



**The October 2009 E-Newsletter from The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore**

**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello All!



Its October already and time for Canadian Thanksgiving (CAS organizes a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner coming Saturday 10 October) and Halloween!!

We have been busy since the hugely popular 'Back to Business' event attracted 170 Canadians and friends of Canada. It was a great opportunity to make new contacts and catch up with old friends! We have also been busy at the Executive level finding more opportunities to raise the Canadian voice amongst the **International Chambers in Singapore**. After hosting a breakfast a few months ago sponsored by our RIM (BlackBerry), the Canadian presence is gaining higher recognition along with other international Chambers, with the Singapore Government. Recently I attended a briefing with Peter Ong (Permanent Secretary for the Trade & Industry Ministry) and CanCham's Vice President, Greg Wade, where concerns for doing business amongst the International business committee were aired. The Singapore government is keen to know what you are thinking and what you require to maintain and grown your business here... so all comments welcome. To that end, a survey will be put together and circulated to members soon and we do look forward to your input which will be collated with the input from all the international Chambers and Business Associations in Singapore for presentation to the Singapore government.

I am also pleased to announce the following **upcoming events**:

- **Monday, October 26**, 7:45am – 9:30am at the American Club - Gina McLellan from Hudson Global Resources will provide data from their latest survey, to speak on: **"HR Insights for Asia's Economic Recovery"**. Whether your company is looking to hire or down-size, or you are looking to enter the market, Gina will surely provide relevant information which will help make critical decisions on the human resources landscape.

- **Wednesday October 28**, 6:30pm – 8:30pm at Suntec Singapore - Catherine McNabb, Director Marketing & Sponsorship Division Singapore

**Executive Committee  
2009/2010**

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H.E. David Sevigny

Mr. Roman Borowyk  
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Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (SYOGOC), and Elizabeth Baldwin-Jones, Political and Public Affairs Counsellor at the High Commission of Canada, will present "**Behind the Scenes at the Olympics**" from two exclusive perspectives. Unique opportunities are coming in 2010 where two Olympic events will occur in both Singapore and Vancouver, Canada. There are tremendous opportunities for our involvement, which both will speak about. This is a great opportunity for all to be updated on two of the biggest sporting events of the year!

**Event Manager**  
Ms. Annemieke Kouwenhoven

**Volunteer**  
Ms. Susan Cumbers

- **Wednesday November 4**, 12:00pm – 1:30pm at the High Commission of Canada - Ernie Nagraha comes from Toronto every year to inform members regarding latest **Canadian tax** changes and what impact this may have for the expat. If you are planning to head back to Canada or simply just want to understand how to handle your Canadian investments... do join this event! Ernie is one of the Canadian Chambers most popular and practical annual speakers.

- **Friday October 29, "Canada Day at the Races"**, Singapore Turf Club - This 5 Pillars event was fully subscribed last year with over 200 punters, taking a gamble at the Singapore Turf Club. This year promises to be even better... so mark this date in your diary! Event planning and organisation is well under way... the event offers a **great opportunity for sponsors**. Interested parties, please contact Annemieke Kouwenhoven at [eventmanager@cancham.org.sg](mailto:eventmanager@cancham.org.sg) or 6734 5954.

The Canadian Chamber is also keeping eye out for opportunities related to APAC in November... please keep in touch and we will inform you as activities arrive for this gathering of the great in Singapore.

Wishing you all good business as the market begins to turn...

All the Best,



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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

| **HR Insights for Asia's Economic Recovery by Gina McLellan**

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

**Time:** 7.45am - 6.30am

**Venue:** The American Club – Colonial Room (Level 3) - 10 Claymore Hill

**Fee:** \$35\* for CanCham members \$45\* for non-members

*\*Includes breakfast, coffee/tea and presentation*

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

Is your workplace in transition? Considering a change? Want to know what your options might

be or making important HR decisions for your company? Hudson Global resources together with CanCham presents: The Hudson Report. The Hudson report is a quarterly survey of hiring expectations, covering nearly 2,000 employment decision-makers in all major industry and business sectors in China, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Come and join us for an engaging presentation over breakfast by distinguished speaker and Hudson Country Manager Gina McLellan.

### | Canadian 5 Pillar Event: “Behind the Scenes at the Olympics”

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

**Time:** 6.30pm - 8.30pm

**Venue:** Suntec Singapore – Room 302 (Level 3)

**Fee:** \$15\* for CanCham/CAS/Alumni/CIS/High Comm members  
\$25\* for non-members

*\*Includes free flow of wine, beer, soft drinks, light snacks and presentation*

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

This exclusive event will profile the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore, which comes in the same year that Canada will be hosting our own Winter Olympics in Vancouver. Come and join the Canadian 5 Pillars for an engaging presentation by our guest speakers Catherine McNabb of the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (SYOGOC) and Elizabeth Baldwin-Jones – the High Commission’s Lead for the Olympic Games in Singapore.

***Find out how you and your family can have your own Olympic experience, get involved behind the scenes and take part in the action!***

This event is proudly sponsored by: ***Suntec Singapore, Nederburg Wines & Asia Pacific Breweries***

With special thanks to: ***Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (SYOGOC)***

### | The Power Lunch Series: Talking Tax with Ernie Nagratha

**Date:** Wednesday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 12.00pm - 1.30pm

**Venue:** The High Commission of Canada – Maple Leaf Boardroom  
One George Street (11<sup>th</sup> Floor)

**Fee:** \$15\* for CanCham members  
\$25\* for non-members

*\*Includes a sandwich lunch and presentation*

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

Following a sold out Power Lunch in 2007 and 2008, tax expert Ernie Nagratha will once again be answering your biggest tax issues right here in Singapore! Whether you are a newcomer to town or fairly established, come along to this interactive session and learn how to optimize your tax planning.

This event is proudly sponsored by: ***Redev Properties***

## PAST EVENTS

### | Back to Business Networking Night 2009

**Date:** Friday September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

On Friday September 4<sup>th</sup> it was back to Business again for the Canadian community. The **High Commission of Canada, Canadian Association, Canadian International School, Canadian Alumni** and the **Canadian Chamber of Commerce** jointly organised this popular annual networking session. With more than 120 guests in attendance the night was a great success!



Visit <http://www.cancham.org.sg/node/183> for more pictures

## NEW MEMBERS

### | Corporate Member

**Sigma Cable Company** was established in June 1964 under pioneer status. The Company manufactures low tension power cables up to 3.3 KV complying to IEC, BS, Australia Standard and Singapore Standard. Sigma's Project Engineering is involved in Supply, Delivery and Install turnkey projects for medium and high voltage for power transmission projects with SP Power Assets Limited. **Gong Wei** and **Peh Cheng Chuah** will represent Sigma Cable Company in the Chamber. For more information, please visit [www.sigmacable.com](http://www.sigmacable.com)

## CANADIAN & MEMBERS NEWS

### | Information Technology

#### **RIM Fastest-growing Company in the World: Fortune**

Business magazine Fortune has named Canada's Research in Motion the world's fastest-growing company. RIM has more than quadrupled its workforce in the last four years to about 12,000 people and seen its profits and revenues soar as the company has expanded sales of its BlackBerry devices beyond the corporate world to the consumer market. In its latest quarterly report, Research In Motion reported that its quarterly profit was \$643 million. [Read more](#)

### | Financial Services

## **RBC's International Wealth Management Business Appoints Leadership Team in Asia**

The international arm of RBC Wealth Management announced the appointments of Matthew Yong and Frank Mu as President and CEO respectively of its Asia operations and the unification of its Asian operations under one umbrella 'RBC Wealth Management, Asia.' Mr. Yong is based in Singapore and will be responsible for sales and distribution activities in Asia. Mr. Mu is based in Hong Kong and will continue to lead the advisory team, while also focusing on client solution support (including trust, discretionary investment management, investment advisory and credit) and functional support (including operations, information technology, human resources, finance, risk and compliance). *Information summarized from: Royal Bank of Canada.*

### **| Business**

#### **Canada Jumps up 2009 List Best Countries for Business: Forbes**

Canada moved up four spots to number three on Forbes 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Best Countries for Business list. Forbes analyzed the business climate in 127 countries focusing on degrees of trade and monetary freedom, property rights, innovation, technology, red tape, investor protection, corruption, tax burden and market performance. *Information summarized from High Commission of Canada. [Read more](#)*

## **CANADIAN EVENTS**

### **| Canadian Thanksgiving Dinner**

**Date:** Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 5.30pm Cocktails (cash bar) / 6.30pm Dinner

**Venue:** The St. Regis Singapore – Brasserie Les Saveurs

**Fee:** \$85\* for CAS members     \$95\* for non-members (children go for lower rates)

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

You are invited to join the Canadian community in Singapore for a wonderful traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings as we give thanks for the abundance in our lives. A Silent Auction will be held to benefit Run for Hope.

### **| Canadian Retail Fair with NTUC Fairprice**

**Date:** 15 – 18 October 2009

**Venue:** NTUC Fairprice supermarkets

Canadian food products will be showcased in NTUC Finest stores and 35 regular NTUC Fairprice supermarkets. Visit your local supermarket for a taste of Canada!

### **| Run for Hope 2009**

**Date:** Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

**Time:** From 7.00am onwards  
**Venue:** East Coast Park, Angsana Green  
**Fee:** Adult S\$35 Youth (ages 18 and below) S\$18  
**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

Do you part to fight cancer run with us today! Gather your family and friends to join in the fun at Singapore's most established charity run.

## EXTERNAL EVENTS

### | SICCC and The Iyer Practice Breakfast Briefing: Doing Business in India

**Date:** Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
**Time:** 8.00am – 10.00am  
**Venue:** Singapore Cricket Club – Gilmore Room (Level 2)  
**Fee:** S\$45 for CanCham members  
**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

India has been affected by the current financial crisis like any other country; but has managed an economic growth of 6.1% during the Q1 of 2009-10 fiscal. This positive growth indicates that economy is developing and there are significant opportunities for Singapore based businesses.

### | E&Y Breakfast Talk: Goods and Service Tax (GST)

**Date:** Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
**Time:** 8.30am – 11.00am  
**Venue:** Ernst & Young – One Raffles Quay – North Tower (Level 18)  
**Fee:** S\$50 for E&Y clients and alumni S\$80 for Public  
**Registration:** [Click here](#) for more information and to register

The Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) is considering introducing APAC – a new voluntary compliance initiative for large businesses with turnover of more than S\$ 100 million. To find out what the benefits of APAC are and how to prepare for it, E&Y will share with you IRAS' requirements and how you can address these requirements.

### | ASME Business Continuity Management Seminar

**Date:** Friday October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
**Time:** 2.00pm – 6.00pm  
**Venue:** MPH1&2, NVPC, 6 Eu Tong Seng Street, #04-88 The central  
**Fee:** S\$16 for CanCham members  
**Registration:** CanCham gives away 3 complimentary passes - Please contact Annemieke Kouwenhoven at [eventmanager@cancham.org.sg](mailto:eventmanager@cancham.org.sg) if you would like to register for this event.  
[Click here](#) for more information.

This seminar aims to identify the vulnerabilities in today's business environment and advices on ways to safeguard the interest of its key stakeholders, reputation, brand and value creating activities. It will also highlight to participants the procedure to develop a BCM plan.

## | ABAC Singapore: Corporate Governance and Risk Seminar

**Date:** Wednesday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Time:** 1.30pm – 6.00pm

**Venue:** Four Seasons Hotel

**Fee:** By invitation only

**Registration:** Please contact Annemieke Kouwenhoven at [eventmanager@cancham.org.sg](mailto:eventmanager@cancham.org.sg) if you would like to register for this event. [Click here](#) for more information.

This high-level seminar will tackle the latest corporate governance issues and help participants understand the importance of corporate governance in today's difficult financial climate. The seminar will also serve as an opportune platform for SME's to hear how risk management can add value to their operations.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### | Santa Fe Ambassador – Singapore

Santa Fe Relocation Services looking for Ambassadors to develop relations with expatriate community groups with the view to gain optimal exposure and its services locally. The candidates should enjoy meeting and interacting with people and active in their expatriate community and social networking events.

It is a part time job with flexible hours and you can manage your own time. It is an advantage if the candidate has children in International School and member of Association or Chamber or Club in Singapore.

For full information please contact Grace Swallow of Santa Fe at [grace.swallow@santafe.com.sg](mailto:grace.swallow@santafe.com.sg) or 6398 8530.

## CANCHAM PROMOTION

### | Goodwood Park Hotel

Goodwood Park Hotel is offering Canadian Chamber members 15% off a la carte menu at Gordon grill & Min Jiang at One-North from *September 1<sup>st</sup> to November 31<sup>st</sup> 2009* (do not forget to bring your 2009-2010 membership card).

Location: Gordon Grill – Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore  
Ming Jiang at One-North – No. 5 Rochester Park, Singapore

## CHAMBER STAFF

### | Annemieke Kouwenhoven

Event Manager

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| **Sue Cumbers**

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