



5 May 2017

Hon. Brian Gallant, Premier  
Province of New Brunswick  
P.O. Box 6000  
Fredericton, NB  
E3B 5H1

Hon. Donald Arseneault, Minister  
Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour  
P.O. Box 6000  
Fredericton, NB  
E3B 5H1

**Re: 4 May 2017 WorkSafeNB Announcement**

Dear Premier Gallant and Minister Arseneault,

On behalf of our board of directors and 950 member business and organizations, we are writing to thank you for listening to the concerns of the business community and taking action to address cost issues at WorkSafeNB. Our organization is supportive of each of the three actions announced by Minister Arseneault yesterday in Fredericton.

We are eager to continue work with government, WorkSafeNB, worker groups and the task force to provide the perspective and concerns of our membership. Both of you (and others, including Tim Peterson) have echoed our position that it is important to have a workers' compensation system that is sustainable - providing injured workers the benefits they need while remaining affordable for the province's employers.

It is in the best interests of employers and workers that WorkSafeNB rates remain as low as possible, so that we can collectively create jobs and grow the economy. We commend you for taking control of this complex and critical issue. Businesses create jobs, but we need government as a partner to provide the conditions to enable this economic growth. The announcement on 4 May 2017 is an important step in that process.



**FREDERICTON  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

— The Voice of Business —

364 York Street, Suite 200  
Fredericton, NB  
E3B 3P7



It is important now that the work of the auditor general and the task force begin forthwith so that their reports can be completed in a timely fashion and recommendations can be implemented prior to WorkSafeNB setting rates for 2018 in the fall. Time is of the essence - the business community is ready and willing to engage in this process as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Paul Simmonds in black ink.

Paul Simmonds  
Robert Simmonds Clothing  
President, Fredericton Chamber of Commerce

Handwritten signature of Krista Ross in black ink.

Krista Ross, CEO  
Fredericton Chamber of Commerce

cc: Tim Peterson, Acting President & CEO, WorkSafeNB  
cc: Joel Richardson, Chair, NB Coalition of Employers  
cc: Chamber of Commerces in NB