



Advocacy Issue Matrix – 2020-2021

Other pressing issues

Issue	Explanation	CCGM Position	Action Taken	Next Steps
2020 Provincial Election	- Chambers from NB met with The Atlantic Chamber of Commerce to identify important provincial issues for the upcoming election.	3 priorities: - Enhancing New Brunswick's Ability to Compete/Competitiveness - Workforce and Immigration - Reduction of the debt of the province.	- Presented a series of webinars with all leaders of the provincial political parties with the Fredericton and Saint John Chambers, and partnered with 3+ Corporation to present 3 round tables tackling innovation, cannabis and the economic recovery.	- Letters to be sent to the future government and official opposition critics.
2021 Municipal Election	- New Brunswick Municipal Election will take place on May 10, 2021.	- CCGM will address issues that can affect the viability of the business community and that could have an impact on private investment in our region – homelessness & security, COVID-19 economic recovery, population growth and labour force development.	- Meeting with the three municipalities at the end of 2019, and a more recent sit down with Mayor Dawn Arnold, and her team to discuss important issues for the city of Moncton. - State of the tri-community breakfast was presented on January 30.	- The CCGM will organize mayoral debates for the three municipalities next year if it is possible. - The CCGM will develop a top municipal issues document that will be shared with all candidates, prior to the 2021 election.
Carbon Tax	- Ottawa accepted the last NB plan addressing carbon tax.	Carbon pricing should be revenue neutral, meaning the net impact will not be another layer of tax on business.	- Continue efforts to force NB and Ottawa to implement a made-in-NB plan. - Tentative agreement is in place, but no implementation yet.	- Focus of advocacy efforts will be to ask: "How does the NB plan incent businesses and consumers to reduce emissions?"



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Minimum Wage	Some provinces are increasing their minimum wage to \$15. This would have a drastic impact on NB businesses. -The government mentioned that it will continue to increase the minimum wage in concordance to the Consumer Price Index.	Rather than place the entire burden of offering a 'livable wage' on business, a broad-based solution should include raising the basic personal exemption, cheaper access to child-care and education, and cost certainty for business.	- Reviewed source material on minimum wage rates and basic personal exemptions.	- Continue to press the government to increase the minimum wage in concordance to the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
Tourism Growth	Southeast New Brunswick represents more annual tourism revenue than all of P.E.I. This is a sector key to our region's growth.	The communities and business community of southeast NB need to collaborate to increase tourism infrastructure and revenue.	- We continue to monitor developments at Parlee. - Parlee Beach has received the Pavillon Bleu recognition. - Tourism budget was reduced in the last budget of 7.5 to 8 million.	- The Greater Moncton tourism levy of 3.5% is now in place. However, progress has been slow on the development of the regional tourism authority that will administer the funds.
WorkSafeNB Rates	WorkSafe NB announced a reduction of .25 cents on the average rate for 2020, bringing it from \$2.65 to \$2.40 per \$100 of assessment.	We need to restore balance in NB's workers' compensation system and keep rate hikes to a minimum.	- The CCGM assisted at the AGM in 2018, 2019 and 2020.	- The CCGM and the business community are still pushing for a rate lower than \$2 per \$100 of payroll.