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U.S. Midterm Results Reinforce Canada's Need to Build Prosperity at Home and New Opportunities Abroad

CHATHAM-KENT, ON — The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce says the United States midterm election results may create new opportunities for Canada to rebuild relationships in Washington, but they do not eliminate the economic uncertainty facing Canadian businesses, workers and communities.

Democrats have won control of both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate. Newly elected members will take office in January 2027, followed by the longer process of organizing congressional committees, setting legislative priorities and developing relationships capable of influencing policy. The U.S. administration will continue to hold significant authority over trade policy, meaning any change in tariffs or the broader Canada-U.S. relationship will require sustained engagement rather than immediate assumptions.

"The election creates a new political environment, but it does not provide an instant economic reset," said **Rory Ring, President and CEO of the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce**. "Canada must engage the new Congress while continuing to strengthen our economy, broaden our trading relationships and create greater prosperity for Canadians in every region."

The federal budget, together with responses from the Ontario and Canadian chambers of commerce, reflects a growing recognition that Canada's resilience depends on its ability to attract investment, improve productivity, move major projects forward and help businesses reach new markets.

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce has emphasized that Canada's ambitions must be measured by execution: projects completed, businesses expanded, workers trained and communities strengthened. It has also called for continued attention to small-business growth, workforce development and simpler access to export financing and international opportunities.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has similarly argued that competitiveness is not an end in itself. A more competitive Canada attracts investment, supports stronger businesses, creates better jobs and generates the economic growth required to improve living standards and sustain public services.

“That is the perspective we must carry forward. Economic policy must ultimately create opportunity for people. Prosperity means stronger communities, good careers, successful entrepreneurs and the ability of Canadians to build secure futures for their families.” **Amanda Clark, Chair, Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce.**

Canada must continue protecting its relationship with the United States while reducing its vulnerability to decisions made in a single market. The federal budget identifies trade diversification, stronger trade infrastructure and expanded international partnerships as national priorities. Canada currently has preferential access to 1.5 billion consumers through trade agreements covering 51 countries, but that access must translate into practical opportunities for Canadian businesses.

The Canadian Chamber’s Business Data Lab has launched **Trade Explorer**, a new tool identifying approximately $4 trillion in potential export opportunities across 182 markets. The Chatham-Kent Chamber will promote the tool to members looking for new customers, suppliers and markets.

Canada must also advance major projects in energy, critical minerals, transportation, agri-food, manufacturing, housing and trade-enabling infrastructure. These investments can create employment, strengthen Indigenous economic participation, expand domestic supply chains and build the productive capacity needed to compete internationally.

Prosperity also begins with everyday choices. Travelling within Canada keeps tourism spending in Canadian communities. Buying Canadian supports domestic production and supply chains. Shopping locally supports the businesses that employ neighbours, sponsor community organizations and reinvest in Chatham-Kent.

The Chamber will continue advancing this message through **Love Local. Shop Local. Buy Canadian.**

“The midterm results may open new doors, but Canada cannot wait for another country to determine our economic future,” Ring concluded. “We must build relationships in the United States, compete confidently around the world, get important Canadian projects built and support the businesses and workers creating prosperity here at home.”

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About the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce

The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce exists to cultivate a thriving business ecosystem so members can broaden their economic horizons, inspire success and contribute to a prosperous and vibrant community for generations to come.

Media Contact:
Rory Ring
President and CEO
Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce