



Chamber Poised for 2009

On behalf of 2009 Board of Directors of the Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your on going support of the Chamber. The Chamber is a strong credible voice for more than 500 businesses, organizations and individuals. The Chamber is a volunteer, not for profit organization. Your on going support allows us to pursue many worthwhile initiatives for the benefit of our greater community.

There are many misconceptions about what a Chamber really does. Many believe the Chamber gathers statistics, prints brochures, visits new business, answers community enquiries and advertises what a great place the Nelson region is to live and work. They're right, but the primary function goes deeper. The Chamber volunteer board and membership work together for the common good of the community. A better community means better business conditions.

Working with all levels of government and our community partners, we want to be involved in activities that can give your business, or organization the opportunity to succeed.

The new board held our first meeting of 2009 in January and laid out a number of goals and objectives for the coming year.

There will undoubtedly be some challenges given the current world economic conditions, but we believe our regions diversified economy will help insulate our area better than many regions.

The Chamber looks forward to 2009 during which time we will continue working on several exciting economic development initiatives. Through the Nelson Economic Development Partnership we will continue to focus on business retention activities.

Coordinating initiatives like the shop local campaign and developing business educational workshops on succession planning and dealing with human resources issues. We will continue to build on the new interactive Invest Kootenay website, an opportunity for business owners to connect with interested investors.

We are also excited about the financial commitment the municipal and regional government has made towards the formation of the Nelson Kootenay Lake Tourism Partnership. This new regional initiative is designed to provide leadership and a unified direction to the tourism industry. We can create a more sustainable tourism economy through the leadership of a marketing organization that operates with secure funding and strong governance.

As for the CP Rail station at the foot of Baker Street, we have completed restoration quantity costing, developed working drawings and business case scenarios. We are currently completing a Heritage Conservation Feasibility study and working closely with community groups and organizations.

It is our hope that with recent Federal and Provincial commitments to infrastructure programs that the Chamber will be able to push this project as a community priority in the coming years. We will be looking for volunteers to join us in the formation of a community committee that can focus their time, energy and commitment to the CP Rail Station restoration project.

Again, thank you very much for your ongoing support of the Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce. Without members, a Chamber of Commerce simply would not exist. Working together, we can help build a stronger Chamber, and in turn a stronger economic region.

Cal Renwick, President
Nelson & District Chamber of Commerce

City of Nelson Proclaims February 6th-14th Spirit of BC Week

Nelson is one of close to 100 Spirit of BC Community Committees that are working together to leverage community opportunities in the areas of sport and recreation, arts and culture, literacy and volunteerism;

2010 Legacies Now is working to actively assist the Spirit of BC Community Committees around the province develop local programs and events that demonstrate the five elements that define the Spirit of BC - achievement, effort, inclusion, celebration and excellence;

The Nelson Spirit of BC Community Committee, in cooperation with 2010 Legacies Now is committed to working towards: increasing the overall level of physical activity by 2010; improving literacy rates; increasing the capacity of the arts sector; providing our amateur athletes and coaches with the tools they need to succeed; increase the number of volunteers contributing to their community.

This Spirit of BC week will mark the official one year countdown to the 2010 Olympic games., taking place February 12th through 28th. The Paralympic Games are scheduled March 12th-21st.

The Chamber is pleased to be working collaboratively with the Nelson Regional Sports Council, The Nelson and District Community Complex, The Nelson and District Arts Council, Touchstones Nelson, The Nelson and District Youth Centre as well as School District 8 in planning this weeks activities. We have a big night planned for Thursday February 12th.

The One Year Countdown event is envisioned to the first of a proposed series of Community countdown events that Nelson will stage throughout the year gearing up for the arrival of the Torch in Nelson in January of 2010 and culminating with the excitement of the start of Olympic and Paralympics in February 2010.

Nelson's 1 year countdown program will be a true family oriented community event, between 5pm and 7pm, with the Nelson and District Recreation Complex being the host venue.

The evening will feature local artisans providing interactive children's crafts, free skating, Spirit of BC Balloons plus Spirit of BC Cake and refreshments. Expect a visit from Bubbles the Clown, the Kootenay Kilties Pipe Band, the LV Rogers Jazz Band and the Trafalgar Choir.

Official countdown ceremonies take place at centre ice between 5:45 and 6pm and will feature "Celebrate the Possible" and "Podium 60" DVD's. We hope you can drop by with your family and friends to be a part of the countdown celebration.

Other Spirit of BC week events include:

Free Family Art and History Day Touchstones Museum Sunday February 8th 1pm-4pm

Nelson's Public Museum and Art Gallery, will host an open house for families, with free admission to the facility and lots of activities for children. Current and historical Nelson will be explored through craft making, story telling and the history hound quiz.

Kids Outdoor Skating Party Lions Park Sunday February 8th 4pm-5:30pm

Everyone is invited to a kids outdoor skate party at Lions Park and outdoor skating rink in Nelson. The event is sponsored by L'ecole des Sentiers-Alpins. All parents and kids are welcome to attend. There will be hot chocolate and popcorn for those attending.

Basketball Camp Friday February 13th 2:45pm-4:00pm

Kids are invited to participate in a youth basketball clinic for grades 3-5. The camp takes place at Hume Elementary School

Province unveils infrastructure spending following earlier announcement of an expected deficit budget

Close to \$14 billion in infrastructure spending over the next three years could create tens of thousands of jobs and keep British Columbians working, Premier Gordon Campbell announced this week in his keynote address at the British Columbia Economic Summit.

“We will be investing in needed infrastructure projects across the province to help create jobs, stability and confidence during this challenging time for the global economy,” said Premier Campbell. “Last October I said we would look at ways to accelerate projects in the coming months and years. These projects will benefit communities across the province, keep us competitive, and keep people working. We have identified \$2 billion in project acceleration that we intend to pursue as quickly as possible, including hundreds of millions of dollars to be launched in the next 90 days.”

Breakdown of provincial infrastructure investment:

- \$2 billion cost-shared with the federal government for new projects to be accelerated over the next three years. Of that \$2 billion, hundreds of millions of dollars worth of projects can be launched within the next 90 days.
- \$10.6 billion in approved capital construction projects currently within the Province’s capital plan for the next three years.
- \$1.4 billion in local infrastructure projects being built in partnership with local governments and the federal government.

Federal Budget offers up stimulus package to help speed fiscal recovery: Chamber reaction

In one of the most anticipated budgets in memory, the federal government unleashed a raft of new measures in an effort to help stimulate the economy, limit the impact of the recession, and speed recovery. Much of the contents of the budget document had been leaked and, therefore, there were few surprises. It featured something to appeal to almost everyone.

While there are elements that we would have designed differently, the government has consulted extensively, and has answered our request to show how it thinks we can get our economy moving again. It adopted many of the Canadian Chamber’s proposals, including accelerating infrastructure spending; reducing the tax burden facing low- and modest-income Canadians; providing incentives for new business investment in machinery and equipment; continuing the previously-announced corporate tax reductions; and ensuring access to credit for Canadian businesses and consumers.

The fiscal stimulus package will result in deficits higher than otherwise. The government projects a deficit of \$1.1 billion in fiscal 2008-09, \$33.7 billion in fiscal 2009-10; \$29.8 billion in 2010-11, \$13 billion in 2011-12, and \$7.3 billion in 2012-13. The government is projecting a small surplus in 2013-14. Overall, the government projects a cumulative deficit of \$85 billion over five years.

Federal Budget Analysis

The government’s Action Plan contained a myriad of measures. In the Canadian Chamber’s view not all qualify as fiscal stimulus in the traditional sense.

The most successful stimulus measures are

those that are timely in response, and well-targeted to the needs of the economy. Infrastructure spending fits the bill. It was a top priority in Budget 2009, and rightly so. Not only can it provide short-term stimulus but also tremendous long-term benefits. High quality infrastructure is critical in encouraging private sector investment, attracting foreign direct investment, and boosting international trade. It is crucial in strengthening our nation's competitiveness and productivity going forward.

Measures to reduce the tax burden on Canadians are also welcomed from a long-term competitiveness perspective. Raising the maximum Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB) will encourage more people to enter the labour force and current WITB recipients to extend hours of work. Increasing the basic personal amount and the top of the two lowest personal income tax brackets will enable Canadians to earn more income before paying federal income taxes, or before being subject to higher tax rates. While it does offer some potential to provide short-term stimulus across the board, it is lower-income individuals that are more likely to be credit constrained and more likely to be among those with the highest propensity to spend.

Incentives in Budget 2009 for new businesses investment – like the temporary accelerated CCA rate for investment in manufacturing or processing machinery and equipment, and the temporary 100 percent CCA rate for investment in computers – change the timing of when capital is acquired and, thus, can provide short-term stimulus. From a longer-term perspective, they contribute to boosting Canada's productivity through the faster adoption of newer technology and by encouraging the re-tooling needed by businesses. Whether Canadian businesses take advantage of these tax incentives at this time remains to be seen as many face slowing demand, deteriorating profit margins, and difficulty in obtaining corporate financing. The Canadian Chamber is encouraged by the Government's continued efforts to provide additional support for Canadian credit markets by utilizing all tools at its disposal. It

compliments the aggressive measures taken by the Bank of Canada to ensure liquidity and the affordability of credit for Canadian businesses and consumers.

The measures announced in Budget 2009 come with a high cost – large deficits for the foreseeable future. We need to be mindful that there is a price to be paid when a deficit is incurred. Canadians will have to pay it back in the future - both principal and interest - making it harder to cover program costs, like health care and education, and meet the needs of an aging population. If deficits persist over a long period of time, Canadians and Canadian businesses will face a higher tax burden, and our competitiveness will be threatened.

The Canadian Chamber is disappointed the government did not state that it will adopt more prudent budgeting principles including allocating annual funds (i.e. setting aside a reserve) within the budget to cover the indebtedness when the budget returns to surplus. This approach would assure Canadians and international investors that the government is serious in getting Canada's books back in surplus position. The government plans to use budget surpluses first of all to repay the deficits expected in the upcoming four years.

Taken overall, however, the budget represents an important step forward.

BC Chamber pleased with many Federal budget plans

The BC Chamber of Commerce heard encouraging words in Ottawa today, as the Federal Government unveiled its 2009 Budget, but is harbouring concerns that the Government's deficit spending may be allocated too broadly to have the desired impact, especially where small business is concerned.

"The infrastructure building program, the total housing package, the strategic training and transition fund, and the tax cuts – these are all good things, and part of a Budget that we

can ultimately support,” said John Winter, President and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce. “But we are concerned at this point about the sheer range of projects that the Government has identified for funding.”

The Chamber movement has been the leading voice calling for a focus on the economy, and Chamber members will be pleased to see that the government has acted on many of the Chamber’s recommendations by including initiatives such as improving access to credit, targeted investments in training, expedited infrastructure spending, as well as many targeted taxation incentives for investment in technology and machinery.

However, while there is a heavy focus on training, infrastructure and tax cuts, Budget 2009 aims to address the recession’s unprecedented economic challenge by spending widely across virtually all sectors – a strategy that, while certainly optimistic, in the Chamber’s opinion will not necessarily bring about the results the Government has promised.

“This Budget represents some of the most difficult financial decisions to be made in Canada’s history, and clearly the Government has been listening carefully throughout its consultations,” continued Winter. “Given that, it’s hardly surprising that the Government has tried to include provisions for as many areas as possible, and tried to avoid making choices between projects, regions and sectors. Although this inclusivity is admirable, it’s not certain that Canada’s economy would not benefit more from increased focus on the Government’s part, especially when it will be spending at unprecedented levels.”

Chamber and KAST invite you to the next Business after Business Networking event

The Chamber is pleased to co host our next wine and cheese Business after Business get together at Spoonbender Studios, Tuesday February 24th between 5pm and 7pm .

Spoonbender Studios and owner David Russell was the winner of a Community Futures New Business award in 2008. The awards recognize the spirit and innovation of entrepreneurs in the Central Kootenay. Spoonbender Studios won in the Innovation category, which demonstrates innovative technology, products and services.

Drop by and visit the studios, have some wine and appies, and discover more about this new venture. It’s always fun to co host with KAST (Kootenay Association of Science and Technologies) Kelvin and Terri always have some great stories, and can also bring us up to date on some of the exciting projects that KAST is working on.

See you at Spoonbender Studios, 301 Vernon Street, 5pm-7pm February 24th.

Chamber and Nelson Business Association Co Host Breakfast Meeting February 19th

You’re invited a special breakfast meeting on Thursday February 19th at the Hume Hotel. Two important topics that will be of interest to business owners include:

Data Loss and Identity Breach as well as Shop lifting and theft prevention for your business.

Speakers include Constable Janet Scott – Pryke of the Nelson City Police on Shop lifting and Theft protection., and retired RCMP officer Gerry MacKinnon on Identity Breach.

Join us for breakfast and some networking at the Hume Hotel - Hume Room on the 19th of February at 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM

This is a continental breakfast that allows us to find out how to combat these crimes in the forms of proactive preventions.

Thanks to our renewing Chamber members

A Quiet Getaway
Academy of Classical Oriental Sciences
AdvoCare Home Health Services
Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort
Ainsworth Motel
Alfab Manufacturing
All Around Septic Services
All Hit KBS - Standard Broadcasting Inc
All Seasons Cafe
Alpenglow Vacation Rental
Alpine Motel
Andex Rental & Sales Ltd.
Angel Television Inc. (Starlight Beach House)
Aqua Enviromental Assoc. (was Carver)
Baldface Lodge
Balfour Superette 1977 Ltd
Bank of Montreal
Bavarian Lookout
Beach Taghum B&B
Bealby Road Beach House
Bear Spring Enterprises Ltd.
Beattie Built
Berg Naqvi Lehmann
Bia Bora
Bills' Motor - In Ltd
Birch Grove RV Park & Marina
Boards by George
Boccalino
By the Brook Guest House
CallBill Consulting
Canadian Cancer Society Nelson Unit Office
Capitol Theatre
Captain Erik's Watertoys
Carmichael, Toews , Irving Inc
Casa Bella Tile Creations
CDE Ventures Ltd
Celeste Wildcraft and Foods
CF Group Inc.
Chatham Street Bed & Breakfast
Children's World Day Care Centre
Chinook Marketing Inc.
Chris Rowat Design
CIBC Wood Gundy
Civic Auto Repair
Cloud Side Inn (formally Inn the Garden)
Coleman Properties Ltd
Color Your World
Columbia Basin Trust
Columbia Power Corporation
Comishin & Astle Chartered Accountant

Community Futures of Central Kootenay
Comunita Services Ltd
Cool Waters RV Park
Corporation of the City of Nelson
Cottonwood Autobody
Country Furniture Ltd
Cowan Office Supplies Ltd.
Crag Holdings
Curves
Dancing Bear Inn
Dandelion B&B
Darla Tolerton RMT
DDC Excavating Ltd
Deeplines Guiding Services
DHC Communications
Diana Haschke Chartered Accountant
Downtown Automotive
Dr Larry Bickerton
Dr M S Culham
Dr. Alex Poole/Hildur Jonasson
Dr. Dee Anne Gelinis
Dr. Jeff Plant
Dr. Michael Inniss
Dream Tech Designs
Dunk, Mr Terry
Eddy Music
Eddy's Reliable Plumbing & Gas Fitting
El Taco Mexican Food
Erickson Carol & Paul
Ewing Insolutions, Inc
Fairview Esso Service
Feelings With Flowers/What's Happening Party
Rentals
Finley's Irish Pub
Fortis BC
Function d'Eva
G & G Holdings (Balfour Repair Service)
Garden View Retreat B & B
Gerick Cycle & Ski
Glacier Cab Company
GM Jewellery & Objects
Good Look Graphics
Gord Faasse
Guy Koehle Ltd
H & R Block
Habits
Hairlines
Hairy Productions Sound & Lighting
Harrison Enterprises
Heritage Pawn & Used Goods
Heritage Roofing and Sheet Metal Ltd
High Terrain Helicopters
Hipperson Hardware
Insurance Corporation of BC

Intuitive Directions
Investor's Group
J.M. Autobody N' Paint
Jadick Dr C (Redfish Beach House)
Jenergy Technologies
JNP Contracting Ltd
Kal Tire Nelson
Kaslo Shipyard Corp Ltd
Kimberley Community Development Society
Kline's RV Park
Kokanee Glacier Resort
Kokanee Physiotherapy Clinic
Kooconusa Publications
Kootenay Bakery Cafe Cooperative
Kootenay Career Development Society
Kootenay Country Co-op
Kootenay Express Communications Corp
Kootenay Forge Ltd.
Kootenay Growers Supply Ltd
Kootenay Industrial Supply
Kootenay Lake Electric
Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation
Kootenay Lake Medical Clinic
Kootenay Real Estate Board
Kootenay Savings Credit Union
L Hill Masonry Services
Lacroix & Associates
Lakewood Inn
Lang Business Systems
Laser's Permanent Touch
Long Beach Medical Clinic
Maclean & Taylor Chiropractic
Maglio Building Centre Ltd
Maglio Industries
Main Jet Motorsports Inc
Malicounda Dance Co.
Martin Entrprises Inc.
Massage Space
Mathieson, Cameron
Matt Ander
Mediterranean 57 Pizza & Spaghetti House
Midas Auto Service Experts
Mike Butland Contracting
Mountain Hound Inn
Mountain Valley Contracting
Mountain View Homes (Retreats for Wellness)
Mountain Waters Spa
Mountainview Tropicals
Nancy Selwood, RMT
Nelson & District Arts Council
Nelson & District Credit Union
Nelson Brewing Company
Nelson C.A.R.E.S. Society
Nelson Car Wash
Nelson Chrysler

Nelson District Rod & Gun Club
Nelson Ford Sales
Nelson Golf & Recreation Society
Nelson Kiwanis Projects
Nelson Mini Storage
Nelson Pilots Association
Nelson Ready Mix
Nelson Realty Ltd
Nelson Regional Sports Council
Nelson Toyota (Renwick Ventures Inc)
New Creations Design & Drafting
New Grand Hotel
North Shore Inn
Northway Trucking
OK Tire & Auto Service
Osprey Resource Management
Otter Books Inc
Overland West Freight Lines
Pacific Insight Electronics
Packrat Annie's
Panorama Silviculture Inc
Patti A Foster
Pennco Engineering
Peter B Williams
PFW Publications Ltd
Pharmasave
Photon Foods
Playnest Home Daycare
Poulin Agencies Ltd
Powder Creek Lodge
Prefix Media
Priority Concrete Pumping
Pro Equipment Repair Inc
Queen City Transportation Ltd
Ramp Body & Fender Works
Randy's Backhoe Service Ltd
Raven Creations
RCI Construction and Design
Re/Max RHC Realty
Remedy's Custom Compounding Pharmacy
Reo's Videos
Retail BC
RHC McDonald Curriers Insurance Brokers Ltd
Rivers, Oceans & Mountains Shop
Rocky Mountain Business Consulting
Rub It In Mobile Massage & Acupressure Services
S Hawes Contracting Ltd
Safeway Canada Ltd
Sapana Woollenwear
Scotiabank
Seams Unique Window Treatments and
Accessories
Selkirk Eye Care
Selkirk Veterinary Hospital
Sensations Klothes Shoppe
Septen Financial Ltd.

Shoes for the Soul
Shoppers Drug Mart
Simply Be & B (H&H International)
SK Electronics
Skogstad Law Office
Snowwater Heli Skiing Inc
Solterra Guesthouse
Spearhead Timberworks
Spilker Watson & Pigott
St Eugene Mission Resort
Still Eagle Planetary Persuasions
Strand & Godfrey Appraisals Ltd.
Streetclothes Named Desire
Sunflower Inn Bed and Breakfast
Sutherland & Associates Financial Services Ltd
Taylor Wilton Nelson
Ted Allen's Jewellery (1977) Ltd
Terra Erosion Control Ltd
Terratherma Geothermal Heating Ltd
That Craft Store
The Natural Plaster Company
The Vacuum Design
The Villa Motel
The Whole School (West Kootenay Ed. Resource)
Timberland 2001
Timberland 2001
Timberland Consultants Ltd
Touchstone GIS Services Inc
Touchstone Museum of Art & History
Towering Pines Bed and Breakfast
Tri City Pumps & Power (2007) Ltd
Tu-Dor Lock & Safe
Turtle Mountain Developments
Valhalla Consulting Services
Valhalla Powdercats Inc
Valhalla Safety/ RWJT Enterprises Ltd
Vanishing Falls B&B
Victorian Rose Bed & Breakfast & Vacation Cottages
Vince's Specialty Footwear Ltd
Vision Mountain Training Inc
Wagg's Boarding & Grooming
Wake Up N Ride Wakeboard School
Wall Tone Painting & Contracting
Warren Macdonald Unlimited Inc.
Waste Management of Canada
Weiland Construction (590590 BC Ltd.)
White House Backpackers Lodge(Inn816)
Willow Point Lodge B&B
Win Thrift Store (West Kootenay Women In Need Society)
Wonow Media Ltd
Your Dollar Store with More
Zep Manufacturing Co.

Welcome to our New Chamber Members

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Let's develop a quote for your firm, call me today. When we meet, you'll tell me about the kinds of coverage that interest you and what you want a benefit plan to accomplish for your company. Then I'll build a custom recommendation based on your objectives.

Let's put the Chambers Plan to work for you!

Glenn Sutherland ,B.A.,CSA
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2009 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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1st Vice President (to be elected from existing directors)

2nd Vice President (to be elected from existing directors)

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