

Presentation to the Wine Council of Ontario



Kithio Mwanzia
Director of Policy and Government Relations
Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce
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Presentation Outline

- Background
- Federal Advocacy
- Provincial Advocacy
- Regional Advocacy





Who We Are...

Largest business organization in Niagara

Champion of business in Niagara

1,500 Businesses representing 36,000 **Employees**



GREATER NIAGARA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Third largest Chamber in Ontario

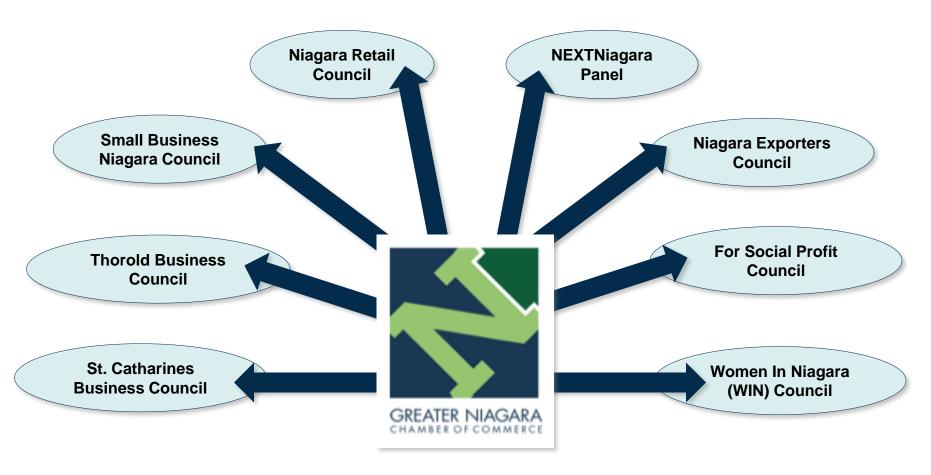
Regional Chamber of

Commerce

8 sectoral & geographic business councils



Organizational Structure





Federal Advocacy

- Allow individuals to order wine via the internet or phone and have it shipped directly to them
- Ordering direct from the winery facilitates greater consumer choice and an opportunity for the Canadian wine industry to gain further access to the domestic market
- Amendment of the federal Intoxicating Liquor's Act allowing for inter-provincial wine trade once provincial regulations are set



Provincial Advocacy

- A study conducted by KPMG and commissioned by the Wine Council of Ontario found that the sale of a litre of Ontario wine added \$4.29 in value to the Ontario economy.
- Advocated that the province demonstrate a commitment to reducing inter-provincial trade barriers by working with all provinces and territories to remove prohibitive regulations related to the direct sale and delivery of 100 per cent Ontario made VQA wines.



Provincial Advocacy

- Retail Business Holidays Act (1990) is Administered by the Ministry of Consumer Services (MCS) it establishes holidays recognised as common day of rest for businesses and employees
- Advocated to Amend the RBHA in order to give all retailers the choice to remain open on - Family Day, Victoria Day, Canada Day, Labour Day, Thanksgiving Day
- Amend RBHA to give all on-site and off-site winery retail stores the choice to remain open on - Good Friday, Easter Sunday



Regional Advocacy

- Worked with Regional Council on agricultural valueadded activities and implementation at the lower-tier and within the regional policy plan.
- Engagement with Niagara Escarpment Commission and Ministry of Natural Resources to modernize processes and adopt business friendly approaches.



Thank You

