To innovate, companies must be able to attract talent and capital. Key to needs to be created free of To innovate, companies must be able to attract talent and capital. Key to needs to be created free of Developing a talent pool and supporting innovation Small and medium entreprises are the backbone of the Canadian Developing a talent pool and supporting innovation Small and medium entreprises are the backbone of the Canadian

As proposed by the Chambre de commerce de Bois-des-Lacs, the President of the FCCQ decided to examine the relevance of forming an all-hires committee to assess the financial, legal and administrative problems facing independent workers and owners of microbusinesses, and to support the local chambers of commerce in advocating for independent workers. As proposed by the Chambre de commerce de Bois-des-Lacs, the President of the FCCQ decided to examine the relevance of forming an all-hires committee to assess the financial, legal and administrative problems facing independent workers and owners of microbusinesses, and to support the local chambers of commerce in advocating for independent workers.

Self-employment is becoming an increasingly popular choice for many workers. In terms of taxation and payment of taxes, contributions and income tax, these workers make up the least costly and most productive segment of the current economic system. The Chambre de commerce de Bois-des-Lacs believes, however, that these workers are the most discriminated against and have the least access to government programs and services as well as the least social protection of any group. Self-employment is becoming an increasingly popular choice for many workers. In terms of taxation and payment of taxes, contributions and income tax, these workers make up the least costly and most productive segment of the current economic system. The Chambre de commerce de Bois-des-Lacs believes, however, that these workers are the most discriminated against and have the least access to government programs and services as well as the least social protection of any group.

On a recycle programme Centre-du-Québec is historically the most innovative region in the province when it comes to managing residual waste. This is no coincidence, as all the region’s economic, political and social players are working together to make it happen. On a recycle programme Centre-du-Québec is historically the most innovative region in the province when it comes to managing residual waste. This is no coincidence, as all the region’s economic, political and social players are working together to make it happen.

The chambers of commerce of Centre-du-Québec believe that institutions, businesses and industries will increasingly be attracted by Québec’s 1996–2006 Residual Waste Management Policy and its 3R guiding principle (reduce–reuse–recycle and add value), which ensures a reclamation rate for each type of residual material. This well-conceived plan lead to an increase in the quantity and quality of residual materials to be recycled, resulting in the growth of the recycling, recovery and recycling industry. The chambers of commerce of Centre-du-Québec believe that institutions, businesses and industries will increasingly be attracted by Québec’s 1996–2006 Residual Waste Management Policy and its 3R guiding principle (reduce–reuse–recycle and add value), which ensures a reclamation rate for each type of residual material. This well-conceived plan lead to an increase in the quantity and quality of residual materials to be recycled, resulting in the growth of the recycling, recovery and recycling industry.

For these reasons, the General Assembly ratified the request of these chambers of commerce to allow the FCCQ to lobby government bodies to adopt measures to encourage the management of residual waste on behalf of Industry. We also want to look into the possibility of having the Quebec’s chambers of commerce networks recognized as the preferred partnership in implementing FCCQ-Quebec awareness programs in companies. For these reasons, the General Assembly ratified the request of these chambers of commerce to allow the FCCQ to lobby government bodies to adopt measures to encourage the management of residual waste on behalf of Industry. We also want to look into the possibility of having the Quebec’s chambers of commerce networks recognized as the preferred partnership in implementing FCCQ-Quebec awareness programs in companies.


Signed on October 5, 2008, in Québec City by: Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec Alberta Chambers of Commerce Baffin Region Chamber of Commerce British Columbia Chamber of Commerce Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce Manitoba Chambers of Commerce Northwest Territories Chamber of Commerce Ontario Chamber of Commerce Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Yukon Chamber of Commerce

With its wide network of 122 chambers of commerce, the FCCQ represents more than 40,000 businesses and 100,000 business people involved in all sectors of the economy throughout Québec. The FCCQ strongly supports its members’ interests in matters of public policy, thus promoting an innovative and competitive business environment. With its wide network of 122 chambers of commerce, the FCCQ represents more than 40,000 businesses and 100,000 business people involved in all sectors of the economy throughout Québec. The FCCQ strongly supports its members’ interests in matters of public policy, thus promoting an innovative and competitive business environment.

1. L’Exclusif is the FCCQ member newsletter and is published three times a year by the communications department of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec. Please email all questions or comments to info@fccq.ca. L’Exclusif is the FCCQ member newsletter and is published three times a year by the communications department of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec. Please email all questions or comments to info@fccq.ca.

2. Arts and culture are an important part of developing a competitive and innovative economy. They must be encouraged to develop and thrive. Arts and culture are an important part of developing a competitive and innovative economy. They must be encouraged to develop and thrive.

3. The Declaration is the first in the history of Canadian chambers of commerce—proposes several courses of action to spur the growth of the Canadian economy. The Declaration is the first in the history of Canadian chambers of commerce—proposes several courses of action to spur the growth of the Canadian economy.

4. The Declaration calls for the Canadian government to: The Declaration calls for the Canadian government to:

- Reduce red tape and regulatory burdens.
- Remove barriers to trade, investment and workforce mobility.
- Increase investment in infrastructure.
- Improve the tax system for small and medium-sized businesses.
- Promote and protect intellectual property rights.
- Support innovation and research and development.
- Foster entrepreneurship and new business creation.
- Encourage and support training programs for workers.
- Improve the education system to better prepare students for the workforce.
- Foster rural economic development.
- Promote clean and sustainable energy policies.
- Support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Promote the use of clean technologies.
- Encourage the development of green building standards.
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From October 3–6, Québec City was the site of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec’s annual meeting, held for the 1st time jointly with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. More than 600 executives presidents of national, provincial, territorial and regional chambers of commerce met to take part in numerous activities and seminars.

Saturday, October 4

PLENARY SESSIONS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Throughout the week, conference delegates took part in an array of workshops directed at their areas of interest: competition, taxation, the labour force, and the challenges facing small and medium enterprises and the manufacturing sector, to name just a few.

They also had the opportunity to hear several well-respected speakers, including David Allen (author of the best-selling book Getting Things Done) and Pierre Laliberté (CEO of Swimming Canada), and to attend the political debate that was held against the backdrop of the federal elections.

Conference delegates gathered in large numbers for the many workshops being offered.

Mr. David Allen, speaker and author of Getting Things Done

The Premier of Québec addresses the chambers of commerce.

POLITICAL DEBATE

Left to right: Paul Côté, Bloc Québécois; Guy Charbonneau, New Democratic Party; Jim Prentis, Conservative Party of Canada; Gilbert Lavioie, Le Soleil, moderator; John McCullen, Liberal Party of Canada; Garry Caldwell, Green Party of Canada.

GALA CLOSING SHOW

Conference delegates clicked onto the dance floor as Martin Fontaine and the Groovy Good Times Band shook the place up with rock and pop beats. Everyone grooved!

EVENING OF CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF QUÉBEC

On Saturday, October 4, the president of the Chambre de commerce de Québec, Christian Goulet, welcomed more than 800 guests from Québec City and the conference to the CCQ’s 200th anniversary bash.

CCQ president, Christian Goulet

CORRIDORS OF COMMERCE

As part of the corridors of commerce workshop, a partnership agreement was formalized with New Hampshire.

Left to right: Raymond Marcel, MDEE; Françoise Bertrand, FCCQ president and CEO; Jean Couture, special counsel, office of the MTQ deputy minister; France Diomée, delegate to the Québec Delegation in Boston; Jim Roche, president of the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire’s State Chamber of Commerce, and Joseph J. Belilacqua, president of the Quebec Delegation in Boston; and John McCullen, Liberal Party of Canada.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE YEAR

This chamber of commerce has distinguished itself by its ability to diversity its activities to reach out to the greatest number of people. It developed several original activities to support the next generation of entrepreneurs and coordinated various projects to foster the introduction of young workers into the region’s companies. More than 200 young people benefited from this support.

Left to right: Richard Côté, Lise Caza, Madeleine Sainte-Marie, Bernard Grandmont, Michel Labbé.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD

Mr. Fecteau is an active member of the Chambre de commerce du Haut-Richelieu. He has held many positions, including that of president. His tireless commitment has been a key factor in the chamber’s success. He is a regular contributor to numerous charities, including a group of hand-capped persons and the regional hospital foundation.

Left to right: Roch L. Dubé and Michel Fecteau.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF AN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Parent has been the main local chamber of commerce for more than 30 years. His involvement extends into community and cultural areas. He works in numerous charitable organizations as well as with the Fondation de l’Orchestre symphonique de Longueuil, which he established. He was recently named president of the Bureau des gouverneurs of the Fondation de l’Hôpital Pierre-Boucher.

Left to right: Roch L. Dubé and Jean-Guy Parent.

PRIX JEAN-PAUL-LÉTOURNEAUX

Daniel Desjardins, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts

This award recognizes the outstanding work of a chamber of commerce CEO. Mr. Desjardins has been at the helm of the Chamber de commerce de Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts since 2000. Active in virtually all areas of the community, he enjoys a high degree of visibility and maintains a strategic position in both political and business decision-making entities. His initiative and leadership have resulted in the creation of a regional chamber of commerce that brings together several communities.

Left to right: Richard Payette and Daniel Desjardins.