

## Ontario too expensive for bottom line, say small businesses

[CBC News](#) Posted: Aug 09, 2016 1:32 PM ET Last Updated: Aug 09, 2016 1:32 PM ET

A campaign aimed at reducing the economic challenges for Ontario's small business owners made a stop in Windsor on Tuesday.

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce held a roundtable discussion in order to identify the barriers that might be stifling growth in the sector.

Chamber president and CEO Allan O'dette has been visiting several communities as part of his group's Small Business Too Big To Ignore campaign, which kicked off in May.

Feedback and ideas gathered over six months will be released in a discussion paper in October, according to Matt Marchand, president of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce.

"Today was a great opportunity for O'dette to meet some of our small business leadership," he said.

A survey released by the Chamber at the start of the campaign indicates one of 20 Ontario businesses expect to fold in the next five years because of rising electricity prices.

The cost of doing business in the province was a common barrier mentioned by owners in that survey.

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