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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
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### **STRONG NEW MANDATE FOR ONTARIO'S BUSINESS ADVOCATE**

**Toronto** – Accountability, less red tape and strategic tax cuts are part of the strong new mandate given to the Ontario Chamber of Commerce by its membership at the 93<sup>rd</sup> annual general meeting held in Sarnia over the past weekend.

In total, a record 35 policy resolutions were adopted by the membership following vigorous debate including Borders and Trade Development.

“The membership’s message has been very clear – we need fair and competitive taxes, infrastructure that meets the needs of business and taxpayers, and a strong education system” said Len Crispino, President and CEO of the OCC. “We know that if the government provides business with the tools it needs to grow and to expand, the entire province benefits.”

This new policy agenda will set the course of the OCC’s advocacy efforts for the coming year – forming a framework to guide the Chamber as it works with the provincial government to build and improve the provincial economy.

“We’ve always said that business needs to be part of the solution,” said Crispino, “The message from our members is very clear – work with government to affect solutions. In the coming days and weeks, we’ll be knocking on Premier McGuinty’s door letting him know where our 57,000 members stand on the issues of the day.”

“The chamber network is strong and united on key issues including the border – and that is great news for local business,” said Don Marsh, Chairman of the Windsor & District Chamber of Commerce who attended the conference. “We are looking forward to working with all levels of government on a number of issues – knowing that the OCC and other chambers and boards from across the province will be standing with us.”

A full version of the adopted policy resolutions can be found at [www.occ.on.ca](http://www.occ.on.ca)

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