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**MONCTON (NEW BRUNSWICK)- January 28, 2015 –*The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) releases results of its latest member survey on the “State of the Province”.***

Premier Brian Gallant will give his first State of the Province address in Fredericton this evening. The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is hosting a satellite event with the local business community at Casino New Brunswick in Moncton where they will be showing the address live on the big screen. In preparation for tonight’s speech from the premier the GMCC surveyed its members to identify concerns our members have on the prominent issues facing New Brunswickers.

“The GMCC acts as the voice for all our members,” says CEO Carol O’Reilly. “We survey our membership on a regular basis so we have accurate statistical information on issues that impact our economic landscape.”

The latest GMCC survey was comprised of issues impacting our members at a local, regional and provincial level. Questions that were local in nature focussed on the Downtown Events Centre and the emphasis on attracting newcomer’s to the region. It is clear, the respondents strongly support the Downtown Events Centre going ahead.

“This centre will positively change the fabric of our downtown core and the prosperity of our businesses,” says CEO Carol O’Reilly. “Millions of dollars of development in the downtown is hinged on the centre being built. It would revitalize the area and turn it into an economic engine for this region. In similar sized communities the downtown centre has transformed the area.”

In preparation for this evening’s State of the Province address we also asked our members about where they stand on issues such as the current deficit in our province. We found that 95% of those who responded are concerned.

“Chamber members have real concerns and a real vested interest and we are pleased that we were able to collect their feedback on these pressing issues,” says O’Reilly. “As the voice of the business community it allows the chamber to advocate for our members on the issues that matter most.”

The survey results addressed several fundamental questions that could seriously impact the New Brunswick economy from natural resource development, to enhancing the current forestry plan, to hydraulic fracturing and the energy east pipeline and its environmental impact.

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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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