

# WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

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**Media Release**

**September 24, 2012**

## **Windsor-Essex Chamber Makes Canada Wide Case to Simplify Access to Federal R&D Program**

**Windsor, Ontario** – The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce introduced a resolution that was approved by the chambers of commerce from around the country at the Annual General Meeting held in Hamilton, Ontario on September 22, 23, and 24, 2012. The resolution was co-sponsored by the Mississauga Board of Trade.

If adopted by the Canadian government, the resolution would simplify access to federal research and development grants announced in the 2012 budget. This would have a positive effect on many of the Windsor-Essex businesses who rely on Research and Development to be globally competitive and maintain and enhance job levels for the region.

Jobs and economic development are top priorities for the Windsor-Essex Chamber membership.

Matt Marchand, President and CEO of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce said that “Research and Development is the lifeblood for our local technology and manufacturing based sector. Ongoing investment in R&D will help secure our future competitive position in the global economy. Having the full weight of the Canadian Chamber membership is very helpful in achieving our goal.”

The Chambers are concerned that the application process for R&D grants has the potential to be onerous and therefore careful consideration to program design such as clearly defined criteria and objectives should be identified up front.

The resolution was created with the help of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce’s Finance and Taxation Policy Committee.

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