

Friday, May 15, 2015 – for immediate release

## **Ontario Auto Mayors call for advanced automotive manufacturing policy framework**

Ontario Auto Mayors are calling for development and implementation of collaborative and cohesive national and provincial advanced automotive manufacturing policy.

“Development and implementation of advanced automotive manufacturing policy at provincial and federal levels will drive prosperity and create good jobs for Canadians,” said Mayor Rob Burton, Chair of the Ontario Auto Mayors.

The Mayors met Friday, May 15 with representatives from The Automotive Policy Research Centre (APRC), auto industry companies, associations and unions and government officials at Oakville’s Town Hall. They discussed the strategic focus of the Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure’s (MEDEI) automotive unit, APRC’s mid-term report, auto industry top issues (reported by the Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers and Association - CVMA) and the development of advanced automotive manufacturing policy for Ontario and Canada.

“We unanimously agreed on the importance and pressing need for national and provincial advanced automotive manufacturing policy,” added Mayor Burton. “The reports from APRC, MEDEI and CVMA were especially insightful.”

Foreign governments are using increased subsidies and incentives to compete for the development of new facilities which also threatens investment in the maintenance and expansion of existing Canadian automotive facilities. As a result, financial support from the provincial and federal government is vitally important to keep the auto sector competitive and keep automakers in Canada. The Center for Automotive Research estimates that one job in an automotive assembly plant supports ten jobs in the broader economy. Funding support in the auto industry through provincial and federal incentives is something the Ontario Auto Mayors have strongly encouraged to ensure ongoing private investments are made in Canada’s automotive industry.

The Ontario Auto Mayors leads a coalition of OEMs, industry stakeholders, government, unions and academics to develop and implement strategies to enhance automotive investment in Canada. They continue to emphasize the need for a national manufacturing auto policy among all levels of government to protect and grow this sector.

### **About the Ontario Auto Mayors**

The Ontario Auto Mayors work collaboratively at the provincial and federal levels to promote awareness, advocacy and strategic policy initiatives to strengthen the Canadian economy by keeping the automotive sector strong as a driver of employment, innovation and productivity advances across the Canadian economy so we can afford to look after all our needs as a society such as infrastructure creation and renewal.

For more information about the Ontario Auto Mayors, please visit [automayors.ca](http://automayors.ca).

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