



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HALIFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RESPONDS TO EDUCATION REVIEW

October 30, 2014 - Halifax, NS – The Minister’s Panel on Education has delivered a bold message that Nova Scotia’s public education system needs to change.

The Chamber has been supportive of this initiative since the beginning and prepared a detailed submission to the Panel last spring. Overall, we are very pleased with the recommendations included in the Panel’s report particularly its proposals to:

- Strengthen the curriculum to increase the focus on core skills and provide teachers with more freedom for differentiated instruction.
- Improve the training, certification, and performance management systems for teachers.
- Increase the resources available in schools by breaking down departmental silos and focusing on delivering services for youth in schools.

In addition, given the province’s fiscal situation we are pleased that the Panel approached this project as if there would be no new major sources of revenue for the system.

“We strongly urge the government to take these recommendations seriously and deliver a comprehensive plan for action in the New Year,” says Valerie Payn, President and CEO of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. “We really have to *act now* because the actions taken in the upcoming months will directly impact the economic future of our business community through our schools. Our P-12 system needs this, now more than ever.”

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce is committed to enhancing the prosperity of its members and to realizing Halifax’s potential to be among the top 3 highest growth city economies in Canada by 2018.

-30-

For more information please contact:

Melissa Muise
Public Relations Coordinator
melissam@halifaxchamber.com
902-481-1238