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MEDIA RELEASE

Rapid Transit Announcement is Major Achievement for Region

Kitchener, ON – This morning’s announcement from the governments of Ontario and Canada related to \$6.2 billion in funding for infrastructure projects is excellent news for Waterloo Region, according to Ross Wells, Chair of the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce.

Officials from both levels of government announced that rapid transit in Waterloo Region, along with improvements on Highway 11/17 in northwestern Ontario and expanded rural broadband coverage, is an initial priority project where joint efforts between Ottawa and Queen’s Park will proceed. With the high volume of demands for infrastructure across Ontario, it is a major achievement for our Region that we are being designated to move forward. The prospect of 730,000 residents in 20 years makes the commencement of effective planning an imperative, and today’s commitment will ultimately make Waterloo Region an urban model for centres across Canada.

The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce has been a strong advocate for improved transportation planning across the Region, including the rapid transit initiative. Local businesses require infrastructure to ensure that employees can move to and from work on time, and products can be shipped across the city or world.

“Today’s announcement is the result of successful advocacy from across the Region, including the business sector, local governments, and community organizations,” said Wells. “This is a further example of the collaborative spirit that has been instrumental in building our reputation as a centre of innovation, excellence and cooperation. We get things done for the community.”

With over 1900 members, the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce is the largest accredited chamber of commerce in Ontario. The Chamber is dedicated to enterprise productivity and regional prosperity. Since 1886, it has been the voice of business in greater Kitchener Waterloo.

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