

Connections ... get plugged into your network



Alberta Chamber Executives, ACE Summit, Fort Saskatchewan, July 2017

The Voice of Canadian Business™
connect! BRANCHÉ!
Le porte-parole des entreprises canadiennes^{MD}

April 2018

Indigenous Engagement Survey

In 2017, we released the policy report [Coming Together, Making Progress: Business's Role in Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples](#). In 2018, our Board is looking at ways we can make a meaningful contribution to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. We believe it would help us to establish relationships with Indigenous organizations and businesses to know how our members are engaging with Indigenous peoples.

To deepen our understanding of the relationships that exist, could you share [a survey](#) with your members to capture their levels of indigenous engagement? The survey will be open until COB May 11, 2018.

Please note: Although aggregated information may be shared publicly (primarily on a sectoral and geographic basis) individual responses and respondents will be strictly maintained as anonymous.

How are those resos shaping up?

June 1 is the 2018 deadline for resolutions to be submitted - just checking to make sure that you have this date in your calendars! Don't forget that the submission process has gone online this year and this is the only way we will accept resos for the 2018 policy debates.

This [online process](#) should also help you if you are considering a reso and want to know if anyone else is thinking along the same lines. Collaboration at the outset can produce a stronger resolution for debate. We hosted a webinar on constructing resolutions, 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 need to access again, you can find it [here](#).

IP Workshops: interested in hosting one?

We have partnered with the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office to provide learning opportunities for Canadian businesses interested in intellectual property.

As the front line for the SME community, you are uniquely positioned to provide the venue for these learning opportunities and bring value to your members at the same time. We have created a very [short survey](#) that is intended to help us gauge your interest in hosting a workshop and the topics you think your members might want to know more about. Please complete the [survey](#) by May 18, 2018.

Regulatory efficiency in Canada

Over time, Canada's regulatory environment has become

a collection of complicated, overlapping and inefficient sets of rules. While Canada's overall ranking in the World Economic Forum's 2015-2016 *Global Competitiveness Report* is a respectable 13 of 140 countries, in the sub-ranking on the burden of government regulation, Canada ranks 37. This regulatory burden makes Canada a less desirable destination to start or grow a business.

Shortly, we will be launching a major report that looks at areas where Canada's regulatory environment is failing and demonstrates the need for a system that is more open, transparent, predictable and efficient. We will advance the idea that all regulators have economic mandates and that a more dynamic regulatory environment can significantly improve Canadian business competitiveness.

We'll be looking for your support and participation as we grow the awareness of the report's findings and recommendations. We're sure that you will find a regulatory burden that you can "adopt" and that will resonate in your community and/or region. Some of the sectors to be covered will include pharma, electricity and oil.

Closer to the report launch, we will hold a call with the network to talk about the report and the ways that you might engage your chamber/your members on the advocacy plans.

Breach notification regulations released

Canada's Federal Privacy law – the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (PIPEDA) was amended in 2015 under the [Digital Privacy Act](#) to include provisions mandating notification of breaches of personal information that would be likely to cause significant harm.

The [Breach Notification Regulations](#) that bring the Act into full force were published on April 16, with an effective date of November 1, 2018. The key change to the existing privacy regime is the requirement that the Office of the Privacy Commissioner be notified of breaches that could cause significant harm. The requirement to notify other organizations that could help mitigate significant harm, sets out the prescribed information that must be contained in a breach notification to individuals, the manner in which individuals must be notified and the length of time that a breach of security safeguards must be maintained by an organization.

We will provide more detailed resources shortly.

WOOT-WOOT - your leadership skills are showing!

Early in 2018, we announced that three chambers would be working with our partners at Climate Smart to get their members on board with training and adopting changes in their business operations to reduce GHGs and provide leadership in their local communities on adopting and adapting to change. Greater Victoria Chamber, Mississauga Board of Trade and St. John's Board of Trade are heavily engaged in the recruitment phase of the project right now and we're sending words of encouragement as they lead their members through this transforming process.

Remember the fax machine? Ubiquitous and then unnecessary ...

Being successful in business means being committed to innovation and driven to find efficiencies. Business practices have changed, and the way we operate now is unrecognizable to the "normal" practices of just five years ago.

We are committed to supporting members that take action on climate change. The effects of our warming climate are not distant or remote: they are resulting in longer, drier summers with increased threat of wildfire and drought all across Canada, right now.

One of the easiest first steps is to become Climate Smart-certified. The [Climate Smart program](#) empowers businesses to track and reduce losses from ineffective energy, fuel and waste management. Through small-group training sessions, expert one-on-one coaching, and customized reporting and analysis, businesses are set up to future-proof their operational costs with an aggressive return on the investment.

Benefits of Climate Smart Certification include:

- practical tools to cut costs associated with energy, waste, water and fuel
- reducing risks associated with carbon emissions, like increased taxes and decreased competitiveness
- connecting with a network of businesses to learn about more operational efficiency opportunities
- gaining access to local utility rebates, often valued into the thousands for simple improvements
- engaging employees and enhance your brand
- use the power of your business to solve our biggest social and environmental problems

Here's an opportunity for your members to become Climate Smart-certified. There is space available for 15 chamber members to access a \$1,000 rebate on the Climate Smart training and certification program. Three 60-90 minute training sessions are provided, complemented by one-on-one coaching.

The Climate Smart training supports businesses to complete a GHGs inventory, identifying opportunities for emissions and cost reductions, and 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 let your members miss their chance to make their businesses Climate Smart. Fees for small businesses start as low as \$500. Full pricing and training program details are online.

Don't let your members be the last businesses in town with fax machines. Encourage them to get ahead of the competition. With more than 800 businesses already Climate Smart certified, they had better not delay!

CPTPP First Mover Advantage: agri-food sector readiness. We are pleased to announce that we will hold the first of three First Mover workshops with our partners at the Greater Langley

Chamber of Commerce and the BC Chamber of Commerce May 10. In the Langley area? Consider attending - you can register [online](#).

The *Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership* (CPTPP) is one of the largest free trade agreements in the world.

On March 8, Canada signed the CPTPP, which will provide Canadian businesses with unprecedented market access to the more than 495 million consumers in the Asia-Pacific region. Each of the agreement's 11 countries are now in the process of implementing the agreement, a process that could be completed as early as the end of 2018.

Canadian businesses must use this time to prepare themselves to enter these lucrative new markets. To help Canada's agri-food businesses position themselves for success, we are launching a series of three hands-on workshops with our partners at Export Action Global. These interactive workshops will provide agri-food companies with 10 concrete steps they can take right now to position their business for success in Japan, and other CPTPP countries, once the agreement comes into force.

Participants will benefit from expert insights to guide them through the market assessment process and help them understand how to move into this important and growing trade region. Two additional events will be scheduled. For more info contact [Melissa McGee](#), (416) 868.6415 x236.

New chamber leaders across the country

Lianne Hamblin, administration assistant, Barriere & District Chamber of Commerce (BC), bcoc@telus.net.

Jeff Christie, executive director, Greater Bathurst Chamber of Commerce (NB), jeff.christie@chaleurchamber.ca.

Kyla Martin, executive director, Beaverlodge Chamber of Commerce (AB), beavercc@telus.net.

Sandra McGinnis, executive director, Blackfalds & District Chamber of Commerce (AB), yourblackfaldschamber@outlook.com

Dr. Sandip Lalli, FCPA, ICD.D, CEO, Calgary Chamber of Commerce (AB), slalli@calgarychamber.com.

Ashley Nelson, administrator, Fort Macleod & District Chamber of Commerce (AB), fmchamber1888@gmail.com.

Tracy Shawkawi, office administrator, High Prairie & Area Chamber of Commerce (AB), office@hpchamber.net.

Julia Cameron, membership & events coordinator, Kensington & Area Chamber of Commerce (PE), info@kensingtonchamber.ca.

Sheila Devost, executive director, Sicamous & District Chamber of Commerce (BC), sheila@sicamouschamber.bc.ca.

Joan Rupert-Barkley, coordinator, South Grenville Chamber of Commerce (ON), secretary@southgrenvillechamber.ca

Dr. Jamey Smith, president, St. Andrews Chamber of Commerce (NB), jamey.smith@huntzmanmarine.ca.

Lawrence Carriere, executive director, Strathmore & District Chamber of Commerce (AB), info@strathmoredistrictchamber.com

Eunice Reichstein, president, Tofield & District Chamber of Commerce (AB), ereichstein@atb.com.

Kim Carroll, executive assistant, Valleyview & District Chamber of Commerce (AB), info@valleyviewchamber.ca.

Shannon Leonard, office manager, Vermilion & District Chamber of Commerce (AB), vermilionchamber@gmail.com

Jill Misselbrook, membership coordinator, Wallaceburg & District Chamber of Commerce (ON), jill.wchamber@gmail.com.

Jordan Baker, administrator, West Nipissing Chamber of Commerce (ON), admin@westnipissingchamber.ca.

Mark Doratti, executive director, Williams Lake & District Chamber of Commerce (BC), visitors@telus.net.

Rick Allwright, executive director, Yarmouth & Area Chamber of Commerce (NS), Rick@mileeast.com.