



SAINT JOHN REGION

THE CHAMBER

CHAMPIONS FOR BUSINESS

The Chamber Files Application For Intervener Status With The National Energy Board For Energy East Pipeline Hearings

Participation will allow the Chamber to represent the
Saint John Region business community on top advocacy item

March 4, 2015

SAINT JOHN, NB - The Chamber today announced its application to participate as an intervener for the National Energy Board's Energy East Pipeline hearing. As part of the application process, The Chamber identified two areas where they will advocate on behalf of their members:

- the need for the project and;
- the commercial, economic, supply and market impacts of the Project.

"Our members have clearly stated that the Energy East Pipeline is a top priority for our region. The application to participate further exemplifies our efforts on behalf of the business community. The Chamber recently released its three year Strategic Plan which included a member feedback survey. The survey indicated that 98% of our members stated their support for the establishment of the pipeline and The Chamber intends to continue working on their behalf. With such a convincing majority in favour of Energy East, The Chamber is uniquely positioned to intervene on the economic impacts for the proposed project," stated Chamber CEO David Duplisea.

According to the Conference Board of Canada the potential economic benefits of the project are substantial. The project is expected to sustain 2,354 direct and indirect jobs annually in New Brunswick during the 7 year construction phase. The operations phase will produce an additional 156 direct and indirect jobs annually over a 20 year period. The project will also generate an estimated \$3.1 billion in additional GDP and an additional \$762 million in tax revenue for the New Brunswick economy.

"The Chamber needs to be involved in the regulatory process determining the future of the infrastructure that will connect New Brunswick to the rest of the energy world. Developing a major crude oil exporting terminal for Canadian oil production will, quite literally, put Saint John on the energy map and the regional business community needs to be an active participant in the regulatory process establishing it," added Chamber Chair Andy Lodge.

Energy is a very important topic for the members of The Chamber. Our organization is expected to represent their interests. The Chamber will be hosting the East Coast Energy Connection conference on June 9th and 10th 2015 with expert panels from Canada and the United States that will focus on educating stakeholders through the discussion of energy projects impacting our region, including Energy East.

The Saint John Region Chamber of Commerce is a nationally accredited business organization dedicated to fostering an economic climate that enhances growth, prosperity, and an improved quality of life in the community. With nearly 1,000 member businesses, representing the interests of 37,000 people, The Chamber is a dynamic advocate and the principal voice for the business community of Greater Saint John. It offers a variety of programs, activities, services, and networking opportunities designed to enhance the business prospects of members and the overall business climate of the area.

For more information contact:

Patrick Beamish
(506) 609-1119

pbeamish@thechambersj.com