

May 5th, 2009

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Dear Leader:

As you know, members of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce have a keen interest in the health of the economy of our Province. The Chamber has been closely monitoring government spending decisions of late, and discussing their impact on the economy. To this end, the Chamber has developed “decision filters” as a tool to help guide our discussions.

These filters, which were developed to guide spending to encourage growth in the province, ask whether or not proposed stimulative spending will:

- Contribute to long term economic development
- Create an investment which will pay for itself
- Contribute to a Nova Scotia that will attract and retain people
- Build efficiencies that will control future government spending

Our members would like to know how each party’s plan for Nova Scotia would pass the Chamber’s filter test? We recognize that tough decisions have to be made - that government revenue is under more

pressure than ever before. This is precisely why all decisions that government make must be forward thinking.

We look forward to hearing from you concerning how your plan passes through the filter test. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at anytime.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Payn  
President & CEO