



Chapter 2

Alberta Chambers of Commerce





What is the Role of the Alberta Chambers of Commerce

The Alberta Chambers of Commerce (ACC) is a voluntary federation of independent Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade in communities throughout Alberta. The Alberta Chambers has as its objectives the protection of our democratic principles; the preservation of our economic system; the maintenance of fair relation among labour, management, capital, and the consumer; the promotion of cooperation among Chambers and Boards of Trade in Alberta; the development of informed public opinions; and the securing of effective action by the provincial government and member Chambers and Boards.

In short, we represent our members at the provincial level just as the Canadian Chamber of Commerce represents them at the federal level.

During each year, member Chambers and Boards make presentations of proposals for policy by the provincial Chamber. These are correlated and **examined** by the provincial Chamber and consolidated into a booklet of draft policy, which is presented each year for discussion and balloting by member Chambers at the Annual Conference and Policy Session.

Policies that have been approved are presented by the executive committee of the ACC to the Cabinet of the provincial government, where they are explained in detail. These matters receive serious attention, representing as they do the collective opinions of thousands of business and professional people. Many become the basis for new legislation.

As an autonomous organization, your Chamber's alliance with the Alberta Chambers of Commerce is voluntary but should be considered essential for the well being of your Chamber.

<p>Vision</p>	<p>The Alberta Chambers of Commerce, a federation of community Chambers, will be the premier organization representing Alberta business</p>														
<p>Mission</p>	<p>The Alberta Chambers of Commerce is the advocate for Alberta business</p>														
<p>Strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to issues in a timely manner • Facilitate the development of policy • Develop effective communication plans • Develop value-added programs and services • Provide training for staff and volunteers • Demonstrate fiscal responsibility 														
<p>Executive Structure</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Chair</td> <td>These volunteers are</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair Elect</td> <td>elected from all areas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Vice Chair</td> <td>of the province and</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Second Vice Chair</td> <td>spend 6 years on the</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>ACC executive</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Past Chair</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>President and CEO</td> <td>Senior staff person</td> </tr> </table>	Chair	These volunteers are	Chair Elect	elected from all areas	First Vice Chair	of the province and	Second Vice Chair	spend 6 years on the	Treasurer	ACC executive	Past Chair		President and CEO	Senior staff person
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The Strong Voice for Business

That's exactly what the Alberta Chambers of Commerce provides. The Alberta Chambers is a voluntary association that brings elements of the business community together into one influential and respected voice. The ACC speaks for business on matters of provincial and national concern and provide leadership to give business a strong collective voice.

The Alberta Chambers actively supports and promotes Alberta's private sector by utilizing the full potential of private enterprise and enabling its members to accomplish collectively what no one could do individually.

Alberta Chambers of Commerce ... the advocate for Alberta business

YOU PAY

Your share of taxes;

YOU HAVE

A right to be heard;

THE ALBERTA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ENSURES

That you are heard!

Government has grown both in size and with their impact on business. At the same time, the role of the Alberta Chambers of Commerce as the advocate for business interests has broadened.

Increasingly, the role of the Alberta Chambers is to monitor, interpret, and provide comment on legislative issues affecting business in Alberta. In addition, the ACC provides benefits to member Chambers who in turn offer them to their members. Annually the ACC hosts: the Alberta Business Awards of Distinction; Political Action Day and MLAs' Dinner; Annual Conference and Policy Session; and the Fall Board Meeting and Deputy Ministers' Dinner.

What is the Involvement of and Cost to the Community Chambers?

Promotion and involvement with;

- ◆ value-added programs made available to you and your members.
- ◆ the policy development and approval process.

Financially;

- ◆ for the first calendar year, membership for new Chambers is *WAIVED*.
- ◆ for 2nd year membership and each subsequent year — the current fee is \$10.25** per paid member in your Chamber at the beginning of each calendar year. (** reviewed from time-to-time and as at October 2008)

Services the Alberta Chambers Provides

Please see the *Your guide to...Alberta Chambers of Commerce Resources* brochure included with this handbook.

Calendar of Events

- February Alberta Business Awards of Distinction, **Edmonton/Calgary** (rotates)
- February Deadline for submissions of policy resolutions
- March Political Action Day and MLAs' Dinner, **Edmonton**
- March Deadline for submissions for Chamber of the Year Awards
- May Annual Conference & Policy Session, **hosted around the province**
- October Small Business Week
- November Fall Board Meeting and Deputy Ministers' Dinner, **Edmonton**

JOIN US TODAY – THE ADVOCATE FOR ALBERTA BUSINESS!!