

Connections ... get plugged into your network



Team Fredericton Chamber, CCC AGM, Fredericton, NB, September 2017

March 2018

Mid-year Policy Call | March 28, 1- 2 PM Eastern

We encourage you to join our annual mid-year policy call. The call will be lead by our Senior Vice President, Policy, Jason MacDonald, and our policy directors will be on the call should you have any questions about any policy on our platform as we lead into 2018's resolution setting process.

Please [RSVP](#) for this call. Ontario chambers, your call is scheduled for April 10 due to provincial budget delivery on March 28. You can RSVP [here](#).

We have updated our policy advocacy grid that speaks to our advocacy work since last fall. You can view that grid [here](#).

This year's policy process has been tweaked. Please note, this year, you must use our [online form](#) to upload your resolution. This way, all resolutions will be properly formatted with consistent word counts and sub-headings.

We are also hoping this process will lessen the likelihood of resolution duplication and increase the chances for resolution collaboration.

Another round of NAFTA, another update call with you!

Earlier this month, the seventh round of NAFTA negotiations concluded in Mexico City. Although steady progress continues to be made, much work remains ahead. The most recent negotiation round was also overshadowed by the spectre of U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum products.

Join Mark Agnew, Director of International Policy, on March 19 at 1PM Eastern as he offers an update to the chambers on the state of the negotiations and what may come in the following future rounds. Click [here](#) to register.

Webinar: Policy Resolutions 101: Best practices and new processes

We recently hosted a webinar on constructing resolutions, including an overview of the *10 Ways to Build a Canada that Wins*, where to find resources, resolution criteria, best practices and the process leading up to the AGM and Conference 2018. If you missed the webinar or want to listen in again, you can find the webinar [here](#).

Canadian Chamber, HP Canada and the World Wildlife Federation partner on an Earth Day contest to celebrate green workplaces

April 22 is Earth Day, an opportunity to celebrate our environment. We are working with the World Wildlife Fund's

Living Planet @Work Campaign and HP Canada to recognize the businesses making Canada's workplaces more sustainable.

We're looking for testimonials from chambers or their members on the following question: What have you done to make your workplace more sustainable? Submissions must include:

- 1) a photo, and
- 2) a brief text, no more than 200 words, explaining your workplace's contribution to sustainability. The organization must be a chamber of commerce, a member of a chamber of commerce or a past participant in the Living Planet @Work Campaign to enter.

We will feature 15 submissions from different regions in Canada on our Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages on Earth Day. The three most compelling stories get a permanent home on the WWF' Living Planet @Work's testimonial page.

The business with the best story will receive a [Sprocket Photo Printer](#) courtesy of HP Canada.

To submit your story, send your photo and testimonial to Natalie Bergeron, nbergeron@chamber.ca. The closing date for the submissions is March 30, 2018.

Don't have a sustainability story to share? The WWF's [Living Planet @Work](#) website provides a suit of tools to help you get started on building a more environmentally friendly workplace.

- [The Smart Office Challenge](#)
- [LP@W Champion Stories Tab](#)
- [Energy In the Workplace: A Primer](#)
- [Green Team Introductory Resources](#)

Chamber Day on the Hill | Ottawa

A major focus of our Ottawa office is federal advocacy. We meet on a regular basis with ministers and government officials on a range of federal issues.

This year, we want to try a federal Hill Day - where we, as a network, use our powerful voice of business and make it heard in the halls of the Parliament of Canada.

We would plan meetings with teams of members, focused on a variety of advocacy items and would meet with officials from all parties as their schedules allow.

At this point in time, we are looking for an early show of interest from you/your chamber in participating in such a day to be held on October 23 by responding to [short survey](#). This survey is an early indicator of network interest. It does not commit you to

anything but keeps you on a mailing list when we ramp up our planning for this event. Pls take the [survey](#) by March 23, COB.

Offer your SME members \$1,000 off an award winning training program on managing greenhouse gas emissions

Since last fall, we have had a partnership with Climate Smart Businesses, a social enterprise that offers an award-winning training program for SMEs to manage their greenhouse gas emissions. On average, participants in the program reduce emissions by 11% all while saving \$27,000 in operational costs.

In January, we were pleased to announce that three chambers and boards of trade are piloting our Climate Smart Chambers program: Victoria, Mississauga and St John's.

However, with so many chambers interested in offering their SME members this training, we've developed a virtual version of the training. Climate Smart will be offering 15 chamber of commerce or board of trade members a \$1,000 rebate on a virtual version of the Climate Smart training and certification program. This will include three 60-90 minute training sessions, complemented by one-on-one coaching.

The Climate Smart training includes information on how to complete a greenhouse gas emissions inventory as well as coaching on how to spot opportunities for emissions and cost reductions, all while providing internal and external communications support. Businesses are provided with a detailed emissions inventory report, outlining their sources, the reduction plan they have committed to pursue and anticipated savings.

This time-limited opportunity won't last, and the program will sell out, so don't miss your chance to make your business Climate Smart. Fees for small businesses start as low as \$500.

For full pricing and training program details, visit www.climatesmartbusiness.com/virtual.

Looking for event speakers?

The breakfast, lunch and dinner events put on by chambers of commerce provide a vital source of information to businesses across Canada.

We have two certified experts in sustainability or energy issues that are available for chamber speaking events, subject to their schedules. These speakers are willing to share their insight at no charge to the host, but may require some assistance defraying travel costs on a case-by-case basis. If you are interested in hosting either speaker for one of your events, please contact them directly using the email listed below.

Frances Edmonds – VP Sustainability HP Canada - Toronto
In her role as Head of Sustainability, Frances is responsible for overseeing HP's full suite of corporate social responsibility program including strategic partnerships with key non-profit organizations and an industry-leading volunteer program. From being a founder of WWF's Living Planet @ Work program to establishing programs to provide a wide range of environmental education opportunities for Canadians, Frances brings the power of HP to create meaningful change in Canada's businesses. With Frances's leadership, HP is able to state that it is Canada's most environmentally responsible IT company. Ms. Edmonds is available to speak to businesses on how businesses can green their operations. Reach Frances for one of your events at Frances.Edmonds@hp.com.

Allan Fogwill – President and CEO of the Canadian Energy

Research Institute - Calgary

The Canadian Energy Research Institute is a non-partisan, independent source of information on Canada's energy sector.

An energy sector executive with over 25 years of experience in both the public and private sector, Allan's background has focused on economic and market analysis of energy sector issues along with policy development related to energy regulation and efficiency issues. Allan has previously worked for natural gas distribution companies in B.C. and Ontario and for the Ontario Energy Board dealing with market analysis and the analysis of distribution costs. Mr. Fogwell is available to speak on trends in Canada's energy sector, including low carbon transition, oil and gas production, electrification, and electric vehicles. FYI, all CERI studies are available online at www.ceri.ca. To enquire about speaking opportunities for Allan, contact: Lisa Rollins, lrollins@ceri.ca.

New chamber staff across the country

Jason Tereszko, secretary, Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce (ON), almaguinhighlandschamber@gmail.com.

Emily Deane, administrative coordinator, Blue Mountains Chamber, (ON), info@bluemountainschamber.ca.

Pam Doucet, president, Chamber of Commerce of Clare (NS) contact@commercedclare.ca.

Tracey Williams, coordinator, East Hants & Districts Chamber of Commerce (NS), easthantsdist@ns.aliantzinc.ca.

Melanie Benoit, manager, Chamber of Commerce of Grand Tracadie-Sheila, Inc. (NB), info@ccgts.ca.

Lucie Guillemette, manager, Chamber of Commerce of Les Maskoutains (QC), lguillemette@chambrecommerce.ca.

Meagan Preston, executive director, Merritt & District Chamber of Commerce (BC), manager@merrittchamber.com.

Shelley Clark, acting executive director, Miramichi Chamber of Commerce (NB), mirchamber@nb.aibn.com.

Stephanie Kutowy, president, Sudbury East Chamber of Commerce (ON), ksheat@tru802.ca.

Hollie Blanchette, president, Valemount & Area Chamber of Commerce (BC), info@valemoutchamber.com.



Who doesn't like to save some serious green?

If you're one of the many who do, then you've lucked out with the Lenovo Member Savings Program. As a member of ours, you and your members can enjoy exclusive access to make purchases through our program's [website](#). Discounts on Lenovo devices and accessories can be up to 30% off the retail value.

Whether you're in the market for something for work or home, you'll automatically receive free shipping on all web orders, access to energy-efficient green technologies and Lenovo's award-winning service.

This St. Patrick's Day, fill up your chamber's pot of gold with revenue share with the Lenovo Member Savings Program. You can "tog go bog é" - Irish for "take it easy" - while we take care of the rest. Marketing collateral and information can be found in our [member's only section](#).

AGM 2021 - thinking of bidding?

Considering hosting our AGM & Conference in 2021? The bid package will be available at the end of March. Stay tuned!