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Regional Chambers Meet with BC Government

Policies discussion hosted by BC Chamber aims to improve business climate in the region

On July 23rd, 11 chambers of commerce from the Thompson-Okanagan met with 18 government representatives—including Deputy Ministers and Assistant Deputy Ministers across 12 ministries—to discuss both local and pan-provincial issues affecting businesses in the region.

The network presented [its policies](#) (adopted at the 2019 BC Chamber AGM), which contained specific recommendations to government.

Specifically, the consortium addressed the following:

Pan provincial issues including:

- Taxation (Competitiveness)
- *Species-At-Risk Act* legislation and considering the impacts on business
- Transportation and Infrastructure
- Emergency Preparedness
- Labour Market Concerns

Thompson-Okanagan regional concerns, namely:

- Developing a sufficient stock of accessible market and rental housing
- Accelerating the development of transportation infrastructure
- Supporting a prosperous tree fruit sector
- Improving healthcare with physician extenders
- Growing an aerospace innovation cluster

“Presenting our policies to government is a critical part of our network’s robust policy process,” says Val Litwin, CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce. “We look forward to working collaboratively with government in the year ahead on numerous files for the betterment of all BC’s regional economies.”

The BC Chamber and its local chamber network will be meeting with government in regions across the province over the next three months. These consultations were created to enable the BC Chamber network to communicate directly with government and propose legislative and

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policy solutions that will expand opportunities for business, strengthen BC's economy, and drive deeper consultations with government moving forward.