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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
April 21, 2005**

### **CHAMBERS PLEASED WITH GOVERNMENTS USING SCHWARTZ REPORT AS FOUNDATION**

**Windsor – April 21, 2005.** The Windsor & District Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce today welcomed the announcement by the federal and provincial governments to improve the flow of commercial traffic in the Windsor-Detroit gateway area.

The announcement reaffirms the previously announced commitments to facilitate the flow of economic activity at Canada's busiest border crossing. Further, the Canadian Chamber is pleased that the governments are moving ahead on the appropriate studies to prepare for the agreed upon road and intermodal infrastructure projects identified in the Schwartz Report commissioned by the City of Windsor.

"Our members tell us that bottlenecks at the busiest Canada/U.S. border crossing are a risk to future trade with the U.S.," said Nancy Hughes Anthony, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. "Improving the border efficiency as quickly as possible at Windsor-Detroit must be the number one economic infrastructure priority for the governments of Canada and Ontario. This is a good and timely step."

"Canada is well positioned to attract investment aimed at serving the U.S. market. However, border delays increase the risk for business and makes the decision to invest in Canada less attractive," Ms. Hughes Anthony added. "Given the recent report on the State of Canada's Trade, which showed the country continues to lose inward investment, border improvements are vital to reversing that dangerous trend."

Don Marsh, Chairman of the Windsor & District Chamber Board of Directors who attended today's announcements said, "there were intriguing appetizers being passed around but no commitment to the main course". He added, that he was "pleased to hear both the provincial and federal governments use the Schwartz Report as the foundation for today's announcements."

Both Chambers strongly encourage continued collaboration and timely action between all three levels of government and on both sides of the border. It has

long argued that fostering better access to the US is important to the industrial heartland of both countries. Given that construction of a new crossing is some years away, the Canadian Chamber urges that everything possible be done to boost the smooth functioning of the Windsor-Detroit corridor. It noted that this is a local, provincial and national issue and everyone has a contribution to make.

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*As the "Voice of Business," the Windsor & District Chamber of Commerce represents over 1,400 business members who collectively employ more than 80,000 people. Our membership profile truly represents a cross-section of the business interests in our community. We actively work with government to ensure the business and investment climate in our region remains competitive and believe that any issues that restrict our ability to attract new business or expand existing business must be resolved.*

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