

For Immediate Release  
February 12, 2008

## ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ADDRESS OAKVILLE CHAMBER

OAKVILLE, ON – The Honourable Chris Bentley, Attorney General of Ontario will address Members of Oakville Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon on Tuesday, February 19th. The Attorney General will provide insight into how the Ontario government intends to strengthen regulated professions in the province, with a particular focus on engineering, accounting and the law. The Attorney General will address how the government is working with professional associations to broaden the opportunities available to their members.

“We are very pleased to have the opportunity to host the Attorney General” stated Chamber President Gerry Popp. Mr. Popp went on to say “Our Chamber has over 50 member businesses that are classified as regulated professions. Strong, healthy professions help provide a foundation for the prosperity of all sectors of Ontario's economy.”

Chamber President-Elect Aby Alameddine commented; “We invite guest speakers like the Attorney General to provide an opportunity for our Members and their guests to hear directly from key decision makers. We also want to provide our Members with the opportunity to discuss key issues with important elected officials. A soon to be released survey of the Oakville business community identified that hosting events of this nature should be a priority for the Chamber of Commerce.”

The Oakville Chamber President Gerry Popp added; “Many of the leaders we have hosted have told us they very much appreciate the chance to hear directly from our Members at events such as this. They really value the feedback they receive from our Members.”

Sponsored by First Canadian Title the luncheon will be held at Rattle Snake Point Golf Club, 5407 Regional Road 25, Milton. On Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm. Tickets are \$30 (plus GST) for Members, \$35 (plus GST) for non-Members, \$210 (plus GST) for a reserved table of 8. For more information, or to register, contact Brendan at 905-845-6613 ext. 28 or [brendan@oakvillechamber.com](mailto:brendan@oakvillechamber.com).

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## **BACKGROUND:**

**The Oakville Chamber of Commerce** is the voice of the Oakville business community. We provide member benefits which include advocacy, corporate benefits, networking opportunities, business development and educational forums. Our mission is to foster a healthy economic environment for Oakville.

A not-for-profit organization, the Oakville Chamber of Commerce was established in 1949. The Chamber has grown to over 1000 member businesses representing over 37,000 employees. The Chamber is one of the largest associations of any kind in the Town of Oakville.

The Chamber has hosted events with a number of high profile elected officials. Including; Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Premier Dalton McGuinty, NDP Leader Jack Layton, Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, Opposition Leader John Tory, Minister Michael Chong, Minister Steve Peters, Minister David Caplan, Minister Marie Bountrogianni, Kevin Flynn, MPP, and Ted Chudleigh, MPP, and Halton Regional Chairman Gary Carr.



### **The Honourable Chris Bentley Attorney General of Ontario**

**Chris Bentley** was elected to the Ontario legislature in 2003 and re-elected in 2007. He previously served as Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities and Minister of Labour.

He is a lawyer who has practised criminal and labour law. He also taught part-time at the University of Western Ontario Law School, where he helped to establish the Law School Careers Office. He has also been a continuing education lecturer in courses for judges, crown attorneys, the police and defence counsel. He has written a book on criminal law.

Active in the London community, Bentley was the first chairperson and an organizing committee member of Neighbourhood Legal Services London and Middlesex, a legal clinic established in London in 1985 to assist low-income clients.

Attorney General Bentley attended the University of Western Ontario and received his law degree from the University of Toronto Law School in 1979. He was called to the Ontario bar in 1981 and later obtained a master's-level degree from Cambridge University in England.

He has lived in London since 1967. He and his wife, Wendy, have two daughters. An avid runner, he is a regular participant in the 24-hour relay to raise funds for London's hospitals and has completed three Boston marathons