

Business Reaction to Federal Budget “We’ll Wait and See”

Ottawa, January 30, 2009 – The federal budget unveiled this Tuesday failed to overwhelmingly sway business leaders revealed a poll conducted by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce of its members.

When asked if the federal budget contained the right measures to address the economic challenges facing Canada, less than half of the respondents answered yes. To the question “Has this budget made you feel more or less confident in Canada’s economy?”, 27% answered yes, while 53% responded that their level of confidence remained unchanged.

“We wanted to take the pulse of our members immediately following the tabling of the budget” said Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber, “and the results tell me that, while business leaders want to be optimistic about the future, they will await tangible results before giving a definite thumbs up to this budget.”

Respondents also remained unconvinced that the measures announced in the budget would help their business with a third saying yes, a third saying no and a third remaining uncertain.

Over 500 business leaders from all regions of the country filled out the Canadian Chamber’s online poll. The full survey results are available on the Canadian Chamber’s web site at www.chamber.ca

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