

INSIGHT BUSINESS ADVOCACY NEWS



Summer Issue 2017

ADVOCACY THAT WORKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

A CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGE

Advocacy is 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.

HERE'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS

We hosted a panel discussion on apprenticeship

The Chamber and the Industry Training Authority (ITA) hosted a panel discussion of local employers, school district representatives and apprentices who shared insights on hiring apprentices. Here are some comments from the event.



Dennis Cambrey, Owner of York Machine Shop,

"We are big believers in the apprenticeship program here at York MachineShop. I started my own apprenticeship back in 1974 and 12 out of the 20 ticketed tradesmen working at York now served an apprenticeship here. The Chamber's workshop with ITA showed me how they are modernizing and improving their programs."

George Lambert, President of T-Mar Industries,

"A big thank you to the Chamber for organizing the ITA luncheon and information session. It was good to meet with the folks who organize and run ITA as well as the local college program directors. Apprenticeship training is a very important responsibility for industry and the Province. This is how we train our future workforce and with demographics being what they are, this is a critical task. It is very good that the chamber highlights the opportunity in our community."

GaryHerman, Chief Executive Officer, Industry Training Authority,
“Currently, over 10,000 employers hire and train apprentices and we need more businesses to join in on growing the skilled workforce in BC. There are more skilled trades people retiring from the workforce than entering it and hiring apprentices is one of the sure ways to secure your workforce and continue to grow your business.”

Did you know that for every \$1 invested in an apprentice, an employer receives a return of \$1.47!!

Come by the Chamber to pick up your apprenticeship information package for employers or contact ITA at www.itabc.ca

We shared new information on upcoming projects to compete for contracts and jobs



Colleen Evans, CEO Chamber
Stephen Watson, Stakeholder, Engagement Advisor BC Hydro



48 people crammed into the **sold out** boardroom to hear Stephen discuss upcoming plans for new projects in the Campbell River region

[Click here to view luncheon slide show presentation](#)

Major Projects Portal

The Chamber created the Major Projects Portal as a way to connect local suppliers and workers with prime contractors seeking services and supplies for their major projects in the Campbell River area.

The Major Projects Portal is a proven success in the John Hart Generating Station replacement project. This project has utilized the most local resources ever used in BC Hydro history in a single project.



www.majorprojects.ca

[Read economic update on BC's John Hart's Generating Station project](#)

[Click here to access Major Projects Portal](#) to read local success stories and construction reports

TAKE OUR SURVEY ON BC'S POLITICAL CLIMATE

Our Chamber wants to know what's on Campbell River's mind as it reflects to BC's political climate. In pursuit of this goal, we are seeking to learn more about how B.C. businesses feel about the change in the provincial government.

We want to ensure that we capture a pan-provincial outlook, and your help is integral to achieving this goal!

We would appreciate your support, please take this brief 8-question survey it should take about 30 seconds to complete.

[TAKE OUR SURVEY](#)

CHAMBER ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Our Chamber Advocates for Progress and Wins for Business

As the largest and most influential business group in Campbell River, The Chamber is the voice of business, knowing what's on the minds of local businesses and advocating for an environment conducive for business growth and success. Chamber advocacy is a unique service that differentiates the Chamber from other membership-based associations throughout the Campbell River region.

HERE ARE SOME RECENT FAVOURABLE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECISIONS:

Access to Foreign Talent-

Canada's long-awaited fast-track visa officially launched June 12. The fast-track visa -officially

called the [Global Talent Stream of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program](#) - promises a process time of 10 days to two weeks for high-skilled talent.

[CLICK to read more](#)

BC Ferries Infrastructure Funding-

Since March 2016, The Chamber has been advocating for BC Ferries capital requirements to be eligible for federal infrastructure funding - an area for which eligibility was unclear - to lighten the funding load on both the Province and ferry users.

[CLICK to read more](#)

Opinion: First Nations and Forestry: A Growing Collaboration

While forestry remains solidly one of British Columbia's most important industries, real change continues.

For example, there has never been any doubt that hundreds of communities across B.C., from the coast to the Interior, rely on the forest industry for their livelihoods. But for many decades, First Nations did not participate widely in the success of the sector.

[CLICK to read more](#)

CHAMBER HOSTED BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE TO CAPTURE IDEAS AND SHARE RESOURCES



At the recent business roundtable the Chamber asked members and our business community what's on their minds and what challenges local small businesses are facing. Uncertainty about the economy was ranked as a top challenge facing our local businesses in 2017.

[Click here to read](#) a summary of what we've been hearing when we meet with members.

The Chamber invited local community partners, North Island College (NIC); North Island Employment Foundation Society (NIEFS) and Campbell River's Economic Development Officer to identify THREE resources that their organization offers businesses that they might not be aware of.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUNDTABLE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26TH.

NORTH ISLAND EMPLOYMENT FOUNDATION SOCIETY (NIEFS)

- Offers free Job postings that are viewed via; online/social media, TV and in print
- Confidential resume collection services. NIEFS will collect and hold applicants resume until the employer is ready to collect them or we can drop them off
- Private office spaces for meetings or interviews. This is open to businesses, services and community organizations

CAMPBELL RIVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- City of Campbell River Community Profile. Profile reflects the interests of potential entrepreneurs, business owners and investors
<http://www.campbellriver.ca/business-economy/resources/community-profile>
- **CR Advantage:** The Campbell River Advantage is a municipal initiative that provides businesses and the public accessibility to inexpensive, high speed, broadband fibre optic networking
<https://cradvantage.com/>
- **City of Campbell River Economic Development Investment Portal:** An online data site that provides relevant information about the local market. This site will make it easier for start-up, emerging and existing businesses
<http://www.campbellriver.ca/business-economy/investment-portal>

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE

- Free Job Postings and EmployerResources StudentEmployment Services [Employer Resources](#)
- NIC works with industry and employers to design, develop and deliver customized training. Training is offered when, where, how you need it
<http://www.nic.bc.ca/trainingservices/bob.haugen@nic.bc.ca>
- Centre for Applied Research, Technology and Innovation (CARTI) helps businesses and communities harness the power of NIC faculty experts, creative students and research funding
Contact naomi.tabata@nic.bc.ca for information

Visit our website



“The purpose of a business is to create a customer who creates customers”

- Shiv Singh