

# OCC Pushes for Progress on Canada-EU Trade Deal

TORONTO, April 27, 2012 /CNW/ - The Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) is encouraged by the progress of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) negotiations between Canada and the European Union (EU).

The OCC supports the Government of Canada's commitment to providing Canadian workers, businesses, and investors with the tools, access, and support they need to succeed in global markets.

Canadian governments understand that in order to generate economic growth, they must find ways to allow businesses to grow, innovate, and expand their foreign trade and investment. There is no better way to do that than through the development of stronger economic linkages with Canada's international trade partners, particularly the EU. The EU is the world's largest common market, foreign investor, and trader. Ontario's yearly trade with EU countries is valued at over \$40 billion.

"Closer ties to the EU market will create more jobs and greater economic opportunities here at home," noted OCC President & CEO Allan O'Dette. "The OCC is urging the all parties involved to continue working together to address outstanding issues as they push forward on a trade agreement".

*About the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC): The OCC is a network of 160 local chambers of commerce and boards of trade in the Province of Ontario, representing 60,000 businesses of all sizes, in all economic sectors and from every area of the province. Being recognized as the single, most influential and respected voice for business in Ontario, OCC's over-arching goal is to build a world renowned business environment that creates a more competitive Ontario.*