

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

MEDIA ADVISORY

September 30, 2013

Windsor-Essex Chamber Successful in Getting Canadian Chambers of Commerce Support to Pass Bill C-290, Single Sports Betting

Windsor, ON – The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce was successful in receiving national support from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce membership to have Senate pass Bill C-290, Single Sports Betting. The resolution also called for Bill C-290 to come into force before the end of 2013.

Matt Marchand, Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce President & CEO was in Kelowna, BC from September 28-30, 2013 for the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting, where he presented the Chamber's proposed resolution on allowing provinces to decide on Single Sports Betting. The resolution was co-sponsored by the Atlantic Chamber of Commerce, The Niagara Falls Chamber of Commerce, the B.C. Chamber of Commerce, La Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec, The Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce, and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

"We are elated that Chambers across the country are in support of the Senate passing Bill C-290," said Marchand. "We hope that the senate will listen to the Chamber's vast network and do what is right for jobs and our economy—pass Bill C-290. The economic and social benefits of passing Bill C-290 are significant—including job creation, an increase in tourism, and a legal alternative to single event betting."

Bill C-290 An Act to amend the Criminal Code (Sports Betting) received all-party support in the House of Commons in March 2012 and has been stalled in the Senate since then. Bill C-290 would delete the specific provisions of the Criminal Code that make it illegal to bet on "any race or fight, or on a single sports event or athletic contest." The provinces, under whose jurisdiction gaming has exclusively resided since 1985, would then have the policy lever to decide whether or not, and under what conditions, wagering on single sporting events will be permitted to occur.

The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce thanks its resolution co-sponsors as well as local MPs Brian Masse and Joe Comartin, and the labour community including CLC President Ken Georgetti and Windsor and District Labour Council President Dino Chiodo.

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