

Auto Sector Investments Key to Prosperity for Ontario's Communities

November 26, 2020 – For immediate release

Today, the Ontario Auto Mayors gave thanks to Canadian automakers, as well as to Premier Doug Ford and the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Vic Fedeli for recognizing the importance of the auto sector and planning for the future. "*Driving Prosperity*" Ontario's auto manufacturing policy long sought by the Auto Mayors was the key to the unprecedented boost to the Canadian auto industry achieved this year by the Big Three automakers.

"On behalf of the Ontario Auto Mayors, I want to recognize and thank Ford, Fiat Chrysler, General Motors, Honda, Toyota, Federal and Provincial governments for the significant financial investments this year in the auto industry in Ontario," said Mayor Rob Burton, Chair of the Ontario Auto Mayors. "I would also like to give a special thanks to Jerry Dias and everyone at Unifor for their hard work on behalf of auto workers and Canada's auto sector."

The Auto Mayors strongly advocated for a provincial plan to strengthen the competitiveness and innovation of our automotive industry. Under its *Driving Prosperity: The Future of Ontario's Automotive Sector*, the Government of Ontario delivered a 10-year vision for how the industry, the research-and-education sector, and all three levels of government can work together to strengthen the sector's competitiveness. *Driving Prosperity* led to the historic investments in the auto industry in Ontario.

The recent investments in the auto sector ensure that the province will continue to lead North America and the world in automotive manufacturing and innovation, while boosting Ontario's competitiveness in this key sector. In order to keep Ontario as one of the top auto-producing and exporting regions in North America, continued investment and the implementation of innovative policy solutions are necessary. This will be the focus of the Auto Mayors' 2021 action plan, which will be drafted based on today's discussions and feedback.

"We know that advanced auto-manufacturing creates good jobs and strong communities, and we cannot stop with these recent investments. The Ontario Auto

Mayors are committed to working together and will continue to advocate on key issues within the automotive sector. We look forward to our next meeting with the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Navdeep Bains and working with the Federal government toward an all-Canadian electric vehicle supply chain from mining to battery manufacturing,” concluded Mayor Burton.

About the Ontario Auto Mayors:

Ontario’s Auto Mayors caucus includes:

MAYOR SHAUN COLLIER
Town of Ajax

MAYOR JEFF LEHMAN
City of Barrie

PATRICK BROWN
City of Brampton

MAYOR KATHRYN MCGARRY
City of Cambridge

MAYOR DARRIN CANNIFF
Municipality of Chatham-Kent

MAYOR BRIAN SAUNDERSON
Town of Collingwood

MAYOR CAM GUTHRIE
City of Guelph

MAYOR FRED EISENBERGER
City of Hamilton

MAYOR TED COMISKEY
Town of Ingersoll

MAYOR STEVE PELLEGRINI
Township of King

MAYOR BERRY VRBANOVIC
City of Kitchener

MAYOR TOM BAIN
Town of Lakeshore

MAYOR ED HOLDER
City of London

MAYOR FRANK SCARPITTI
City of Markham

MAYOR STEWART STRATHEARN
Town of Midland

MAYOR GORDON KRANTZ
Town of Milton

MAYOR BONNIE CROMBIE
City of Mississauga

MAYOR JOHN TAYLOR
Town of Newmarket

MAYOR RICK MILNE
Town of New Tecumseth

MAYOR ROB BURTON
Town of Oakville

MAYOR DAN CARTER
City of Oshawa

MAYOR DOUGLAS LEROUX
Town of Penetanguishene

MAYOR WALTER SENDZIK
City of St. Catharines

MAYOR DAN MATHIESON
City of Stratford

MAYOR JOANNE VANDERHEYDEN
Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc

MAYOR GARY MCNAMARA
Town of Tecumseh

MAYOR JOE PRESTON
City of St. Thomas

**MAYOR STEPHEN
MOLNAR**

Town of Tillsonburg

MAYOR JOHN TORY
City of Toronto

**MAYOR WALTER
MCKENZIE**
Municipality of West Perth

MAYOR DON MITCHELL
Town of Whitby

MAYOR DREW DILKENS
City of Windsor

**MAYOR TREVOR
BIRTCH**
City of Woodstock

MAYOR SANDY SHANTZ
Township of Woolwich

The Ontario Auto Mayors work collaboratively at the provincial and federal levels to promote awareness, advocacy and strategic policy initiatives to strengthen the Canadian economy by keeping the automotive sector as a driver of employment, innovation and productivity advances across the Canadian economy.

For more information about the Ontario Auto Mayors, please visit automayors.ca.

- 30 -

For more information:
Christine Davis
Community Engagement and Communications Coordinator
Office of the Mayor and Council, Town of Oakville
289-952-6338
christine.davis@oakville.ca