

March 8, 2016

Hon. Christina Gray
Minister of Labour and Democratic Renewal
107 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
Canada T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Gray:

On behalf of 128 member community chambers representing over 24,000 businesses across Alberta, the Alberta Chambers of Commerce (ACC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and input regarding Alberta's minimum wage and corresponding increases. Our submission is enclosed for your consideration.

This February, the ACC conducted a survey of businesses across the province regarding the impacts of minimum wage increases that came into effect October 1, 2015, and the potential of future increases. This survey garnered nearly 800 qualified respondents representing a variety of businesses and sectors.

Employment outcomes for many in Alberta, including minimum wage earners, are declining as result of the pains and pressures affecting business. Government actions which increase the costs of doing business can only make this problem more acute by layering more obstacles on job creators as they struggle to grow, or even sustain. It is with this in mind that we present results and recommendations contained in this submission, with the view to support the prosperity of all Albertans.

We look forward to meeting with you on March 18 to discuss the opportunities for working together. If you have any questions regarding our enclosed submission prior to our meeting, please contact me at 780-425-4180 Ext. 5 or kkobly@abchamber.ca.

Sincerely,



Ken Kobly, FCPA, FCGA
President and CEO

CC: Hon. Deron Bilous, Minister of Economic Development and Trade