

December 16, 2015

Hon. Lori Sigurdson
Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour, Minister of Advanced Education
404 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Minister Sigurdson:

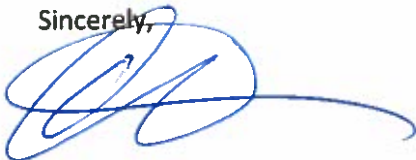
The Alberta Chamber of Commerce would like to express our appreciation that Deputy Minister Andre Corbould and Assistant Deputy Minister Dan Rizzoli attended our annual Deputy Minister's Dinner on November 24. Guests and our members, community chambers from around the province, heard a clear and important message that evening: the Province is looking to partner with the business community to make Alberta a better place to live and work.

In the interest of developing that partnership, we want to meet with you to discuss some of our members' issues and solutions relating to Alberta's workers and employers, as well as to our post-secondary institutions. We applaud the indications in this year's budget indicating the Government will be restoring the STEP program next year. The restoration of this program is an important part of our policy on raising the relevance of post-secondary education and equipping students with the skills needed for success in the work place.

We would also like discuss further opportunities for strengthening Alberta's labour force through attraction and retention of international students and establishing an affordable pre-kindergarten program. Attracting greater talent to Alberta and enabling the talent of Albertan parents to get reenter the labour market more quickly are priorities for our members. Our federation's policies outlining these opportunities have been attached for your consideration.

If your schedule would allow for us to meet, Ken Kobly, our President and CEO, may be reached on his cell phone at 780.975.1659 or by email at kkobly@abchamber.ca. We hope to hear from you soon to explore how we may work together to support a competitive labour force for Alberta in the long term.

Sincerely,



Carman R. McNary, Q.C.
Chair



Ken Kobly, FCGA
President and CEO

CC: Deputy Minister Andre Corbould and Assistant Deputy Minister Dan Rizzoli