

VOICE OF BUSINESS

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Chambers of the Federation – An Agenda for a More Competitive Canada

-Provincial, Territorial and the Atlantic Chambers of Commerce

Introduction: The Chambers of the Federation Policy Framework reflects a collaborative effort among provincial and territorial chambers of commerce to address shared challenges and unlock opportunities that benefit all Canadians.

With geopolitical tensions, trade disruptions, and global economic shifts intensifying, Canada must act decisively to strengthen national sovereignty, secure supply chains, and enhance competitiveness.

Building on recent progress under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, expanded interprovincial labour mobility measures, the Canadian Mutual Recognition Agreement on the Sale of Goods and the Free Trade and Labour Mobility in Canada Act, provinces and territories now have a critical opportunity to move from commitment to full implementation, including through alignment with federal initiatives like Powering Canada Strong.

This joint submission offers a proactive, business-informed agenda for the Council of the Federation. It presents a united vision and practical recommendations to drive economic growth, trade competitiveness, and long-term prosperity across all regions.

Chambers of the Federation

An Agenda for a More Competitive Canada

Presented to Canada's Premiers
Charlottetown, PEI, July 2026

TOP 10 ACTIONS FOR 2026-2027

These actions are intended to be advanced over the next 12-24 months, leveraging existing intergovernmental mechanisms and provincial leadership:

1. Launch time-bound regulatory reviews to remove internal trade barriers.
2. Expand mutual recognition across all jurisdictions, moving fast on beverage alcohol, food and other priorities.
3. Implement faster credential recognition and labour mobility, including internationally trained professionals.
4. Coordinate provincial-territorial positions in support of federal leadership on the ongoing CUSMA review and broader international trade priorities.
5. Identify and advance 2-3 nationally significant trade and energy corridors.
6. Align provincial infrastructure investments with shared priorities.
7. Accelerate approvals for major nation-building projects.
8. Conduct risk assessments and strengthen supply chain resilience.
9. Align and modernize public procurement systems.
10. Establish coordinated governance, accountability and public reporting mechanisms.

1. BUILD ONE CANADIAN ECONOMY: INTERNAL TRADE, LABOUR MOBILITY & REGULATORY ALIGNMENT
Premiers must ensure Canada operates as a single domestic market for goods, services, and labour by moving from commitments to implementation on internal trade, labour mobility, and regulatory alignment.
2. COMPETE GLOBALLY THROUGH A “TEAM CANADA” APPROACH
Premiers should work collaboratively with the federal government and business leaders to strengthen Canada’s position in an uncertain global environment.
3. BUILD AND CONNECT CANADA’S ENERGY AND TRADE INFRASTRUCTURE
Premiers should strengthen energy security by improving reliability, affordability, and interprovincial connectivity while supporting the national objective of doubling electricity generation by 2050.
4. ACCELERATE APPROVALS FOR NATION-BUILDING PROJECTS
Premiers are encouraged to adopt a “pathways to yes” approach for projects of national and interprovincial importance, aligning with federal efforts to streamline approvals and improve regulatory certainty, working in partnership with Indigenous nations and communities.
5. STRENGTHEN DOMESTIC PROCUREMENT AND INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY
Premiers should use public procurement strategically to strengthen domestic industrial capacity, improve supply chain resilience, and support Canadian businesses.

NEXT STEPS: The Chambers of the Federation urge premiers to:

1. Commit to immediate discussions on implementing these recommendations, including the formation of intergovernmental working groups and formal avenues for Indigenous participation.
2. Leverage existing best practices and agreements to pilot scalable solutions in labour mobility, trade harmonization, and energy corridors.
3. Establish clear timelines, accountability measures, and annual public reporting through the Council of the Federation and Committee on Internal Trade to track outcomes and maintain momentum

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Hello everyone! My name is John Topacio, and I am the new summer student with The Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce.

You have probably seen me around over the past few months. I’ve had the privilege of meeting many incredible people at events, though you might also recognize me from videos on social media or my non-stop emails.

I am a third-year Management student at the Edwards School of Business.

Outside work, I love going for a run. If you see me out on the trails or streets, please don’t hesitate to say hello. I look forward to continuing to connect with everyone and work at the Chamber for the rest of the summer term.