

Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) 2016 Federal Budget Reaction: A Budget that focuses on the middle class and economic growth

Moncton (New Brunswick) – March 22, 2016 - The government's focus in this federal budget is on making life a little easier for middle income families but does not bring any immediate relief to small business.

Some of the announcements we were expecting just weren't made today, but there is hope as we await the second phase of the infrastructure plan," says CEO Carol O'Reilly. "Average Canadians are definitely coming out ahead in this budget though including a large increase to student grants for middle to low income families and part time students."

The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is disappointed with the government's decision not to change the corporate tax rate for small business. Running a business right now is a struggle for many and this an added pressure.

There are a number of issues raised in this budget that the GMCC is pleased about. These include the implementation of an innovation strategy, the investment in research and development in Canada's post-secondary institution, the focus on skills and training and the support provided to innovation clusters and incubators. All of these will benefit our local business economy and enable them to be stronger global competitors.

The announcement on tourism is also very positive. "The \$50 million being invested to get more people to visit Canada is encouraging and is going to benefit all of our communities in this region and across the country." says O'Reilly

The GMCC will continue to monitor the follow up announcements over the next few months with regards to the innovation agenda and infrastructure.



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.

Media Contact:

Bonnie Porter

Director of Communications and Operations

Tel: 506-856-4004 Email: bporter@gmcc.nb.ca