



## Chamber Survey THE ECONOMY IN 2005

Survey conducted December 9, 2004 to December 23, 2004

1. Are you a Chamber member?
  - Yes 95%
  - No 5%
  
2. How many people does your company employ?
  - 1 to 2 41%
  - 3 to 9 9%
  - 10 to 20 9%
  - 21 to 50 18%
  - More than 50 23%
  
3. How do you think the economy will perform in 2005 with respect to 2004?
  - Better 41%
  - Worse 5%
  - About the same 54%
  
4. How do you think your business will perform in 2005 with respect to 2004?
  - Better 73%
  - Worse 5%
  - About the same 23%
  
5. Compared with 2004 what will happen with employment levels in your company in 2005?
  - Increase 50%
  - Decrease 5%
  - About the same 45%
  
6. Which of the following external factors will have the biggest impact on how your company will perform in 2005?
  - Business taxes 5%
  - Government red tape 9%
  - Consumer confidence 41%
  - Education (hiring qualified employees) 5%
  - Canadian dollar exchange rate 18%
  - Other 23%

7. Which of the following operating costs will have the biggest impact on how your company will perform in 2005?

- Employment costs (payroll, benefits, etc.) 82%
- Energy costs 0%
- Transportation costs 9%
- Other 9%

8. How will your spending on technology (computers, software, IT Infrastructure) in 2005 compare with that of 2004?

- More in 2005 41%
- Less in 2004 14%
- About the same 45%

9. How will your spending on capital items in 2005 compare with that in 2004?

- More in 2005 27%
- Less in 2004 18%
- About the same 54%