



Media Release

For Immediate Release

\$4M in provincial funding a welcomed respite for businesses in Timmins

Tuesday, August 26, 2008(TIMMINS) – The Timmins Chamber of Commerce welcomed yesterday's announcement that the City of Timmins is to receive over \$4M of provincial funding through the "Investing in Ontario Act". The Timmins Chamber of Commerce has a long history in working with the City of Timmins, and lobbying on its behalf to obtain much-needed funding for infrastructure. Yesterday's funding announcement will surely benefit Timmins' business community, a segment that depends heavily on having safe, sound and reliable infrastructure for conducting business within and beyond the region.

Investments in infrastructure are much needed within our community and the entire province, since our businesses depend on our roads, bridges, railways and other infrastructure to ship and receive their products world-wide. The Timmins Chamber of Commerce commends the provincial government for heeding the recommendations of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce in its 2007 survey of Ontario economic leaders. In the survey, 80% of Ontario's economic leaders expressed the belief that infrastructure issues will become increasingly important for the province's economy in the future. As well, a further 91% of leaders surveyed in the report identified infrastructure as the most critical issue in securing Ontario's economic prosperity - with roads and transportation considered paramount.

For Rob Galloway, incoming 2008-2009 Chamber president, the municipal funding announcements will translate to direct benefits for business in Timmins and Ontario. "Concerns about infrastructure quality are heard frequently from our membership. Businesses everywhere need reliable, efficient roads and bridges to perform day-to-day operations. Funding from the government is needed to improve and maintain infrastructure, and this is a necessary step in order to help Ontario become a better place in which to invest and run a business," stated Galloway.

According to 2007-2008 Chamber President Marilyn Wood, "The business community applauds this funding announcement. For years, we have been working with the City of Timmins, through regular meetings and updates, so that we can express the infrastructure needs of our businesses and in return, the city is able to communicate to us their plans for development and maintenance - and even identify areas where we can assist them through our lobbying efforts. It is rewarding to hear that the Ontario government is listening to the concerns of business and providing funding for the infrastructure we so greatly need."

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About the Timmins Chamber of Commerce

With over 740 members, the Timmins Chamber of Commerce is the largest accredited chamber of commerce with distinction in northeastern Ontario. As the “Voice of Business in Timmins” since 1949, our advocacy and policy initiatives focus on ensuring a positive business climate in the City of Timmins.