

1,126 Government Programs. What Do You Think?

December 20, 1999

On November 22, the Metropolitan Halifax Chamber of Commerce provided a report to the Fiscal Management Task Force, a body set up by the government to review the management of the province and to seek public input on how to make the most productive use of our collective resources. This report stated that:

Government must select its priorities and provide only those services that can be funded over the long term . . . Government ought to be in the business of providing only those services which would not otherwise be provided by the private sector, or are of sufficient overriding public interest that they can only be provided by the public sector. This distinction between core and non-core activities must lie at the heart of the government's analysis of its activities - the analysis should be continual.

It is clear that government must redefine itself and refocus its limited resources. In his November 15th State of the Province Address, Premier Hamm indicated that the province has 1,126 programs. The Chamber would like to provide you, our members, with an opportunity to provide specific feedback, based on your personal and business experience, on which programs should be maintained, cut, or privatized.

Please respond to the following and fax back to the Chamber office at 468-7333 by Thursday, Dec. 23. For more space, you may fax a separate sheet to the above number or send an email to info@halifaxchamber.com Your responses will assist the Chamber in providing direction to the government while it reviews the 1,126 programs currently in place.

1) What three current programs/services should the government continue to provide?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

2) What three current programs/services should be immediately moved to the private sector?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

3) What three current programs/services should be eliminated entirely?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

