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**Moncton, N.B. – May 20, 2015 - The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is optimistic about the provincial government’s new funding policy**

The provincial government has set the criteria that the Downtown Moncton Events Centre will have to meet to receive provincial funding. The new policy is titled *The Regional Development Corporation Guiding Principles for Recreation Infrastructure*.

“We are happy to see this policy being released by the provincial government,” says CEO Carol O’Reilly. “The GMCC applauds the Gallant government for putting this together so quickly as we know they were under a lot of pressure. This policy will create a level playing field in the province.”

It’s been seven years since the discussion first began about building the state of the art events centre in Moncton’s downtown, but Gallant is just joining the action.

“Our members realize that the province receives funding requests every day and that these are decisions that are not made lightly,” says O’Reilly. “The Downtown Events Centre may be one of many large scale projects on the docket but we see this as an important investment in the future.”

With the creation of this policy, we are one step closer in a decision being made by the province.

Jacques Dubé, the City Manager, made a presentation at last night’s Moncton City Council meeting on the proposed centre. The City of Moncton has the business case prepared and reinforced the fact that timing has become crucial. RFP bids for the project still hold but getting a decision made quickly is necessary.

The GMCC truly believes the events centre project, and its many spinoffs, will benefit our tri-community region. This is an investment in the current and future generations and many

businesses will thrive due to the economic spinoffs from this project. The Chamber will continue to remain close to this as it develops.

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***The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the business community for more than 825 businesses representing more than 35, 000 members in Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview and the vicinity.***

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