



40th Annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers - Boston Massachusetts 2016  
40e Conférence annuelle des gouverneurs de la Nouvelle-Angleterre et des premiers ministres de l'Est du Canada

## **RESOLUTION 40-2**

### **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED COOPERATION IN REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE EFFORTS**

**WHEREAS**, the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers have a long standing tradition of addressing important issues for the region through collaboration and cooperation; and

**WHEREAS**, the cooperation between governments in the region remains essential to continuing and increasing the exchange of goods and services between the member jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 38-3, signed by the Governors and Premiers in 2014, recognizes the importance of regional economic development cooperation which resulted in a process that began to identify shared opportunities, challenges and barriers associated with economic development and trade in the region and assessed potential collaborative actions that could enhance the region's economic competitiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, the work completed as a result of Resolution 38-3 revealed that stronger relationships among economic development officials and staff in the NEG/ECP region would facilitate more meaningful cooperation on economic development and trade initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the final report resulting from Resolution 38-3 recommends that a new NEG/ECP committee focused on economic development and trade be established to continue to formalize the work resulting from Resolution 38-3, and that efforts be made to strengthen business engagement at the NEG/ECP annual conference.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Governors and Premiers continue to explore opportunities to coordinate actions, establish partnerships, and leverage the power of regional collaboration for the benefit of all jurisdictions; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Governors and Premiers direct the Coordinating Committee Officials to establish a new NEG/ECP Committee focused on economic development and trade that will be directed to develop a Terms of Reference and a yearly Work Plan that shall include collaborative measures and activities to support the region's economy and businesses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** trade promotion and economic development of the region will be a distinct focus of the 2017 conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers in Prince Edward Island; and

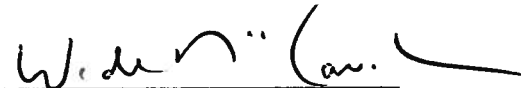
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** officials from the region, with support from the two Secretariats, be directed to work collaboratively to develop a business forum to happen in conjunction with the 2017 NEG/ECP Conference. The business forum may include elements of business development, knowledge/technology transfer/ partnership development, cluster development, and business-to-business matchmaking in order to facilitate the competitiveness and growth of the region's economy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the sector focus for the 2017 business forum will be determined in a collaborative manner among the eleven jurisdictions and will be tied to growing sectors within the region.

*Adopted at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, Boston, Massachusetts, August 29, 2016*



Charles D. Baker  
Governor of Massachusetts  
Co-Chair



Wade MacLauchlan  
Premier of Prince Edward Island  
Co-Chair