



**July 22, 2016**

Letter to the Editor

In the July 22 edition of the Times & Transcript, New Brunswick's chief economist, David Campbell, cited the "shockingly low" number of high income earners in the province. According to Statistics Canada, we have the second lowest percentage of high-earners in the country.

Mr. Campbell suggested New Brunswick needs to increase the number of high-earners to grow businesses, create wealth and increase tax revenue to the province.

We couldn't agree more, and we applaud Mr. Campbell for raising this issue. Unfortunately, the recent changes to federal and provincial tax rates has created a high burden on existing high-earners and potentially discourages outside investors and entrepreneurs from relocating to the province.

The combination of federal and provincial tax rates has created the second-highest marginal rate for high-income earners in the country.

We agree with Mr. Campbell that our society should not be negative about people who earn a higher income through hard work, effort and risk-taking. These are the people who start and build businesses, who employ people in our community, and who contribute to the generation of overall wealth and income for all people in Greater Moncton, and the entire province.

The Greater Moncton business community is ready to help create more jobs, and put more disposable income in the pockets of our people. The government can help by creating a fairer tax system that convinces our existing high-earners and entrepreneurs to stay and invest, and removes the disincentive to outside businesses interests so they consider New Brunswick as an attractive place in which to locate.

Carol O'Reilly,  
CEO, Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce

***The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the business community for more than 750 businesses representing more than 35,000 members in Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview and the vicinity.***

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