



BACKGROUND

2008 Membership Issue Priority Survey Results Summary

Margin of error: +/- 5%, 19 times out of 20

Survey conducted Jan 21 – Feb 1, 2008

2008 PRIORITIES

Top Five Business Issues (Data derived from an open-ended question)

1. Labour shortage
2. Transportation Infrastructure
3. Taxes (Federal, Provincial, Municipal)
4. Economic health and diversification
5. Environment (Land use, water, climate change)

Top Five Municipal Issues

1. City expansion and growth management (e.g. planning, urban sprawl)
2. Transportation – roads and transit
3. Public and personal safety
4. Fiscal management (spending and priority setting) by City Council
5. Quality of environment

Top Five Provincial Issues

1. Health care spending and delivery
2. Fiscal management (spending and priority setting)
3. Infrastructure (e.g. provincial highway system, schools, hospitals)
4. Post-secondary education (universities, colleges, polytechnics)
5. Environmental sustainability and land use planning

Top Five Federal Issues

1. Fiscal management (spending and priority setting)
2. Personal tax competitiveness
3. Interprovincial trade barriers/labour mobility
4. Corporate and small business tax competitiveness
5. Infrastructure investment



2007 PRIORITIES

Top Five Business Priorities

1. Labour shortage
2. Infrastructure deficit (in particular roads & transit)
3. High levels of taxation (provincial and federal)
4. Municipal affairs (business and property taxation, municipal spending)
5. Affordable housing

Top Five Municipal Issues

1. Transportation infrastructure (e.g. roads & transit)
2. Labour shortage
3. Business taxes
4. Utility rates (e.g. water, electricity)
5. Downtown parking

Top Five Provincial Issues

1. Infrastructure (e.g. provincial highway system, schools, hospitals)
2. Level of corporate and small business taxes
3. Level of personal taxes
4. Government regulation
5. Government spending

Top Five Federal Issues

1. Level of corporate and small business taxes
2. Government regulation
3. Level of personal taxes
4. Government spending
5. Immigration levels to meet workforce demands

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSE PROFILE

- 55% of respondents were from businesses with 25 employees or less; 36% from business with 5 employees or less.
- Largest sector responses were:
 - 1) Professional Services – 19%;
 - 2) Communication/Public Relations/Marketing – 9%;
 - 3) Financial Services – 8%;
 - 4) Information Technology – 7%
- 44% of businesses have been a Chamber member for more than five years