



# Statement

## Joint Statement by Minister Ashfield, Minister of National Revenue and Member of Parliament Colin Carrie on Durham College Economic Consultation January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Today's economic consultation in Whitby, Ontario heralded an interesting and very fruitful discussion on the current economic situation in the Oshawa area.

The roundtable was set up to focus on issues important to students and tradespeople, but many other topics were addressed.

Roundtable participants welcomed the opportunity to give their opinions on issues that matter to them and are assured that their comments will be passed on to the Minister of Finance for consideration for his next Budget.

Participants noted:

"Today's economic consultation in Whitby was an excellent opportunity to discuss issues that matter to our membership," said Mr. Victor Fiume, National President of the Canadian Home Builder's Association. "Our association has been pleased to see the government make progress on many items, like tax cuts and the reduction of red-tape for small and medium sized businesses, and we look forward to further progress on these and other important matters."

"This dialogue is timely and important because we are coming out of a recession and edging into the beginning of a yet-to-be strengthened recovery," said Mr. Wilbert Lai, Advisor and Former President of the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs. "Members of the Association of Chinese Canadian Entrepreneurs would like to see the competitiveness of Canadian business to be maintained or improved at this unsettling time of rising value of the Canadian dollar and oil prices. Ensuring tax breaks for business is important, including any tax incentive for high tech equipment investment for productivity improvement."

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