

# WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL Chamber of Commerce

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**Media Release**

**November 21, 2012**

## **Windsor-Essex Regional, Greater Niagara, and Ontario Chambers of Commerce Join Forces to Support Single Sports Betting**

**Windsor, Ontario** – The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce has teamed up with the Greater Niagara and Ontario Chambers of Commerce to advocate for single sports betting in Ontario.

In a joint letter, the Windsor, Niagara, and Ontario Chambers call for the support of Bill C-290, which would delete 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.” 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.

Bill C-290 has received support from all parties in the House of Commons. The Bill would contribute to the creation of additional jobs at provincially-operated/regulated casinos, attracting U.S. citizens to Canadian casinos, and reducing organized crime associated with single event betting. The bill is currently in the Senate.

“With Windsor’s proximity to Detroit, our upscale casino, and the need for jobs in this region, we would definitely see an improvement to our local and provincial economy should Bill C-290 pass. The Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce greatly appreciates the help and support of the Greater Niagara and Ontario Chambers of Commerce on this issue,” said Matt Marchand, President and CEO of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce.

“Bill C-290 provides an opportunity for communities to generate valuable economic activity from safe and legal sports betting that can have additional benefits on revenues that provinces use to fund important programs and services,” said Walter Sendzik CEO of the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce. “This Bill is a great opportunity to take advantage of potential revenues and jobs that will help benefit and grow local economies while controlling criminal activity associated with illegal sports betting,” continued Sendzik.

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