

INSIGHT BUSINESS ADVOCACY NEWS



March/April Issue

WHAT IS BUSINESS ADVOCACY?

A CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGE

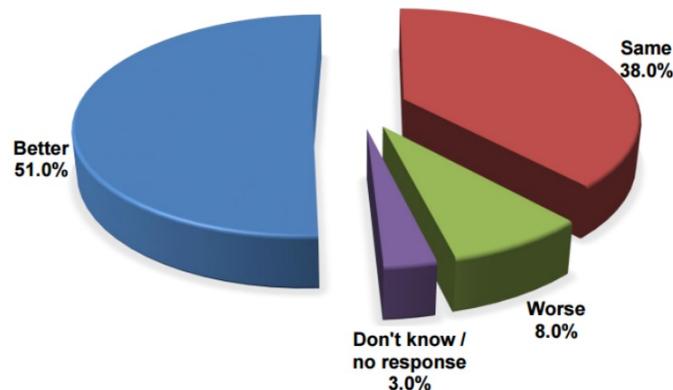
It's our response to current on the ground needs of our members, we identify issues and innovative solutions, giving members a voice and a positive business climate to prosper and thrive in.

LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS TOLD US WHAT'S ON THEIR MIND

At the *soldout* Chamber Economic Outlook Breakfast, the Campbell River Economic forecastsurvey results, from 200 local business leaders were released. Despite some uncertainty about the economy, more than half of local business leaders in Campbell River except their businesses to perform better financially in 2017, and about four in ten businesses plan to hire additional employees.

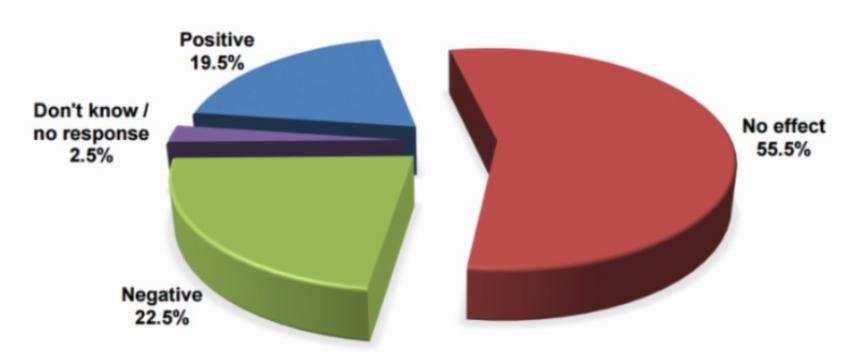
Business Performance

Financial Compared to 12 months ago, how would you describe the financial performance of your company today?



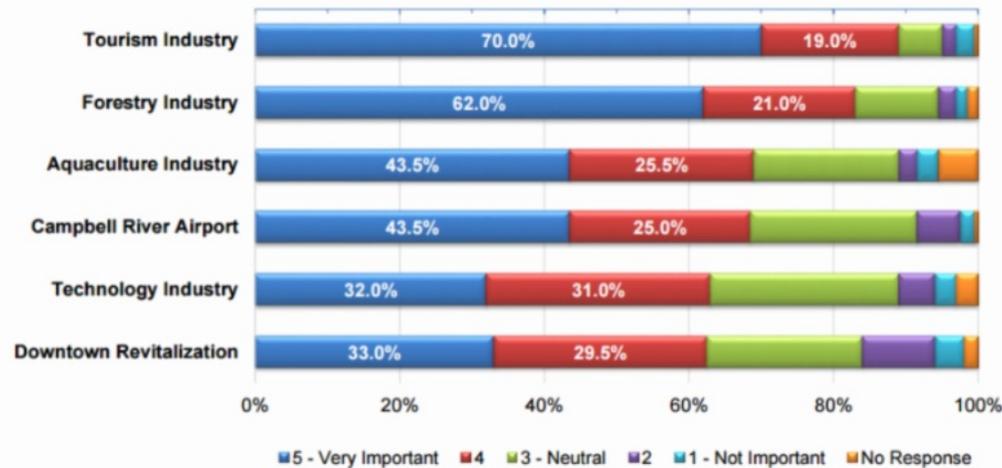
Local Issues

The John Hart Generating Station Replacement Project and North Island Hospitals Project will be completed in the next 12 to 18 months. Will the completion of these projects have a positive, negative or no effect on your business?



Economic Drivers

Using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means not at all important and 5 means very important, in your opinion, how important are the following to Campbell River's future economy:



Campbell River Economic Forecast [Media Release](#) here:

Campbell River Economic Forecast [Full Survey](#) here:

NEXT STEPS OUR CHAMBER IS TAKING:

On May 11th & October 12th, in collaboration with our partners, **NIEFS**, **NIC** and the **City**, our chamber will be hosting morning and afternoon session roundtable. The goal is to explore in great depth what this means to specific industry sectors. What we hear back from the round tables participants and industry will enable us to take further action on behalf of business to address concerns that are affecting growth and prosperity.

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE INDUSTRY ROUND TABLE?

Contact Chamber CEO, Colleen Evans at colleen.evans@campbellriverchamber.ca or call 250.287.4513

Chamber releases survey results at Economic Outlook Breakfast.

From left to right:

Stu Wise, MNP LLP,
Brad Piercy, MNP LLP,
Minister Shirley Bond,
Corby Lamb, Chamber



Board Chair.

BUSINESS POLL QUESTION THIS ISSUE WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Would a Campbell River Ambassador Program Be a Benefit to Your business?

[Tourism was ranked as the #1 economic driver for Campbell River. Would a program that provided you and your staff information about Campbell River and tourist attractions be a benefit?](#)



Thank you to everyone who participated in the last issue poll question. Here's your response:

"Did online shopping affect your business this past holiday season?"
100% of people said it did!

ADVOCACY EVENTS YOU WONT WANT TO MISS

YOU ARE INVITED!

**All Candidates Pre-Provincial Election
Breakfast Forum:**

Date: Thursday April 27th.
Time: 7:30am-8:45am
Location: C.R. Community Centre, upper lounge.
401, 11th Ave.
Ticket: \$20.00-Includes breakfast



ELECTIONS BC
Province of British Columbia

REGISTER NOW

Industry Sector Roundtables:

Date: Thursday, May 11th.
Time: Session 1: 9:30am-11:30am includes lunch. Session 2: 12:00pm-2:00pm includes lunch.
Location: Enterprise Centre Boardroom,
900 Alder street
Ticket: \$10
Contact Chamber CEO, Colleen Evans

**What They Want
As Business Leaders**



TAKE OUR PROVINCIAL PRE-ELECTION SURVEY AND TELL US WHAT MATTERS TO YOU MOST!

The Chamber is hosting a breakfast forum for all the candidates in our region standing for election in BC Provincial Election. In preparation, we are inviting you to take a few minutes and tell us what matters most to you and your business or organization. We will be using the information gathered from the survey to assist in preparation for questions to be asked of the candidates at the breakfast forum on April 27th.



[Click here to take part in the 2017 Provincial election survey.](#)

Will take between 5/6 minutes only. Your feedback is important and can help make a difference!

CHAMBER ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Your membership support enables the Chamber to take action on issues and concerns that matter most to our members.

- **We are working with our community partners to bring new information** and updates on what's happening in our community that is affecting business. One of the reports we are sharing in this issue is the year end local labour market report for Campbell River. This report is provided by community partner North Island Employment Foundation Society (NIEFS).
[Read the report](#)
- **We undertook a survey of 200 local business leaders** to identify key indicators of how Campbell River is changing and how we compare to other communities on issues. The survey provides new timely, relevant local data to inform business decision making.
[Read more here](#)
- **We invited Minister Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism, and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour** to share with our members at a sold out Chamber event, what government is doing to support job creation and economic diversity. Minister Bond made an announcement at the breakfast confirming new funding for North Island College programming. Our Chamber has been "the voice of businesses for job creation in our community and new opportunities to provide skill training that meets the needs of our employers."
[Minister Bond's page](#)
- **We represent the voice of business as a representative on the BC Hydro Liaison committee.** We are the "voice of business" advocating **Think Local First** for building greater awareness of local opportunities for businesses to compete for jobs and contracts on the regional projects surrounding our community.
[Link to the construction report](#)
- **Through the Chamber's major projects portal**, we are creating new opportunities for local suppliers and job seekers. We are the "voice of business" showcasing the capacity of local suppliers and job seekers to major contractors and bidders of major projects.
[Major projects portal](#)

- **Through the Regional Learning Council**, our advocacy efforts are currently focused on ensuring that business is represented in North Island College (NIC) decision making around advanced diploma programming that addresses the needs of aquaculture, aviation and natural resource sectors.

[North Island College](#)

- **A recent Chamber survey shows tourism will dominate the economy.** Campbell River Chamber of Commerce sees this as good news for members and Campbell River business. We have a member of our Board as liaison on the new Tourism Advisory Committee ensuring that the voice of business is represented. Tourism is an important sector for local economic growth and we will be closely monitoring progress on the new tourism model and identifying opportunities to advocate on behalf of this sector.

[Survey says tourism will dominate economy](#)

- **2017 Provincial Budget Breakdown** – BC Chamber released highlights on the provincial budget and key areas that directly affect BC Business. Read the media release and highlights

[Media Release](#)

- **Canadian Business speaks up on internet based technology** – A report entitled, Canadian Business Speaks Up: An Analysis of the Adoption of Internet-based Technology was released today and compares Canada's technology adoption rate to other countries.

[Read the report](#)

- **Though wary of the ramifications of the continued federal deficit**, the BC Chamber, in consultation with Chambers across BC, including the Campbell River Chamber, welcomes the federal government's investments in technology and innovation, clean energy and skills training.

[Federal Budget Highlights](#)

[Visit our website](#)



"I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that won't work"

- Thomas Edison

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