



British Columbia Chamber Executives

BCCE Directors

Executive

President:

Allan Asaph, Executive Director
Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce
allan@abbotsfordchamber.com

Vice-president:

Kim Burden, Executive Director,
Parksville & District Chamber of Commerce
kim@parkvillechamber.com

Secretary:

Fieny Van den Boom, Executive Director
Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce
fieny@chilliwackchamber.com

Treasurer:

John Devitt, General Manager,
Penticton and Wine County Chamber of Commerce
manager@penticton.org

Past President:

Maureen Czirfusz, Executive Director,
Houston & District Chamber of Commerce
manager@houstonchamber.ca

BC Chamber Executives Society Newsletter - June 2015

BC Chamber of Commerce New President/CEO

We all know the shoes of retiring BC Chamber of Commerce President and CEO John Winter will be hard to fill. We also know from experience within our own organizations, that change can have a positive experience. The BC Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors are committed to a hiring process that will provide positive, progressive change to the BC Chamber of Commerce. The Board recognize the importance of the expertise of their member chambers and are seeking input through a survey that will help to define the qualities they seek in hiring a new President/CEO. Please take the time to complete the survey that will help to define the BC Chamber of Commerce direction over the next several years.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/T5839CT>

2015 BCCE Conference & AGM Cove Lakeside Resort, West Kelowna

With just three months until the 2015 BCCE Conference we hope your registration is in and your room at the Cove Lakeside Resort on beautiful Okanagan Lake is booked. The Conference theme this year is "Leadership". For more information [CLICK HERE](#) BCCE Conferences are a great learning experience as well as a weekend of fun and relaxation. [REGISTER HERE](#)

To book your room call 1-877-762-2683

Directors

Bruce Carter, CEO
Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
bcarter@gvcc.org

Susan Clovechok, Executive Director,
Columbia Valley Chamber of Commerce
susan@cvchamber.ca

Patti Noonan, Manager
Armstrong Spallumcheen Chamber of Commerce
manager@aschamber.com

Trish Parsons, Executive Director,
Kitimat Chamber of Commerce
tparsons@kitimatchamber.ca

Louise Ranger, President & General Manager
North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce
louise@nvchamber.ca

Chamber Conference Bursary Applications UPDATE

In order to provide opportunities for all Chambers to participate in and benefit from Chamber focused events the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the BC Chamber of Commerce and your BCCE offer bursaries to help cover the costs of attending. **In addition the ACCE is offering a bursary to Canadian Chamber Executives for their August Conference in Montreal. Contact me at kim@parksvillechamber.com for an application form.**

For Canadian Chamber and BCCE Application Forms follow the link below:

[BCCE Bursary Applications](#) including an application for the

NEW - CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE GROUP INSURANCE PLAN Bursary to attend the 2015 BCCE AGM & Conference

Bursary Benefits

Andrea Madden, Executive Director Chamber of Commerce serving Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows

I was honoured to be chosen as one of this year's bursary recipients which enabled our Chamber to be represented at the BC Chamber AGM and Conference in Prince George. Attending my first AGM in Richmond, last year, I was very excited to be able to attend this year's conference, never having been this far "North" (I know it's only the centre of BC but to me it's North), I got the opportunity to experience another part of our gorgeous province.

Prior to my first AGM in 2014, I was a little apprehensive about what the policy sessions would look like. Now a year in and although I am not a policy geek, I love the policy sessions. First and foremost I am able to learn more from chambers located in different areas of the province where there are different issues. By listening to how these issues affect my colleagues in other regions, I am able to widen my understanding on the impacts of certain policies. It's fascinating to listen to differing points of view and note how slight amendments can align previously opposing sides.

The BC Chamber AGM and Conference is extremely

valuable to Chamber Executives, as it brings together chamber professionals from around the province to hear from incredible speakers with relevant and thought-provoking topics to the forefront. The daily schedule is packed full of stimulating activities and seminars. One of this year's highlights was "The Chamber Brand: What's in a Name" by Scot Keith of 123w; followed by his workshop - Planning for the Future. It was exciting to sit with colleagues from around the province and brain-storm ideas for guerrilla marketing. This was a great way to stimulate creativity and have fun. I have several great take-homes from everyone's contributions, like when Scot mentioned that marketing/branding is not B2B but really H2H and we need to appeal to our human emotions. People are interested in brands that are doing interesting and fun stuff to get people to care.

This really got my blood pumping, so many exciting ideas to return home with and share with my team. Kudos to the BC Chamber team for a well-organized and well-run AGM, with great speakers and great food!

It was great to meet and connect with other managers, volunteers, sponsors and speakers, truly the movers and shakers in BC business. It was wonderful to see so many friendly faces and reconnect with everyone I had the pleasure to meet last year and meet others. The Chamber network is an incredible network, it is informative, educational and most of all the support from other Chamber colleagues is amazing. I am privileged to be a part of such an amazing group of professionals. I hope everyone has an opportunity to attend the BCCE AGM & Conference this September, I look forward to seeing everyone one there.

I would really like to express my gratitude, particularly to the BCCE for providing this opportunity and helping make it possible to attend the BC Chamber AGM and Conference by granting this bursary to myself and the Chamber of Commerce serving Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows. Thank you!

**BCCE COMMUNICATIONS AWARD
SUBMISSIONS - DEADLINE AUGUST 7
2015**

Awards presented in the following

categories

Chamber Membership 1-200; Chamber Membership 201-500; Chamber Membership 500+

*Please forward the form [FOUND HERE](#) along with 3 hard copies or an electronic copy of your submission including press releases, newsletters, membership communication etc. and other supporting documentation produced during the period **September 2014 to August 2015** to:*

**Patti Noonan, Committee Chair
Armstrong Spallumcheen Chamber of
Commerce**

**Box 118 Armstrong, BC V0E 1B0
email: manager@aschamber.com**

A Night at the Museum

The BC Chamber AGM and Conference had many memorable moments including a great evening put on by the Prince George Chamber of Commerce at the Prince George Railway Museum. For those in attendance you will likely remember the incident with the mustard bottle. Thanks to Patrick Giesbrecht for the photo.



BC Chamber Executives Societies Resources

The British Columbia Chamber Executives Society offers education, resources, and networking support among managers of Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade in British Columbia. The Chamber Manager position is unique and the

BC Chamber Executives aims to make you and your chamber a success.

If you are an experienced chamber manager ready for an update or a new manager just appointed, just lock the door, take the phone off the hook, take 15 minutes and review the helpful information found [HERE](#)