



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Monday, April 19, 2010

Board draws national convention to St. John's

The St. John's Board of Trade is pleased to announce that it will host the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's 2011 annual general meeting from September 16-19. This meeting of chamber of commerce and board of trade executives from across the country attracts more than 350 delegates and was last held in St. John's in 1996.

"This is great news for the St. John's Board of Trade and is indicative that we are active on the national scene," said Chair Derek Sullivan. "The city and province are showing that they are top flight destinations for major conferences. We are pleased to bring business leaders from across Canada to our capital and show off what we're doing here. This is a vibrant place that is home to cutting edge business, a vibrant culture, and excellent people. We want to showcase that."

Canadian Chamber of Commerce President and Chief Executive Officer, the Honourable Perrin Beatty, said that national delegates will have high expectations of the conference. "On the national scene, Newfoundland and Labrador is known as a province to be reckoned with," said Mr. Beatty. "I'm personally excited to see exactly what the people in the city are going to put together for us. I know that our delegates are going to be welcomed with open arms and shown just exactly how friendly, industrious, and driven Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are."

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce represents some 350 chambers of commerce and boards of trade with 175,000 businesses of all sizes in all sectors of the economy and in all regions.

Board of Trade Senior Vice Chair Jo Mark Zurel will be Chair of the Board when the national delegates come to St. John's. "I am looking forward to welcoming our national colleagues and hosting an event that is both entertaining and productive," said Mr. Zurel. "Combining advocacy work and networking, this will be a conference that will have people thinking about St. John's and Newfoundland and Labrador when they return to their homes across Canada."

The St. John's Board of Trade is a non-partisan, business advocacy organization that is the principal voice of business for over 750 members in the St. John's area. Its mission is to improve the local business climate, enhancing its members' ability to do business through advocacy and member services.

-30-

Media contact: Craig Ennis, Vice President of Policy & Communications, 726-2961, ext 3,
cennis@bot.nf.ca