, 2014 • “OCC: Letter on Interest Arbitration to Minister of Labour” Voice of Business article - March 13, 2014 • Peterborough Chamber of Commerce signed this letter with a number of other Chambers from across the province • Policy Committee asked to review the current OCC policy resolution on Interest Arbitration and provide feedback
Business Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Building bridges between business and post-secondary education” Voice of Business article – October 23, 2014 • “Educating in dollars and sense” Voice of Business article – November 27, 2014
Shining Waters Railway (SWR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group submitted preliminary engineering study • Now in the hands of the politicians to make a decision to go ahead
Ring of Fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OCC: The Economic Potential of the Ring of Fire” Voice of Business article – February 27, 2014
Red Tape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Stronger 2014 One of the top 10 recommendations was “Ontario requires a new approach to regulation, and regulatory burden reduction is required” – February 2014 • Bill 7: An Act to enact the Burden Reduction Reporting Act, 2014 and the Partnerships for Jobs and Growth Act, 2014 – R.A. December 11, 2014
Provincial Policy Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Breaking down the plan for planning” Voice of Business article – July 31, 2014
Healthy Workplaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Healthy workplaces can change our world” Voice of Business article – August 14, 2014 • Lunchbox Learning in January 2015 to focus on Mental Health

Provincial - Ontario (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Long Term Energy Plan (LTEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Frankly, accepting the Long-Term Energy Plan is asking a lot” Voice of Business article - April 17, 2014 • Electricity costs to business mentioned in the following articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OCC: 2014 Pre-budget Submission” Voice of Business article – March 27, 2014 • “Jobs the top issue in provincial election” Voice of Business article – May 15, 2014 • “Taking the business platform to the ballot box” Voice of Business article – May 29, 2014 • “Party leaders respond to business...” Voice of Business article – June 5, 2014 • “Budget basics for the business community” Voice of Business article – July 24, 2014 • Letter to Minister of Energy re: LTEP in January 2014; Received response from Minister of Energy in April 2014 • At the OCC AGM in Sault Ste.Marie, the Peterborough Chamber attended a breakout session with two members of the Ontario Energy Board. The Peterborough Chamber brought forward the concerns in the price but the decreasing difference in TOU pricing. It’s our understanding that there is a review by the OEB to be undertaken on that issue • Anticipated OCC will release a white paper on electricity in 2015. A number of local businesses have been asked for their input on the report; Peterborough will co-brand if given the opportunity
Ontario Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OCC: 2014 Pre-Budget Submission” Voice of Business article – March 27, 2014 • “Time to get Ontario’s house in order” Voice of Business article – May 1, 2014 • “Budget basics for the business community” Voice of Business article – July 24, 2014 • “How bad is it? What do we do about it?” – A report on Ontario’s finances released by Ontario Chamber of Commerce, co-branded with Peterborough Chamber of Commerce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “How bad is it What do we do about it? A report on Ontario’s finances” Voice of Business article – November 13, 2014 • “OCC: Reaction to Fall Economic Statement” Voice of Business article – November 27, 2014
OCC AGM 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Voting cards up! Let the provincial chamber policy debate begin” Voice of Business article – April 24, 2014 • “OCC: Real Estate, provincial pay times and Agri-Food Policy” Voice of Business article – May 1, 2014 • 34 policy resolutions from energy prices to immigrant integration to helping mature workers to asking that real estate agents be allowed to incorporate were passed by delegates • Two policy resolutions were referred to the board including one that was asking the government to encourage communities to become less dependent on Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding. The Peterborough Chamber asked that is policy be referred to the board in order to understand the impact such a resolution would have on Ontario’s smaller communities

Provincial - Ontario (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Life Insurance Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns around legislation in this industry were discussed by the Policy Committee, but it was decided no action was needed – April 2014
Economic Outlook 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Committee and Board of Directors provided feedback to Ontario Chamber of Commerce by answering a questionnaire
Federal - Canada	
Issue	Action
Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page on peterboroughchamber.ca featuring links to all resources (Government of Canada, Canadian Chamber of Commerce, VOB articles) CCC held a webinar on the issue. We opened the seminar up to our members and Cynthia Hamu participated “CCC: Webinar on new Anti-Spam Legislation” Voice of Business article – January 16, 2014 “In business? New anti-spam rules you need to know...” Voice of Business article – February 13, 2014 “CCC: Preparing for the new Anti-Spam Legislation” Voice of Business article – May 22, 2014 “Anti-Spam Legislation; Mandatory Health & Safety Training” Voice of Business article – June 12, 2014 “New anti-spam legislation ... the countdown is on” Voice of Business article – June 19, 2014
Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-branded with Ontario Chamber of Commerce report on immigration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Peterborough Chamber helps shape report on immigration” Voice of Business article – January 23, 2014 The report was the result of a series of consultations including one in Peterborough in September 2013
Restoring Canadian Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In February 2014 Uncompetitive Travel & Tourism Strategies was listed #2 on the Canadian Chamber’s Top 10 Business Barriers (up from #6 in 2013) “CCC: Top 10 Barriers to Competitiveness ” Voice of Business article February 20, 2014
Canada Post	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Through sleet or snow or economic challenges...” Voice of Business article – February 6, 2014 Letter to Canada Post President – February 2014; Received response from Canada Post April 2014 Policy Committee had discussions around this issue at several meetings Good discussion happened in LinkedIn group
Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kawartha Manufacturing Association made the Chamber aware of a Temporary Foreign Worker issue developing with regard Service Technicians Stu and Sandra monitoring the situation and speaking to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Belleville and Quinte West Chambers of Commerce also involved in discussions
Government Program Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Government will match up to \$50,000 for small business and not-for-profits to improve accessibility” Voice of Business article – January 9, 2014 “Enabling accessibility in workplaces funding available” Voice of Business article – September 25, 2014

Federal - Canada (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “CCC: Canada signs its first free trade agreement with Asia” Voice of Business article - March 20, 2014 • “Peterborough connection on Canadian Trade Mission” Voice of Business article – April 10, 2014 • “CCC: Turning it Around – How to Restore Canada’s Trade Success” Voice of Business article – May 15, 2014 • “CCC: Partnership for Resource Trade Scholarship” Voice of Business article – June 19, 2014 • “The perfect imperfection of policymaking & CETA” Voice of Business article – August 28, 2014 • “A funny thing happened on the way to a trade agreement” Voice of Business article – September 11, 2014 • Policy Committee discussed CETA agreement and municipal concern about protecting local preference. Policy Committee agreed to stay the course with Chamber position: promote competition, not protectionism. We want our companies to be able to go out and expand beyond local area. Our position is “local opportunity not local preference”. We get involved when local companies are not given the opportunity to bid. • “CCC: Is China slowing down or charging ahead?” Voice of Business article – November 20, 2014
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “CCC: Economic Outlook for 2014-2015 released” Voice of Business article – January 2, 2014 • “Does the federal government need a tune up?” Voice of Business article - February 20, 2014 • “CCC: Canada’s Labour Market sputtered in 2013” Voice of Business article – March 6, 2014
Aboriginal Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “CCC Report: Improving the participation of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada’s workforce” Voice of Business article – January 23, 2014
Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Finding balance for the temporary labour market” Voice of Business article – July 3, 2014 • “Canada is guessing about a critical issue of competitiveness” Voice of Business article – July 31, 2014 • “CCC: The effects of new TFWP rules and new immigration system” Voice of Business article – December 18, 2014 • Some issues around this program are being felt across industries (see “Manufacturing”)
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “CCC: Transportation Act Review” Voice of Business – July 10, 2014
Canada-Ontario Job Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Belabouring the labour market” Voice of Business article – July 17, 2014 (OCC report on federal issue that ON government agencies will have to deliver) • “Training the workforce: the employer’s role” Voice of Business article – September 4, 2014
EI Premiums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “OCC: Federal Government lowering EI Premiums” Voice of Business article – September 18, 2014
Merchant Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Committee talked about the changes legislated by the federal government • Positive changes. Committee will continue to monitor

Federal - Canada (cont'd)	
Issue	Action
CCC AGM 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Taking care of the “Parliament of Business” Voice of Business article – September 25, 2014• “Peterborough Chamber helps set federal policy agenda for business at CCC AGM in Charlottetown, PEI” Voice of Business article – October 9, 2014• Peterborough Chamber one of a many Ontario Chambers to sign a signature resolution entitled “Recognizing and devising strategies to counteract the generous incentives offered by competitor jurisdictions”• Sandra D. part of the ON Caucus evaluating and debating Ontario’s position on policy resolutions to Canadian Chamber of Commerce• 67 policy resolutions passed at CCC AGM



Questions or comments?

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