

**NEWS RELEASE****Tuesday, June 2, 2009****10:00 A.M.***\* For immediate release*

**Lethbridge, AB... Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce representatives: Dennis Hatt, Paul Pharo, Sue Snicer, Jody Nilsson and Marion McEntee attended the Alberta Chambers' Provincial Conference and Policy Session in Grande Prairie, May 28 – 30, 2009.**

During the **Conference Policy Session, 29 Proposed Policy Resolutions** submitted by **chambers throughout the province**, were debated. Lethbridge Chamber President, **Dennis Hatt** and President Elect, **Paul Pharo** participated in the debate and discussions on the resolutions. Of the **29** resolutions debated, **24 were approved** and **5 defeated**, by the 2/3 majority of voting delegates.

**The 5 resolutions sponsored and co-sponsored by the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce, were approved during the Policy Session:**

- **Water for Sustainability - An Alberta Strategy**  
*(sponsored by Lethbridge)*
- **A Vision for Alberta Royalty Reviews** *(sponsored by Lethbridge)*
- **A Common-sense Approach to Food Safety**  
*(sponsored by Red Deer, co-sponsored by Lethbridge)*
- **Provincial Land-use Framework: Achieving Sustainable Development while Improving the Regulatory Environment**  
*(sponsored by Calgary, co-sponsored by Lethbridge)*
- **Planning for Progressive Transportation on Alberta's Roadways**  
*(sponsored by Red Deer, co-sponsored by Lethbridge)*

*\* please see attached list of all the resolutions submitted*

**All approved Policy Resolutions become the official policies of the Alberta Chambers of Commerce and are submitted to the Alberta Government, for action.**

During the Conference, the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce hosted a breakfast to invite chambers throughout the province, to come to Lethbridge in 2010. **The Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce was successful in its bid, to host the Alberta Chambers' Provincial Conference and Policy Session May 13-15, 2010 in Lethbridge.** The theme for the Lethbridge conference is: **“Winds of Innovation & Change”**.

A **Lethbridge Chamber 2010 Conference Planning Committee** is in place and the organizing has begun for this conference. **Sue Snicer** and **Marion McEntee**, volunteers on the planning committee, attended the Grande Prairie conference, to gain insight on this major event. It is anticipated that about **125 delegates** (plus family members) from **chambers throughout Alberta**, will attend this conference in 2010. Members of the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce and our local business community, will also be invited to participate in the conference.

**This is a great opportunity for the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce and its members, to discuss business issues with chamber representatives from throughout Alberta and showcase this great community we live in!**

Paul Pharo  
President Elect  
Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce

*\* Paul Pharo will speak at the News Conference on behalf of Chamber President, Dennis Hatt, who is presently out of town.*

*\* For additional information, please call Paul Pharo at 403-328-5576 or Jody Nilsson at the Chamber office 403-327-1586.*

**Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce Attendees in Grande Prairie:**

*Dennis Hatt, President  
Paul Pharo, President Elect  
Sue Snicer, Vice President Finance  
Marion McEntee, Volunteer 2010 Conference Committee  
Jody Nilsson, General Manger*

# 2009 Proposed Policy Resolutions

## Alberta Chambers' AGM in Grande Prairie

### AGRICULTURE

- Common-Sense Approach to Food Safety
- Support to Ranchers in the Removal of Specified Risk Material

### EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

- First Contract Arbitration Position
- Reconciling Legislative Ambiguities with Respect to Employer Alcohol and Drug Policies

### ENERGY

- A Vision for Alberta Royalty Reviews
- Developing a Comprehensive Alberta Electricity Policy
- Renewable Energy Equipment Tax Credit
- Positioning Alberta to Lead in Energy Innovation
- Value-added Environmentally Beneficial Opportunities for Ethanol (*Defeated*)

### ENVIRONMENT

- Water for Sustainability – An Alberta Strategy

### FINANCE AND ENTERPRISE

- Alberta's Fiscal Policy
- ATB Financial – Call for Credit Leadership (*Defeated*)
- Controlled Expenditures: A Smart-Spending Bandwidth
- Improving Personal Income Tax Competitiveness
- Potential Infrastructure Funding Options

- Reduction of Corporate Taxation Rates on Investment Income and Introduction of a Refundable Tax Regime
- Securities Regulation
- Single Securities Regulator (*Defeated*)
- Vision 2050: A New Provincial Savings Framework
- Severance Transfer to RRSPs

## HEALTH

- A Provincial Approach to Alberta's Rural Family Physician Shortage
- Critical Factors for Alberta Health Services Procurement Policy
- Employers and the Impact of the *Health Information Amendment Act*
- Reduction of Hospital-Acquired Infections
- Renewal of Alberta's Health Care System (*with addition from previous resolution*)

## MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

- Independent Office of Municipal Auditor General at the Provincial Level (*Defeated*)
- Municipal Conflict of Interest and Campaign Finances Reform (*Defeated*)

## SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Provincial Land-Use Framework: Achieving Sustainable Development While Improving the Regulatory Environment

## TRANSPORTATION

- Planning for Progressive Transportation on Alberta's Roadways