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Auto Mayors reinforce the need for advanced manufacturing policies

The Ontario's Auto Mayors continue to stress the need for national and provincial advanced manufacturing policies after preliminary reviews of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement.

“The need for a national strategy to sustain, strengthen and grow Canada’s auto sector has been highlighted through the TPP process and resulting disappointing agreement for Canada’s auto sector,” Oakville’s Mayor Rob Burton, Chair of the Ontario Auto Mayors said. “We need to develop and implement national policies that will keep automotive investment in Canada and allow the auto sector to stay competitive.”

Reviews of the TPP agreement have confirmed that Canada was unable to achieve competitive terms. Major concerns include: 1) Canada’s tariff phase out period, which is five times faster than the U.S. 2) The agreement fails to address currency manipulation 3) The agreement significantly reduces the auto parts content rule from 60 percent under the North American Free Trade Agreement to 35-45 per cent. This auto part content decrease will significantly impact the demand for Canadian auto parts going forward.

The Ontario Auto Mayors works with a coalition of auto makers, industry stakeholders, government, unions and academics to develop and implement strategies to enhance automotive investment in Canada. They continue to emphasize the need for a multi-level coordinated governmental approach to the development of a national manufacturing auto policy to protect and grow this sector.

About the Ontario Auto Mayors

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 strong as a driver of employment, innovation and productivity advances across the Canadian economy so we can afford to look after all our needs as a society such as infrastructure creation and renewal.

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

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Rob Burton	Town of Oakville
Doug Craig	City of Cambridge
Walter Sendzik	City of St. Catharines
Trevor Birtch	City of Woodstock
Linda Jeffrey	City of Brampton
Drew Dilkens	City of Windsor
John Henry	City of Oshawa
Rick Milne	Town of New Tecumseth (Alliston)
Matt Brown	City of London
Randy Hope	City of Chatham-Kent
Berry Vrbanovic	City of Kitchener
Jeff Lehman	City of Barrie
Cam Gutherie	City of Guelph
Bonnie Crombie	City of Mississauga
John Tory	City of Toronto
Fred Eisenberger	City of Hamilton
Sandra Cooper	Town of Collingwood
Ted Comiskey	Town of Ingersoll