



Timmins Chamber of Commerce
Chambre de commerce de Timmins

MEDIA RELEASE

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TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENDORSES FONOM SUMMIT PRIORITIES

TIMMINS: The Timmins Chamber of Commerce is endorsing a priorities document released by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities following this week's Summit of more than 200 business leaders.

The document, generated this morning, includes ideas discussed during six different breakout sessions held on Thursday at the McIntyre Community Building. Discussion topics included: Natural resources; government services and the public sector; transportation; energy; health and education; and business and entrepreneurship.

The Chamber of Commerce was represented at the Summit by 2007-08 President Marilyn Wood, 1st Vice President Rob Galloway and Chamber Manager Keitha Robson. In endorsing the document, Wood noted that FONOM priorities are very much in line with those of the Timmins Chamber of Commerce.

"The Summit has, in my mind, confirmed that the Chamber is on track," stated Wood. "We have issued policies over the past several years on all of the issues identified as most important to the north: the need to make energy an economic driver; the need to harmonize and simplify the environmental impact assessment processes; our concern that the current forestry tenure system needs to be revamped to address the issues of allocation; the concerns about the tax regime being changed mid-stream for mining. It was good to hear that we are representing the voice of business not just in Timmins, but throughout the north."

The FONOM priorities document will be sent to each of the 650-plus members of the Timmins Chamber of Commerce for their input. Their comments and concerns will then be sent to FONOM. While not every Chamber member could attend the Summit, the Chamber is committed to allowing their voices to be heard.

"The resounding common interest from all of the breakout sessions was the need for the north to have more input in the government policies that affect our businesses and our communities," said Rob Galloway. "The Timmins Chamber of Commerce views the FONOM Summit as an excellent springboard to uniting Northern Ontario."

The Summit priorities document is available for downloading at www.timminschamber.on.ca

The Timmins Chamber of Commerce represents over 650 businesses and has been The Voice of Business in Timmins since 1949. Its advocacy and policy initiatives focus on ensuring a positive business climate for our members.

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