

Tax and Economic Affairs Committee

Mandate

Our success in advocating for business-positive tax laws, and reductions to the regulatory burden that businesses face, has made Calgary the leading engine for economic growth in the country. This committee's sought-after expertise on, and reaction to federal and provincial budgets, makes it one of the Chamber's strongest players. It has also been effective in providing leadership and advocacy on competitive and 'Alberta Advantage' issues.

Summary of Previous Year's Work

Early in the year the Committee focused on federal changes to income trust taxation and the impact to the Calgary business community, in particular to energy trusts. As the year progressed, the Committee developed pre-budget recommendations at both the provincial and federal levels and offered valuable budget commentary. A highlight included a meeting to discuss the Chamber's pre-budget recommendations with the Provincial Minister of Finance.

Committee Meeting Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
October 2006	Darren Martin, Patrick Walters and Chris Jacyk, Department of Finance, City of Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> User Fees and Subsidies Review Project
November 2007	George Kesteven, President, Canadian Association of Income Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues facing Income Trusts
February 2007	Eric Spink, Executive Director, Capital Markets Policy, Alberta Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Securities Regulatory Reform in Canada
April 2007	Lyle Oberg, Minister of Finance, MLA Strathmore-Brooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Finance Policy
May 2007	Aidan Hollis, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Calgary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENMAX Energy – Selling Ourselves Short
June 2007	Dr. Robert Mansell, Special Advisor to the President on Energy and the Environment; Managing Director of ISEEE (Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment and Economy); Professor, Department of Economics, University of Calgary	An Energy and Environment Strategy for Alberta's Future