

MEDIA RELEASE



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Cambridge Chamber policy deploys economic principles to policing

CAMBRIDGE, Ont. - The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce encourages the Province to use a different approach when it comes funding various policing programs.

The Chamber presented a policy at the Ontario Chamber of Commerce's recent Annual General Meeting and Convention in Timmins recommending the Province, in consultation with municipalities, police boards, and businesses communities, use economic analysis principles when it comes to current and potential crime diversion programs that could reduce crime and in turn make it safer for businesses to operate.

"Creating safer communities is essential when it comes creating a vibrant business community," says Cambridge Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Greg Durocher. "It's our hope this policy is a step in the right direction."

The policy also recommends that underperforming programs that don't adequately serve communities of all types be identified, and that funding be prioritized accordingly, and that the efficacy of these programs be evaluated in the context of other wrap-around services available in each community. Also, it calls for the implementation of a system to measure the long-term impacts of these program investments and insists municipalities continue to use Special Constables in urban areas instead of fully sworn officers to reduce tax burdens.

The policy is now part of the Ontario Chamber policy playbook in its advocacy efforts with the Provincial Government.

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The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is committed to the enhancement of economic prosperity and the quality of life in Cambridge. A non-partisan organization funded solely by memberships, the Chamber works hard to address concerns of business, provide access to information resources and represent members at the municipal, provincial and federal levels of government. With more

than 1,700 member firms, the Chamber's strength is clearly in its hardworking volunteers and committees addressing issues affecting local business and providing practical solutions.