

# WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

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## MEDIA RELEASE

May 5, 2014

### **Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber Wins Two Prestigious Ontario Chamber Awards for Single Sports Betting Advocacy**

**Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario** – The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce won the 2014 Ontario Chamber of Commerce Chair's Award and the Policy and Advocacy Award at the Ontario Chamber's Annual General Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario over the weekend. This was for the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber's work in Single Sports Betting. These mark the third and fourth awards that the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber has received from the OCC since 2012.

The OCC's Chair's Award is presented annually for extraordinary efforts within the Chamber network by recognizing excellence in operations, member services and community leadership. The Policy and Advocacy Award recognizes extraordinary policy-related efforts.

The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce won these awards for its leadership in creating a nation wide coalition and a successful advocacy campaign. Initially, the Chamber called for the Senate to pass Bill C-290 which would delete specific provisions of the Criminal Code that make it illegal to bet on "any race or fight, or one single sports event or athletic contest." From there each province would be able to decide whether or not, and under what conditions, wagering on single sporting events will be permitted to occur.

Carolyn Brown, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber said, "We are honoured that the OCC has recognized the exceptional advocacy efforts of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber. These awards symbolize the value added benefits that our Chamber and our staff deliver to our members each and every day."

"The single sports betting initiative was to provide new economic development opportunities for business. Our approach was to turn a regional issue into a national issue by building the widest possible coalition to accomplish the goal," said Matt Marchand, President and CEO of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce.

To access the Chamber's Media Releases and News you can visit the Chamber's website at [www.windsorchamber.org](http://www.windsorchamber.org).

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