

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, a *Chamber of Commerce* is a type of business network and can be defined as an organization of businesses with the goal of furthering the interests of business, and they are formed by business owners of small shops, leading industry associations, large corporations, non-profit organizations, governments, and others to advocate on behalf of the business community; and

WHEREAS, chamber of commerce organizations play a vital role in the success of communities by providing a strong business environment, creating economic opportunities, increasing employment, expanding retail trade and commerce, and growing industries, all contributors to the success of the region where they are located; and

WHEREAS, established in 1925, the **Canadian Chamber of Commerce** represents approximately 200,000 businesses within a network of 450 chambers of commerce and boards of trade throughout Canada, and it is the country's largest business association that advocates for public policies that fosters a strong, competitive economic environment benefitting businesses, communities and families across the regions of Canada; and

WHEREAS, locally, the **Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce** was established in 1885 as the Tampa Board of Trade, and its mission is to serve its members and enhance the Tampa community by building business success, thereby contributing to our city's economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce is hosting the ***Canada and the Sunshine State: Partnering for Prosperity Luncheon*** on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at the University Club, featuring guest speaker The Honourable Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce who will share information regarding the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), trade issues, and the importance of the Canada-Florida relationship, and the event also welcomes special guests The Honourable Susan Harper, Consul General of Canada in Miami, Florida and Elaine Brouca, Trade Commissioner, Consulate General of Canada in Miami, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, April 18, 2018 as

"CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join me in thanking Chambers of Commerce organizations worldwide, including the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce for the impact they have in promoting business, trade, and economic success.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 18th day of April, 2018.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor