

January 23, 2009

The Honourable Gary Goodyear, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of State (Science and Technology)  
C.D. Howe Building  
235 Queen Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5

Dear Minister:

In October 2008, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce held its 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Québec City. One of the highlights of Canadian Chamber's AGM is the Policy Session. It is during the Policy Session that resolutions submitted by local chambers of commerce and boards of trade from across the country are debated and voted on by accredited delegates. Once approved, these resolutions become policy of the Canadian Chamber for three years. This year, delegates issued a clear national policy mandate that we will pursue vigorously with the federal government over the coming months.

Our renewed national policy mandate includes an issue that falls within your portfolio. I have outlined this policy position below.

**Incentives for Commercialization of Research and Development in Canada:** An opportunity exists to improve Canada's SR&ED program. The Canadian Chamber recommends that the federal government expand immediately the existing SR&ED program to include commercialization projects that relate to bringing new products and processes developed under the program to the marketplace. Under the program, credits should be provided directly to investors for monies invested in commercialization projects.

The full text of this policy resolution is attached. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Perrin Beatty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Perrin Beatty  
President and CEO

Attachment