



## The Nov/Dec 2009 E-Newsletter from The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello All!

APEC firmly put the focus of the world on Singapore and we hope that all of you found some way to generate more business from the buzz around this world class political and business forum! We at CanCham enjoyed an update and briefing from John Sloan (Director General, Economic Policy Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada) on November 10. Canada plays an important role in these global forums and with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his Ministers in town, the Canadian clout was well received. Canada will also be hosting back to back G8 and G20 summits in 2010, so we will be in prime position as events in the world progress.

In past events, we enjoyed the insightful words of Eric Tan, COO - Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee, and Elizabeth Baldwin-Jones, Canada's Political and Public Affairs Counsellor to Singapore on the topic of 'Behind the Scenes at the Olympics'. With both Singapore and Canada hosting Olympic events during 2010 there is much to bring our two countries together. The Winter Olympics in Vancouver and Whistler is something we can all look forward to as many great Canadian athletes will be performing their best. The new Youth Olympic Games in Singapore will be making history next summer and all of us can be involved closer to our adopted home with the strong contingent of young Canadians coming to compete with the worlds finest. There will be opportunities for us to get up close and personal with the games in Singapore including opening our doors to billet visiting families of Canadian Olympians!

We also enjoyed the return of Ernie Nagraha on November 4 to another sold out event. He updated us on tax issues for expats in Canada, and as always, spent a lot of Q+A time advising us on individual questions. Many thanks to Darwin Forer and **Redev Properties** for sponsoring the event, Redev seems to be offering great opportunities and ROI for Canadian properties, so check it out on their website [www.redevasia.com](http://www.redevasia.com)!

The Canadian Chamber has been reaching out to the international

#### Executive Committee 2009/2010

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Ms. Marlene Han  
Asian Tour

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#### Canadian High Commission Representatives

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H.E. David Sevigny

Mr. Roman Borowyk  
Senior Trade Commissioner

business community in Singapore through a range of initiatives including regular InterCham meetings. You will see the results of this through being offered interesting opportunities with the other Chambers. Please scroll down to see invitations our members have received.

**Event Manager**  
Ms. Annemieke Kouwenhoven

**Volunteer**  
Ms. Susan Cumbers

We are also part of a survey for the international business community. The survey will be sent to you shortly. Your response is important, so please take a few minutes to answer the survey once you have received it.

Looking ahead to 2010, we will have a special opportunity for you to learn about the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on January 26. Speakers from ADB will be here to tell us how to be involved with ADB backed projects and what projects are currently available. This is a great opportunity to expand your business scope for small and large businesses, so mark this date in your diary! Flyers are coming out soon!

We will also be having our annual Canada Day @ the Races on January 29. This fun event jointly organised by the 5 Pillars is a winner for everyone who attends! Last year we sold out, so please book your table/seat now! The event is sponsored by: **HJM Asia Law, Manulife, BlackBerry** and **TD Securities** and will no doubt be a night to be remembered! See you there!

As this will be the last newsletter for 2009, I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas!! Travel safe and enjoy the festive season!!

Joyeux Noel!

All the Best,



**Marlene Han**  
**President 2009-2010**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### | Canada Day @ the Races 2010

**Date:** Friday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Time:** 6.30pm - 10.30pm

**Venue:** Singapore Racecourse at Kranji – Casuarina Room (Level 4)

**Fee:** \$75 for members      S\$90 for non-members      S\$1,000 for Corporate Table (10p)

Join this exciting and fun-filled event hosted by the Canadian 5 Pillars (the High Commission of Canada, Canadian Alumni, Canadian International School, Canadian Association and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce) to meet, mingle and make new contacts and friends while taking a gamble! We also welcome Corporate Sponsors – please give our Event Manager a call at 6734 5954 or email to [eventmanager@cancham.org.sg](mailto:eventmanager@cancham.org.sg) for more information.

This event will be made possible thanks to the great support of our sponsors: **HJM Asia Law & Co**, **Manulife Financial**, **BlackBerry** and **TD Securities**.

## PAST EVENTS

### | "Expectations for Asia's Economic Recovery" – The Hudson Report

**Date:** Monday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009

During a breakfast session at the American Club, Gina McLellan from Hudson Global Resources presented The Hudson Report for Q4 of this year. She covered topics ranging from the growth in headcount this quarter, the dropped number of lay-offs and the key role of talent development. It was an interesting presentation with a positive outlook for the coming period.



Visit <http://www.cancham.org.sg/node/193> for more pictures

### | Behind the Scenes at the Olympics

**Date:** Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009

It was an interesting, informal networking evening at Suntec International Convention & Exhibition Centre on Wednesday October 28. An update on the inaugural Youth Olympic Games was given by Mr. Eric Tan, COO of the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (SYOGOC), sharing with us some interesting insights on the upcoming Games in Singapore. Followed by Elizabeth Baldwin-Jones from the High Commission of Canada, who informed the audience on what we can look forward to in celebrating both the Youth Games in Singapore and our own Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver!



Visit <http://www.cancham.org.sg/node/194> for more pictures

### | Behind-Closed-Doors Luncheon with Director General John Sloan

**Date:** Wednesday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009

It has been an exciting month with APEC in town from 11 – 15 November. At CanCham Director General John Sloan was joining our Founding and (Major) Corporate members for a candid discussion and updates from Canada on a wide range of issues, including APEC's role in the new international context; Canada's involvement in APEC; and G8/G20 processes.

## NEW MEMBERS

### | Corporate Members

**Helu-Trans** – At Helu-Trans, relocation services leverage on proven processes, world-class service standards to deliver quality services to clientele that ranges from the most elite of the arts and corporate communities to the expatriate family. Helu-Trans has also grown to become the biggest art mover in Asia Pacific, one of the world's leading fine art specialists. Helu-Trans is proud to be accredited as a FAIM-ISO-certified company. FAIM ISO is the only international quality certification in this industry. Helu-Trans is also member of ICEFAT and ARTIM, the two organizations that represent global networks of professional art handling companies. Helu-Trans will be represented by **Darden Eure** and **Randy Chiu**. For more information, please visit [www.helutrans.com](http://www.helutrans.com)

**Freehills** is an international law firm. Established in 1852, Freehills today acts for more than 75 per cent of Australia's top 100-listed companies and undertakes high-level legal work for leading corporations on every continent across the globe. The firm prides itself in delivering innovative, tailor made commercial legal advice and strategic solutions to clients across the Asia Pacific, through the combined resources and know-how of more than 1000 lawyers, including around 200 partners. With an established presence in Singapore spanning three decades and associated firms in Indonesia, Vietnam and China, Freehills is well placed to utilise its network of contacts with key industry players, governments and local law firms across the region to ensure clients obtain commercial success. Freehills will be represented by **Geoffrey Grice** and **Alix Grice**. For more information, please visit [www.freehills.com](http://www.freehills.com)

### | Individual Member

**Charlie Hartono Lie** of Bali Metamorph (Indonesia). For more information, please visit [www.balimetamorph.com](http://www.balimetamorph.com)

## CANADIAN & MEMBERS NEWS

### | Finance & Banking

#### **Response to Economic Crisis Lifts Reputation of Local Financial and Banking System**

SINGAPORE has come through the year-long global financial crisis with its reputation and standing enhanced, said Minister for Law and Second Minister for Home Affairs K Shanmugam on Tuesday. Mr Shanmugam said Singapore will continue to grow as a trust jurisdiction, given its high standards of probity, professionalism and good business conduct, and has so far licensed nearly 40 trust companies. [Read more](#)

## **Canadian Economy Regaining Strength, says Bank of Canada Governor**

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney expounded upon the bank's most recent economic forecast on Monday, discussing the nation's credit market forecast, current economic conditions and monetary policy. Canadian small businesses should be able to expect improved financial conditions and possibly even a return to small business growth by 2010, said the governor at the Rendez-vous event in Montreal hosted by the Autorite des marches financiers. [Read more](#)

## **| Canada – Asia**

### **Canada Increases its Southeast Asia Presence**

Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway, announced that Canada is taking steps to increase its commercial and political presence in Southeast Asia by creating Canada's Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Network. The Ministers made the announcement while attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting in Singapore. Canada's ASEAN Network will involve experts working on trade and investment, human rights, security, health, natural disasters and other bilateral and multilateral issues in the region. "The ASEAN Network will further Canadian interests in the region and help identify new business opportunities for Canadian companies," said Minister Day. "Additional experts in Canada's missions in Southeast Asia will promote Canada as an investment destination of choice. Canada has a lot to offer, including a sound banking system, a stable business environment, the lowest corporate taxes in the G7 by 2012, and a dynamic, talented, highly qualified workforce."

*Information summarized from: Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada*

### **Prime Minister Harper to Travel to South Korea in December**

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that he will visit South Korea from December 6 to 7. "Canada's relationship with the Republic of Korea is grounded in longstanding historical ties and many years of strong political and economic cooperation," said the Prime Minister. "The Republic of Korea is an important economic partner and like-minded player in the global and regional promotion of freedom and democracy." South Korea will be co-chairing the G20 Summit taking place in Canada in June 2010.

*Information summarized from: Prime Minister's Office Press Release*

### **PM Harper Meets Top Legislator Wu, Says he Now Better Understands Nation**

China's top legislator Wu Bangguo met Friday with visiting Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and both expressed the hope to further promote bilateral ties. Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), said China and Canada are both important countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and enjoy a wide range of common interests. The development of Sino-Canadian relations is not only conducive to both countries but also conducive to regional and world peace, stability and development. [Read more](#).

## **CANADIAN EVENTS**

## | Teddy Bear & Toy Drive 2009 Cocktail Reception

**Date:** Wednesday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 6:30pm – 8:30pm

**Venue:** Venue details will be communicated upon registration

**Fee:** CAS members S\$65      Non-members S\$75

**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

New teddy bears and educational/cause & effect toys will be collected for SCAS's Early Learning Program. Collection between Dec 1 and Dec 11. Drop off your donations in the special collection boxes located at:

- The Canadian International School - Tanjong Katong Campus, 371 Tanjong Katong Road
- The Canadian International School – Toh Tuck Campus, 5 Toh Tuck Road
- The Canadian Association of Singapore - 371 Tanjong Katong Road

## | Children's Christmas Party

**Date:** Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 3:00pm – 5:00pm

**Venue:** Spastic Children's Association of Singapore – 65 Pasir Ris Drive

**Fee:** FREE

**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

Everyone is welcome to attend and spread festive cheer with the SCAS students and their families at the Spastic Children's Association of Singapore. Special performance by the Canadian International School Primary Choir.

## | PTA Blood Donor Week

**Date:** 6 – 12 December, 2009

**Venue:** [Click here](#) to find a Bloodbank location near you

The CIS PTA is working with the Red Cross to promote awareness for their Blood Donation programmes. They have declared 6 - 12 December as Blood Donor Week and would like to encourage all Canadians to consider becoming a blood donor during this week.

## EXTERNAL EVENTS

### | Leaders Business Lunch with Ian Livingston - organized by BritCham

**Date:** Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 12:00pm – 2:00pm

**Venue:** Raffles Hotel Singapore – East India Rooms

**Fee:** S\$70 for CanCham members      S\$100 for non-members

**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

Global Capitalism: Crisis or Opportunity? Presented by Mr. Ian Livingston, CEO BT Group.

There's a saying that you should never waste a good crisis. Like many companies BT had to

make hard decisions and innovate to deal with the fall out of this particular crisis. But it has also used its skill set and experience to help its customers respond. Ian will discuss the current global situation, how BT has responded and how it has helped its customers to respond.

### | SMCCI Business Mission to Penang

**Date:** 10 – 13 December, 2009

**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

The Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SMCCI) will be organizing a **Business Mission to Penang and Kulim from 10 - 13 December 2009**. The Mission is a reciprocal visit following the recent successful visit led by Yang Berhormat Encik Mansor Othman, Deputy Chief Minister of Penang and Yang Berhormat Encik Haji Abdul Malek Kassim, State Minister for Religious Affairs, Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs. This business mission includes business networking sessions and meetings with members of the business fraternity including Small & Medium Enterprises, Governmental & Non Governmental Agencies, The Penang Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Penang International Halal Hub and Invest Penang.

### | ASME Christmas Party

**Date:** Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 6:30pm – 9:30pm

**Venue:** The Pod – National Library Building

**Fee:** S\$25 for CanCham members      S\$140 for non-members

**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

ASME has extended an invitation to the members of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce for their annual Christmas Party cum business networking session. There will be free flow of food and drinks while you network to meet new business contacts and friends.

## CANCHAM MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY 2010

### | Opportunity for Advertising

The CanCham Membership Directory is the perfect tool to promote your company and activities. Please [click here](#) to download the booking form or contact our offices at 6734 5954 or via [admin@cancham.org.sg](mailto:admin@cancham.org.sg) for more information.

## CHAMBER STAFF

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