

December 16, 2015

Office of the Premier
7th Floor, One Government Place
1700 Granville Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 1X5

Dear Premier McNeil,

Congratulations on the passage of the Regulatory Reporting and Accountability Act. Championing common sense regulations is a critical component of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce's 2013-2018 Strategic Plan and we fully support your government's actions to reduce red tape.

The regulatory burden has a major impact on the day-to-day lives of our members and we strongly approve of this move to reduce red tape in Nova Scotia. We also agree that it is important to establish this work in legislation. Formalizing the activities of the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Service Effectiveness, the need to publically track and reduce red tape, and the cooperation of the three Maritime Premiers is an important part of helping this work succeed. This legislation shows that your government is serious about addressing the impact that excessive regulation has on business competitiveness and innovation in Nova Scotia. Finally, your leadership in bringing all three Maritime Premiers together is commendable and we hope that this is the start of increased cooperation in our region on multiple fronts.

It is important to remember however, that this is only the beginning. Nova Scotia has much more work to do to become a more business-friendly province and we expect this issue to remain an important priority for your government in the months and years ahead. If there is every anything we can do to help you move forward, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Valerie Payn
President and CEO

cc,

Fred Crooks, Chief Regulatory Officer