



May 15, 2023

Hon. Hal Perry

Leader of Official Opposition and Interim Leader of the Liberal Party

Sent via email

Dear Hon. Perry,

On behalf of the Greater Charlottetown Area Chamber of Commerce and our over 1,160 members, congratulations to you and your colleagues on forming the Official Opposition of our province.

In March, the Chamber shared [a series of policy recommendations](#) in support of local economic development, based on feedback from our membership.

We were pleased that several of our recommendations appeared in your party's election platform. As such, we look forward to your support on the following:

- Partnering with the private sector to build sector-specific strategies that ensure the Island has an available workforce for Island businesses to grow.
- Re-evaluating the provincial income tax model to better align with our Atlantic counterparts to ensure we are competitive in attracting labour to the Island.
- Reviewing the annual minimum wage process and developing a long-term strategy to create a transparent, fair, and predictable process that takes private wage trends into account.
- Revisiting PEI's population growth strategy with a focus on recruiting, integrating, and retaining immigrants to the Island that match our workforce strategies.

The Chamber also welcomes additional platform commitments in support of the private sector such as: advocating to the federal government for EI policies which allow students to continue to work into the shoulder season without financial penalties; working with Holland College and UPEI to explore enhancements to existing training and new training programs that respond to sector needs; and supporting career promotion and marketing funding aimed at getting more Islanders in priority sectors.

In the coming weeks, we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to brief on issues our members are facing and discuss how we could collaborate.

We look forward to working with you and your caucus over the course of your mandate.

Sincerely,



Kim Horrelt
Interim CEO, GCACC



Madeline Biso
Policy & Communications Specialist, GCACC

CC: MLA Gordon McNeilly; MLA Robert Henderson