



NEWS RELEASE
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MONCTON (NEW BRUNSWICK)- March 12, 2015 –*The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) is concerned about SWN Resources halting operations in NB*

SWN Resources has suspended drilling plans scheduled to begin this spring in New Brunswick and will reallocate resources in other jurisdictions. The company has a desire to continue their work and investment in the province, but cannot continue that investment due to the current moratorium on fracking.

“The GMCC is concerned about what kind of message this sends to investors,” says Carol O’Reilly the CEO of the Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce. “We were fortunate to have attracted a large company like SWN to invest in our province and wonder how hard it will be to bring them back once the moratorium is lifted.”

Earlier this week, the former Quebec premier, Jean Charest addressed members of the Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce. Charest says when it comes to expanding our natural resources, the information to move forward must be based on scientific fact.

"The challenge for us is to have a fact-based discussion on things like fracking so that we can make a better decision on whether or not we want this industry to be part of our economy." Charest says just saying "no" or "yes" is not a position and he encourages governments to foster an open dialogue surrounding resource development.

The CEO of the GMCC is concerned that the longer the moratorium is in place the more the province looks as though it’s closed for business.

“When we surveyed our members, those who responded on this issue support exploration as long as it is done in an environmentally responsible way,” says O’Reilly. “We only hope that the government is able to complete its assessment quickly so that we don’t lose out on this opportunity or other opportunities for the New Brunswick economy.”

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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