

# Together we are **STRONGER!**

When you join your local chamber of commerce or board of trade, you automatically become a member of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC), a strong network of over 60,000 business owners just like you, from all corners of the province.

## **5 Reasons Why This Membership Benefits You:**

1. As the largest, most influential, and credible business network in the province, we promise that your priorities will be heard loud and clear at Queen's Park and on Parliament Hill.
2. We make sure that you are kept up-to-date on the issues that impact your bottom line, like regulatory developments, legislative changes, and market trends.
3. We are committed to equipping you with tools and resources that can help grow your business locally, nationally, and internationally.
4. Access to information on programs and possible funding opportunities to strengthen your business.
5. Benefit from discount programs that contribute to your bottom line.

Our powerful network provides you with a foundation for success!

Learn more at [occ.ca](http://occ.ca) or contact your local chamber of commerce or board of trade representative.



## Exclusive Member Discount Programs Tailored to Benefit Your Bottom Line

Belonging to your local chamber of commerce or board of trade gives you exclusive access to several affinity partners and their competitive discount offerings:

**The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan:** More than 30,000 small to medium-sized businesses choose the Chambers Plan to protect their employees with comprehensive group benefits, including Health and Dental insurance, making it Canada's #1 employee benefits plan for small businesses. As a not-for-profit program—all surpluses stay in the Plan and help lower premiums.

**First Data:** Benefit from preferred rates on electronic payment processing services including credit, debit, online payments, mobile commerce, cheque guarantee, and gift cards.

**Grand and Toy:** Take advantage of the purchasing power that membership in the OCC's Chamber Network offers! Save up to 25% off competitor pricing on everyday office supplies and workplace solutions, and over 30% on paper.

**Purolator:** The OCC has negotiated highly favourable rates with Purolator for its members. Receive preferential pricing with discounts ranging from 25%-45% on Purolator Express and Purolator Ground suite of courier services.

## Ontario's Business Advocate

In consultation with Chamber Network members across Ontario, our team works on your behalf to advance smart policies aimed at growing businesses, creating jobs, and enabling growth. Together with our membership, we develop evidence-based policy recommendations on issues such as skills development, electricity pricing, reducing red tape, government accountability, infrastructure investment and trade policy.

To advance our advocacy efforts, we work with your local chamber of commerce or board of trade to provide information and communications support, including:

- regular policy updates on a range of issues important to your business
- co-branded reports, key messages, and media releases
- templates, graphics and social media tools
- annual Ontario Economic Report including results of our Business Confidence Survey

The OCC is the leading voice on behalf of Ontario's employer community!



*2018 Advocacy Day at Queen's Park*

## **Programs and Funding Opportunities to Strengthen Your Business**

In addition to our exclusive member offerings, the OCC delivers information and funding programs to support business growth in Ontario.

### **GLOBAL GROWTH FUND**

Funded by the Ontario Ministry of International Trade, this fund allows Ontario businesses to receive up to \$250,000 in lifetime support to hire an export manager or develop new business in foreign markets. Learn more at [ontarioexporters.ca](http://ontarioexporters.ca)

### **SMALL BUSINESS ACCESS**

The OCC is working with the Government of Ontario to provide resources and support to help small businesses succeed. Learn more at [ontario.ca/page/small-business-access](http://ontario.ca/page/small-business-access)

### **DISCOVER ABILITY**

Discover Ability promotes the hiring of individuals with disabilities and provides resources to help organizations hire, accommodate and retain these employees, and meet requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Learn more at [discoverability.network](http://discoverability.network)

### **KNOW YOUR POWER**

Delivered in partnership with the Ministry of Energy, this program is your resource to learn about energy cost saving programs and efficiency opportunities that may be available to your business. Learn more at [yourpower.ca](http://yourpower.ca)

### **MAGNET**

Access a sophisticated online job-matching platform that connects employers with people seeking jobs. Learn more at [magnet.today](http://magnet.today)

# About the Ontario Chamber of Commerce

A respected voice among government decision makers for more than a century, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce is Ontario's non-partisan business advocate. The OCC undertakes the province's most pressing policy issues on behalf of our members, and advocates for evidence-based solutions that will foster economic growth in the province.

The OCC's work is based on the belief that a strong business community is the foundation for a prosperous Ontario.

Our mission is to support economic growth in Ontario by defending business priorities at Queen's Park on behalf of our network's diverse 60,000 members.

From small and medium-sized business to established multi-national corporations and industry associations, the OCC is committed to working with our members to improve business competitiveness across all sectors. We represent local chambers of commerce and boards of trade in over 135 communities across Ontario, steering public policy conversations provincially and within local communities.

Through our focused programs and services, we enable companies to grow at home and in export markets. As a direct result of our export programs, we have approved over 1,300 applications, with companies reporting results of over \$410 million in export sales.

The OCC provides support, networking opportunities, and access to innovative insight and analysis for our members.

The OCC is Ontario's business advocate.



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