

## A LESSON IN RESILIENCE

*"As the world's appetite for energy, food and raw materials continues to expand, Canadians are fortunate indeed to be in a position to help meet the demand. But the commodities boom is not the only—nor even the most important—reason for Canada's recent economic resilience. Sound public policy played an even bigger role. A decade of federal budgetary surpluses and debt-reduction meant that the Canadian government was in a strong position going into the crisis and could afford to roll out a sizeable stimulus package—while at the same time taking steps to spur business investment."*

Hartley T. Richardson, Chair,  
Canadian Council of Chief Executives

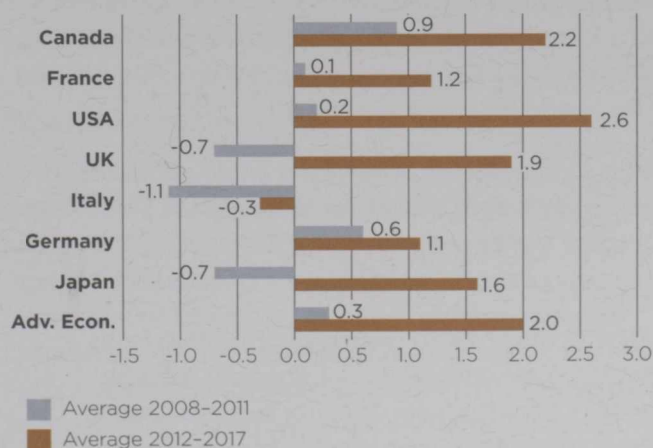
### Consistently Outperforming G-7 Peers

The diversity and strength of Canada's economy are evident in its consistent and outstanding performance. For much of the past decade, the Canadian economy expanded faster than any other G-7 country. Indeed, Canada has been widely heralded for having weathered and recovered quickly from the global economic turmoil of recent years. Having topped the G-7 with an average real GDP growth rate of 0.9 percent between 2008 and 2011, Canada is now expected to be among the top G-7 performers through 2017 and to return to a balanced budget position by that year or earlier.

**Canada is the best country in the G-7 in which to do business over the next five years.**

*Economist Intelligence Unit*

**G-7 REAL GDP ANNUAL GROWTH RATE 2008-2017  
(IN PERCENTAGE)**



Source: International Monetary Fund (2011)  
Note: Forecast Data for 2012-2017