Canada’s Resource Cities Initiative

As part of the Resource Cities Initiative, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce organized a BC tour that highlighted the importance of the natural resources industry to the success of the local, provincial and national economies. The tour allowed 10 executives from local Chambers of Commerce across Canada to visit the West Coast and learn about the industry in various regions. The goal of the tour was the participants would take what they’d learned and relay the information back to their local communities so that they too can be more informed about Canada’s natural resources industries.

The Gateway to Asia Tour group included Warren Everson, Senior Vice President, Policy, of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and representatives from the Kelowna, Spruce Grove, Saskatchewan, Dawson Creek, Belleville, Fort Saskatchewan, Red Deer and Cambridge Chambers of Commerce. The three day tour began in Vancouver on September 29, continuing on to Prince Rupert and concluding with a stop in Kitimat on October 1.

The opportunities in Asia and for British Columbia are not just about oil. Other sectors of Canada’s natural resource sector, including the Seafood Producers Association of British Columbia, Council of Forest Industries and the Mining Association of British Columbia, shared an overview of their industries at meetings in Vancouver. Tours of transportation infrastructure included CN Rail, Port Metro Vancouver and Kinder Morgan.

In Prince Rupert, opportunities were provided for tours of Prince Rupert Grain, Fairview Container Terminal and Ridley Terminals.

Tour participants arrived in Kitimat for a luncheon, hosted by the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce on October 1, with keynote speakers Gaby Poirier, General Manager, Rio Tinto and Seiichi Tsurumi, of the Project Team for LNG Canada. Following the luncheon, the group visited the LNG Canada site in Kitimat for more detailed information of their proposed project and facility in Kitimat.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has partnered with other leading organizations and individuals to form the Partnership for Resource Trade. The Partnership for Resource Trade seeks to create greater awareness among all Canadians regarding the importance of our natural resources to the growth of the Canadian economy and the continued prosperity of Canada. Visit PowerofCanada.ca for more information.

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info@kitimatchamber.ca
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Upcoming Events
Aluminum City Telethon
Sunday, October 18, 2015
11:00 am - 9:00 pm
Mount Elizabeth Theatre

General Voting Day
Monday, October 19, 2015
7:00 am - 7:00 pm

Brian Lee Crowley “Social Licence” Dinner Meeting
Thursday, October 29, 2015
5:30 pm
Chalet Restaurant

CRA - Connecting & Interacting Session
Monday, November 2, 2015
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Kitimat Chamber of Commerce
Canmec is a company specialising in mechanics, industrial pipe fitting and boilerworks, in addition to welding and machining. They offer services in design, manufacturing, machining and installation for the industrial sector. Although Canmec works in all sectors of heavy industry, the company has developed an expertise for specialized activities and one that is specific to certain industrial sectors, namely:

- Energy
- Mining
- Aluminum Production
- Industrial Construction
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**Welcome New Members**

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Canmec Group is a company specialising in mechanics, industrial pipe fitting and boilerworks, in addition to welding and machining. They offer services in design, manufacturing, machining and installation for the industrial sector. Although Canmec Group works in all the sectors of heavy industry, the company has developed an expertise for specialized activities and one that is specific to certain industrial sectors, namely:

- Energy
- Mining
- Aluminum Production
- Industrial Construction
- Civil Engineering
- Pulp and Paper

**New Minimum Wage Rates**

**New rates effective September 15, 2015**

- General minimum wage: $10.45 per hour
- Liquor Server minimum wage: $9.20 per hour

**Brian Lee Crowley “Social Licence” Dinner Meeting**

One of the hottest issues in the natural resource economy, as well as for major project proponents in any field is “social licence”: who has it, who needs it, who can get it. But what if social licence has become a Trojan horse, giving project opponents powerful but undemocratic authority to obstruct economic development and defy the law and our legitimate institutions? And what can be done about it? Come and hear Brian Lee Crowley - Canada’s leading commentator on social licence.

Thursday, October 29, 2015 | 5:30 pm
Chalet Restaurant - 852 Tsimshian Boulevard
$30.00 per person, plus GST. Dinner included

To register, please contact Kitimat Chamber of Commerce:
250-632-6294 | info@kitimatchamber.ca | 2109 Forest Avenue
Seats are limited - please book early to avoid disappointment.

Brian Lee Crowley is Managing Director of the Macdonald-Laurier Institute (MLI), Canada’s only truly national public policy think tank based in Ottawa. He came to the role from the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS), where he was founding president.

From 2006-08 Crowley was the Clifford Clark Visiting Economist with Finance Canada. He has also headed the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council (APEC), and has taught politics, economics and philosophy at various universities in Canada and Europe.

Crowley has published numerous books, and is a frequent commentator on political and economic issues across all media. He holds degrees from McGill and the London School of Economics, including a doctorate in political economy from the latter.

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Connecting and Interacting Session

New Approaches to Compliance

CRA officials conduct community sessions as part of the CRA’s outreach program. The purpose of this session is to provide businesses with information, to learn more about CRA services, and to discuss tax related issues or concerns (ie. Underground Economy Initiative, Liaison Officer Initiative).

Electronic Services at the Canada Revenue Agency

Save time - go online! Our online services make it faster and easier to handle your tax matters. You, your employee, or your representative can file, pay, and access detailed information about your tax accounts - all online, all at your fingertips.

Monday, November 2, 2015  I  1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Kitimat Chamber of Commerce

For more information and to register, please contact Kitimat Chamber of Commerce:
250-632-6294  I  info@kitimatchamber.ca  I  2109 Forest Avenue
Seats are limited - please book early to avoid disappointment.

Feeling Stressed?

Naturopathic Doctor Michelle Dowker Talk

Stress may be affecting your health and well-being. Learn how YOU can better control stress. Naturopathic Doctor Michelle Dowker will teach you:

- The difference between good and bad stress;
- How bad stress can affect your health, focus and productivity;
- What you can do to help improve resiliency to stress.

Join us for this free event!
Tuesday, November 17, 2015  I  7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Kitimat Chamber of Commerce

To register, please contact Kitimat Chamber of Commerce:
250-632-6294  I  info@kitimatchamber.ca  I  2109 Forest Avenue
Seats are limited - please book early to avoid disappointment.

Elections Canada

Time Off For Employees

It’s election time once again! Federal elections will be held on Monday October 19, 2015. We would like to remind employers that the Canada Elections Act "requires employers throughout Canada to give their employees time off to vote. Everyone eligible to vote must have three consecutive hours to cast their vote on Election Day. If an employee’s hours of work do not allow for three consecutive hours to vote during the electoral polling hours, the employer must give the employee time off to vote. The employee must be paid his or her regular wage during the time off for voting. Employers cannot require the employee to use a vacation day and are also prohibited from penalizing an employee in any way from taking time off to vote."
For more information, please visit www.elections.ca.

October is Small Business Month

Promote Small Businesses

Small businesses are not only the backbone of many of our organizations, but are the life blood of the BC economy. Small businesses represent 98% of all businesses in BC and employ over 1 million British Columbians.

Show your support for the hard working small business owners and their employees and use the power of the BC Chamber Network. Submit your business or favourite local vendor’s story, video or photo on BC Chamber’s website:
http://www.bcchamber.org/advocacy-news/small-business-month

Kitimat Chamber of Commerce

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Microtel by Wyndham - Kitimat

Grand Opening Celebration

October 6, 2015 staff from the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Centre were excited to participate in the Grand Opening Celebration of Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham – Kitimat.

The 87 room hotel includes extended stay suites with separate bedroom and kitchen, business suites and standard rooms. Amenities include free continental breakfast daily and Monday through Thursday light dinner is also included. Additional amenities include guest laundry and weight room and a meeting room available for community bookings.

Microtel’s community partner program, Common Ground, received a record number of votes from the community through August and into September with their social media campaign and, at the grand opening, presented a cheque for $5,000 to the Kitimat Dynamics Gymnastics Club, $1,500.00 to the Kitimat Community Humane Society and $1,000.00 to the Kitimat Child Development Centre.

The opening of Microtel in Kitimat will ease the strain on short term accommodations for business, sport and tourism travelers which has been a challenge in recent years. As Kitimat continues to expand and improve infrastructure in preparation for a number of proposed projects in the region, the new accommodations will also provide additional options for visitors.

Farewell And Best Wishes
To our Tourism Services Coordinator

Nadine Kelly joined the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Centre in February 2015 as a Tourism Services Coordinator. Her sunny personality and enthusiasm to promote what Kitimat has to offer visitors was enjoyed by those who dealt with her. Nadine will be travelling back to her hometown and family in Ontario for a few weeks holiday and has decided to look at other career options. We wish Nadine all the best as she continues her adventures and pursuit of new experiences in the Tourism Industry.

BCCE 2015 Conference

The Evolving Chamber

The Evolving Chamber, Fresh Thinking, Expediting Change was the theme for the 2015 BC Chamber Executives Conference held in Kelowna this September. As a director of the BCCE for the last two years, I have had the privilege of working with very dedicated Chamber Executives who continue to bring energy to our organization as we work to make our individual Chambers relevant to our members.

The Evolving Chamber was emphasized with the Fresh Idea Greenhouse – an interactive session where members shared ideas, what works and what doesn’t work for our individual memberships, and how we need to continue to evolve and take advantage of all the opportunities available to our organizations.

With the major projects currently proposed for Kitimat, the “Challenges of Change” Workshop, led by Laurie Mills, President, Lighthouse PCDS, was relevant for Kitimat’s Chamber and our community. The first step is understanding the difference between change and transition... Change is something that stops or ends and is external, concrete and tangible, while transition is an internal psychological and emotional process in response to the change.

As major projects such as LNG Canada and Kitimat LNG move closer to Final Investment Decision, the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce has a role in leading that change by building awareness and listening to concerns and questions. In managing the transition to increased economic activity, we can understand the concerns of our members and community and support actions required to meet the demands of the inevitable transition.

A highlight of the annual BCCE conference for me was the Policy Panel Session. Dan Baxter, Manager of Policy Development with the BC Chamber, provided an overview of the development of a policy and the process of moving that policy from the local Chamber level, through to BC Chamber and Canadian Chamber adoption. BCCE members had the opportunity to work together to put into practice the process and requirements of developing policies and lobbying for the adoption of those policies.

The three day conference included a keynote address from Premier Christy Clark reiterating how vital and important BC Chambers are to British Columbia’s economic success.

Thank you to Colin McCormick, All West Glass, for the handmade glass Inuksuk donated to the “Made in BC” gift basket presented to Premier Clark.

“Our dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we really want is for things to remain the same but get better.”

Sydney J. Harris