

# MEDIA RELEASE



Timmins Chamber of Commerce  
Chambre de commerce de Timmins

For Release  
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## TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DEDICATES ADVOCACY AWARD TO CITY & ROSS TROOP

**TIMMINS:** The Timmins Chamber of Commerce received provincial recognition for its successful efforts to reduce the commercial property tax burden in the municipality. However they know that without the strong partnership with the City of Timmins the award would not have been possible.

"We are thrilled to be recognized by our provincial Chamber for our lobbying efforts. This award represents 6 years of discussion with the City about tax burden on the commercial ratepayers who are our members. Past President Sandra Deem first drew this imbalance to the City's attention," explains Ken Petersen, President of the Timmins Chamber of Commerce.

For several years the Timmins Chamber encouraged City Council to reduce the relative tax burden on commercial property taxpayers. Then a new voice was added. The Chamber met with the City's new Treasurer, Ross Troop. Ross understood the need for balance and creating a competitive and fair tax ratio, and became a champion for the adjustment. After a few attempts, Ross was successful in having Council address the need for the realignment with support from the Chamber's municipal budget presentation in 2006.

Ross passed away in late 2006 and the Timmins Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors dedicates this award to his memory. He was knowledgeable and reasonable, and when things made sense he said so, and when he disagreed with the Chamber he said so as well. Our Board respected his insight and comments on Chamber policy, and he is greatly missed.

"It was through the combined efforts of the Chamber, Ross Troop and the last Council that we won this award, but the real winners are the businesses in Timmins who can now operate in an improved tax climate. This tax realignment creates more jobs and opportunities for expansion and generating that healthy operating climate is one of our main priorities at the Chamber," commented Ken Petersen, "Dedicating this award to Ross is a statement on how strong partnerships can create betterment. The Chamber was the quarterback for the issue but Ross was a great receiver who carried the ball past the goal posts."

The Chamber, acting as the Voice of Business, is pleased to continue to make Timmins the best place to do business through a strong working relationship with City Administration and Council.

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The Timmins Chamber of Commerce represents over 640 businesses and has been The Voice of Business in Timmins since 1949. Its advocacy and policy initiatives focus on ensuring a positive business climate in the City of Timmins.

For further information:

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