

Friday, April 30, 2016 - for immediate release

## **Auto Mayors Act to Protect and Grow Auto Jobs**

At a policy meeting in Oakville on Monday, the Ontario Auto Mayors agreed on key priorities to protect and grow advanced manufacturing auto jobs in their communities and across Canada.

Mayors from communities across Ontario met with industry, labour and academic leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the auto sector, before agreeing upon a policy direction to be supported by the Auto Mayors.

“Auto is Canada’s largest manufacturing sector, Ontario’s chief export, and the lifeblood of our communities,” said Oakville mayor and Ontario Auto Mayors chair Rob Burton. “These priorities will inform the way we work to protect and grow good, middle-class jobs.”

The three key messages of the Ontario Auto Mayors are:

- 1) The automotive industry is vital to our communities
- 2) We need to act now to retain and grow automotive jobs
- 3) If we do not act, we risk losing existing and future jobs and investment

Among the policy priorities discussed at the meeting were the Trans Pacific Partnership agreement, the current effectiveness of provincial and federal auto incentives and the importance of emphasizing Canada’s highly skilled workforce as a competitive asset.

The auto mayors also continue to lobby for a National Automotive Strategy, emphasizing the importance of a long-term plan to support Canada’s largest manufacturing industry.

### **About:**

The Ontario Auto Mayors are a group of municipal leaders working collaboratively with all levels of government to support Canadian automotive manufacturing, and promote awareness of its economic importance to Canada, Ontario, and their respective communities.

### **Media contact:**

Mayor Rob Burton  
Head of Council & CEO  
Town of Oakville  
905-845-6601, ext. 4173