

EMBARGOED MEDIA RELEASE

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Ontario Chamber of Commerce sends Letter to Minister of Foreign Affairs Emphasizing that a Strong Canada-U.S. Trade Relationship is Essential to our Shared Prosperity

Windsor, ON – Today the Ontario Chamber of Commerce Network wrote a letter to the Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Canada to emphasize the importance of the Canada-U.S. relationship moving into 2017 and beyond. International trade was a major focus of the 2016 presidential campaign.

The Ontario Chamber and its network of local chambers believes that trade between Canada and many American states yields positive outcomes for employers and workers on both sides of the border. Canada was the top destination for exports for 35 states and the U.S. is Canada's largest trading partner. There is also an unprecedented MOU for automotive between Michigan and Ontario to support growth and innovation.

"A strong Canada-U.S. trading relationship is essential to our shared economic prosperity," said Matt Marchand, Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce President & CEO.

"This letter is a key step in reinforcing the importance of our two way trading relationship, which are also the top economic drivers in the Windsor-Essex region: automotive and agriculture," added Marchand.

In emphasizing these points as well as other regulatory changes, the business community in Ontario is affirming its commitment to continued and strengthened cross-border relations. Canada-U.S. trade has contributed significantly to the prosperity on both sides of the border. With a sustained commitment to cooperation and collaboration, these mutual benefits will continue to increase into the future.

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