

Office of the President and
Chief Executive Officer

Cabinet du président
et chef de la direction

December 5, 2014

Hon. Greg Rickford, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Natural Resources Canada
580 Booth Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E4

Dear Minister:

In September, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce concluded its 85th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Charlottetown, PEI. A highlight of the Canadian Chamber's AGM is the Policy Session, where the resolutions submitted by local chambers of commerce and boards of trade from across Canada are debated and voted on by accredited delegates. Once approved, these resolutions become policy of the Canadian Chamber for the following three years.

In 2014, our delegates issued a clear and decisive national policy mandate that we intend to pursue vigorously with the federal government over the coming months. Our renewed national policy mandate includes the following issues which fall within your portfolio:

Natural Resources are the Power of Canada

The Partnership for Resource Trade is a pan-Canadian initiative that is working to reinforce pride in our resource-based economy. Members include representation from a broad range of organizations and individuals representing the natural resources, manufacturing, finance, labour sectors as well as Aboriginal peoples. Supporters of the Partnership share the view that Canada must reinvest in its trade infrastructure in order to maintain our resource advantage for the next generations of Canadians. The resolution calls on the federal government to endorse and support the messages and objectives of the Partnership for Resource Trade.

A Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for Canada

This resolution calls on the federal government to develop and implement a national strategy on climate change adaptation in collaboration with provincial, territorial and municipal governments. We are also asking government to provide incentives for academic institutions and businesses to create and market

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adaptation measures, technologies and processes as a means of creating economic resilience.

Fair Competition among Canada's Certified Forests in Green Building

This resolution calls on the federal government to continue to support the use of green building principles and criteria in the construction of new federal buildings, renovations and additions. The federal government should promote fair competition in Canada's forest industry by advocating that all green building programs in Canada give equal credit to all credible, third-party forest certifications, including CSA, SFI and FSC.

Copies of the complete texts of these resolutions are attached.

While the advocacy agenda of the Canadian Chamber is directed in large part through the policy resolution process, other priorities are established by our Board of Directors. This year our Board has directed that our advocacy priorities include the call for the creation of a national bio-economy strategy that leverages Canada's universities and colleges, and provides support to attract new businesses to Canada.

I hope to discuss these issues in more detail with you or your staff. My assistant will be contacting your office to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Perrin Beatty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Perrin Beatty
President and Chief Executive Officer

Attachments