

December 7, 2018

Jean-Marc Dupuis
Deputy Minister
Department of Post-Secondary Education and Labour
Fredericton, NB

Subject: Increase in Minimum Wage

Dear Mr. Dupuis,

The Tourism Industry Association of New Brunswick (TIANB) represents a number of small and medium size businesses who have struggled over recent years with many burdens set upon them by government. TIANB serves as their voice to ensure their businesses prosper and generate a great economic impact for the province.

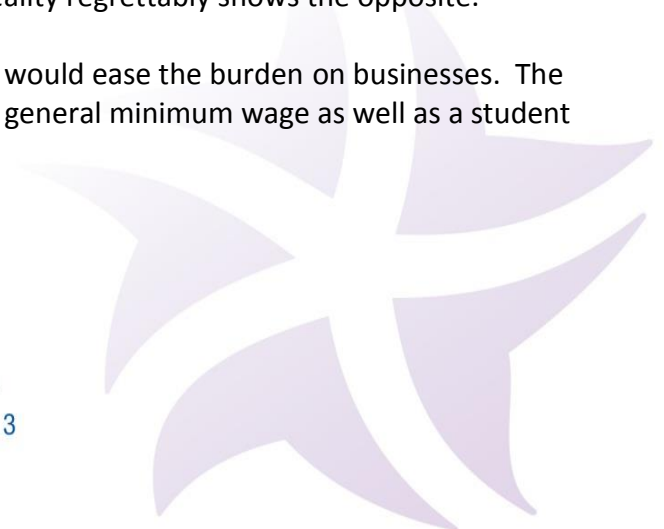
Small and medium size businesses in New Brunswick represent approximately 97% of businesses according to *statistics* from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Oct 17, 2016). New Brunswick's SMEs are the drivers of our province's economy.

The potential increase of minimum wage will have an adverse effect on the profitability of these SMEs and will cause many to have to close their doors. They will either have to reduce the number of employees or increase their prices to accommodate the increase, neither being acceptable to the consumer.

The intent to increase the minimum wage to reduce poverty in our province is admirable and has the appearance to being the right social thing to do; however, reality regrettably shows the opposite.

Introducing a tiered minimum wage could be a solution that would ease the burden on businesses. The tiered minimum wage is offered in Ontario, where there is a general minimum wage as well as a student minimum wage and server minimum wage.

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I would like to opportunity to discuss the increase to minimum wage at your earliest convenience.

Yours truly,



Carol Alderdice
President and CEO

cc: Dan Myers, Chair

