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# THE LEAF



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September 2008 E-Newsletter from  
The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore  
Celebrating 25 Years

## President's Message



Hello CanCham Friends!

Singapore is abuzz with things Canadian - we've just had Avril Lavigne in town and can look forward to the Diana Krall concert on Sept 27. The Singapore Beer Festival is featuring Molson's, Labatt's Ice and Moosehead, and the .....big news is that we welcome a 'new crew' at the Canadian High Commission lead by the arrival of new High Commissioner, H.E. David Sevigny. He has been joined by others including: Gretchen Bozak, Scott Patterson, Jean Gobeil, Elizabeth Baldwin-Jones, Nancy Bernard and Fumiko Kitano-Mank. They join Guy Belanger who arrived a few months ago. Our recently arrived Canadian representatives cover a range of government work from trade to education, and you will have a chance to meet them soon at the 5 Pillars annual 'Back to Business' cocktail (details to be confirmed). Welcome to you all!

CanCham has been busy over the summer! We moved office from the American Club to the Canadian School at 371 Tanjong Katong Road. We are truly 'Canadian' now, as we share offices with the Canadian Association in the energetic environment of the school! Many thanks to Sue Cumbers for making the move and Principal Glen Odland for being so supportive of the Canadian community!

We would also like to welcome all new families, teachers at the Canadian International School and business folks who have been transferred to Singapore. Welcome to you all and do join the Canadian Chamber of Commerce!

Our corporate community in Singapore, has just been enhanced further with the installation of the South East Asia International Business Development Office of Export Development Canada (EDC). This office being run by Robert Simmons is another boost for Canadians in Singapore, and we all look forward to working closely with Rob.

And the news from home is that Prime Minister Harper has called for an election Oct 14. Canadians abroad can vote (please refer to the government memo below and on our web-site). Watch this space if you are keen to follow the results of the election...

While I was in Vancouver this summer, I met with Brian Cole, Chairman of the Canada Singapore Business Association. He and their membership are keen to build relations and better business between our markets, and in fact we will soon have a new member resulting from the contacts made. Should you have any queries on what's happening back home, or requests for business leads in Vancouver, please let me know, as I am happy to make the introduction! Now that we have all settled back into Singapore after the summer, there are several events and activities to look forward to. Mark your diaries for the following coming events:

- \* Saturday September 27 - Fall Fair at the Canadian International School, 371 Tanjong Katong, Singapore 437128. This event organised by the Canadian Association will have something for all the family. Drop by to catch up with old friends or make some new acquaintances! Please refer to attached notice.
- \* Tuesday September 30, 8.00 am - 9.30 am - Start the Day Right! With Top Ten Tips for Using Your BlackBerry and making your life more efficient ...and a free breakfast for all CanCham attendees! Sign up on the attached form, and bring your BlackBerry in for hands-on training! Please refer to attached notice.
- \* Tuesday October 14 - Soon to be announced...an opportunity to follow the election results...time and venue to be announced soon... Please refer to attached notice on voting from Singapore.
- \* The Five Pillars brings you 'Back to Business' with the introduction of the new team at the High Commission. The Executive Committees and key representatives of the Canadian International School, the Canadian Association and the Canadian Alumni Association will also be in attendance, so do come along and meet many of Canada's key contacts in Singapore! Details for this event forthcoming.
- \* Friday November 7, 12 noon - 2.00 pm, Colonial Room, The American Club, 10 Claymore Hill - Ernie Nagratha Talks Canadian Tax! Back by popular demand, Ernie will be in town from Toronto to guide us through our individual tax situations. This is a valuable opportunity for anyone with property or investments in Canada, and specially designed for anyone wishing to return to Canada in the future. This event sold out last year, so book soon! Please refer to attached notice.

All of the events require pre-booking, so please register as soon as possible to guarantee your spot!  
PS. The Canadian Chamber is looking for an event manager to support our busy schedule. If you know of anyone with experience, enthusiasm and energy, please have them e-mail their CV's to [admin@cancham.org.sg](mailto:admin@cancham.org.sg) There is flexibility in this job, in hours at the office, as long as the events are organised and completed on schedule, and the Event Manager is guaranteed to meet interesting, dynamic people - you, our members!

All the best

For more information, please contact:  
Marlene Han, President  
E-mail: [hanmarlene@yahoo.com](mailto:hanmarlene@yahoo.com)

### Executive Committee 2008/2009

- President**  
Ms. Marlene Han  
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- Volunteer**  
Ms. Susan Cumbers

### Next CanCham Event

Tel: (65) 6734 5954 Fax: (65) 6256 1831 Email: [eventmanager@cancham.org.sg](mailto:eventmanager@cancham.org.sg)

Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore  
Chambre de commerce du Canada à Singapour



The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is here to Make your Life Easier!

We asked Research In Motion to show our Members how to use their BlackBerry smartphones more effectively so you can do more, while on the go, and save time to enjoy more. Carrie Chen and Tamara Ho, both experienced Carrier Marketing Managers are in town and will share their expertise with you in an interactive and hands on session. They will start the session by introducing:

#### BlackBerry Top Ten Tips and Tricks for Using Your BlackBerry

Learn how to navigate your BlackBerry like a pro and find out what else there is besides e-mail to connect to all the important people in your life, such as:

- Facebook
- Instant Messaging
- Travel
- Weather
- Maps
- Music & Videos

The focus is on you, the attendee and you are welcome to ask questions and receive hands-on help using your BlackBerry.

This event is free for CanCham members (\$515 for non members) and includes breakfast!

**Date:** Tuesday, 30th September  
**Location:** Lincoln Room, 2nd Floor, American Club, 10 Claymore Hill  
**Time:** 8.00 am - 9.30 am  
**Cost:** Free to CanCham Members (\$515 for non members). Space is limited so registration required  
**When faxing in the sign-up form, please also indicate the model of your BlackBerry**

PLEASE REGISTER BY PRINTING THIS FORM AND FAXING IT TO CANCHAM AT 6256 1831.

#### Top Ten Tips and Tricks for Using Your BlackBerry - 30th September, 2008

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

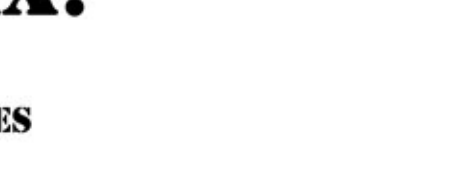
Please indicate the model of your BlackBerry: \_\_\_\_\_

\*I am a member of CanCham  FREE \*I am a non-member of CanCham  \$515

I will be sending a cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to the "Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore"  
Please mail to - The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, 71 Tanjong Katong Road, Singapore 437128

Advance registration and payment is required for this event. Numbers are limited and registrations are on a first-come-first-served basis. Once you have sent in your registration, please contact us if you have not had a response within 48 hours. Your reservation will not be confirmed until you have sent in this reservation form accompanied by payment. Reservations/cancellations must be received by Friday, 26th September, 2008. Please register (or cancel) in writing, as we are unable to accept reservations or cancellations by telephone. **No shows will be billed.**

### Coming CanCham Event



The Power Lunch Series

## TALKING TAX:

### CANADIAN EXPAT TAX ISSUES

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

**About the Speaker:**  
Ernie is a Canadian Chartered Accountant and partner at Trowbridge Professional Corporation Chartered Accountants | Tax Advisors, specializing in expatriate taxation as it relates to Canadians living and working around the world. He has been specializing in international tax for Canadian expatriates for numerous years and travels around the world presenting to organizations and individuals requiring assistance with their international tax matters. Trowbridge is an independent member firm of the Global Tax network (GTN) which has various offices throughout the world to assist expatriates with their international tax matters.

- Topics Covered:**  
Canadian residency for tax purposes  
Tax filing requirements in Canada for Canadian expatriates  
Canadian Tax planning for expatriates

Event Details:	
<b>Date:</b>	Friday 7th November 2008
<b>Time:</b>	12pm to 2pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Colonial Room, Level 3, American Club Singapore, 10 Claymore Hill
<b>Price:</b>	\$15 for CanCham Members & Redev Associates* \$25 for non-members* *includes a sandwich lunch

### News from Canadian High Commission in Singapore

### Message from the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

#### Outside Canada? You can vote by mail!

Did you know that a federal election is being held on **Tuesday, October 14, 2008** and that if you meet certain conditions, you can vote when you are temporarily living or traveling outside Canada?

If you are a Canadian citizen, you can vote by special mail-in ballot if you:

- \* are 18 or older on election day

and

have a permanent residence in Canada, but are away from your electoral district during the election period

or

\* have resided outside Canada for less than five consecutive years (or longer if you meet certain employment-based criteria) for more information on eligibility criteria and how to register and vote by special mail-in ballot, go to the Elections Canada Web site <<http://www.elections.ca/>> and click the icon « I'm Mailing My Vote! » <<http://www.elections.ca/content.asp?section=ins&dir=svr&document=index&lang=e&textonly=false>> ». Special ballot application forms are also available by contacting Elections Canada at 1-800-463-6868 (toll-free in Canada and the United States) or 613-993-2975 (from anywhere in the world – collect calls accepted) or by visiting the nearest Canadian mission.

### Other Events

## CAS FALL FAIR

### COME OUT TO A CARBON NEUTRAL EVENT!

**Sponsors:**

**Recycle your used books and greeting cards and get free admission to the CAS Fall Fair.\***

**Date: Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2008**  
**Time: 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**Venue: Canadian International School TK Campus**  
**371 Tanjong Katong Road**  
(School is located on the east side of Tanjong Katong Road and north of Mountbatten Road, between the Katong Youth Hostel and the Katong Post Office. Coupon parking available outside the school campus along Tanjong Katong Road. Nearest MRT station is Paya Lebar.)

Enjoy an afternoon with family and friends and support the charity fund raising efforts of our Canadian community at the same time!

- CIS Teachers Cambodia House Building Team will be firing up the BBQ.**
- CIS Students Cambodia House Building Team will be painting faces.**
- Kids For Kids, Bathitha, Aidha and the Swiss Association of Singapore will be selling special items to support their charities.**
- And many more unique local vendors!**

**Free fun for all ages! Bouncy castle, pick up sports, arts and craft.**

**Come early to register for the Wacky Team Relay Games. Prizes for all participants (maximum 20 per team).**

**Bring your own water soakers and cool off in the Water Zone!**

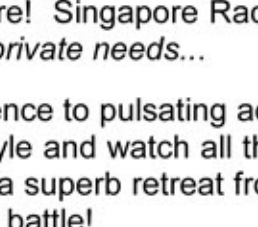
**Lucky Draw Prizes**  
**HP Inkjet Printer, Singapore Sevens Tickets, Louis Garneau Backpack & Lunch Bag, MP3 Player, and more!**

**Advanced Tickets**  
**Non-Members:** Adult S\$10 / Child S\$5 / Family S\$25  
**Members:** Adult S\$15 / Child S\$10 / Family S\$40  
**Same Day Tickets**  
**Non-Members:** Adult S\$15 / Child S\$10 / Family S\$40  
**Members:** Adult S\$20 / Child S\$15 / Family S\$50  
**Friends of the Environment:** Free!

**Bring your used book and/or greeting cards to donate at the Fall Fair and enter free of charge!**

\*The CAS Book Club is collecting unwanted books to donate to the National Library in Thimphu, Bhutan. In this small nation, finding any reading material is a major challenge for the youth as bookshops are few and the National Library has a very small outdated collection of non-religious books. Druk Air, Bhutan's national airline, will transport the donated books to Thimphu free of charge. Books in English and Hindi are especially valuable.  
Pharmaplus is collecting used greeting cards to recycle them by hand into lovely gift boxes. All proceeds from the sales of the gift boxes are donated to Club Rainbow (Singapore), a registered charity that supports chronically ill children and their families.

**For more information or to volunteer please contact:**  
Judy Smith, Family Activities Chairperson  
E-mail: [judy.o.smith@gmail.com](mailto:judy.o.smith@gmail.com)



**IT'S MORE EXCITING WITH HORSES!**

### ROOMS FOR EVERY OCCASION! ...

- Need to find that unique place to hold your company's product launches, corporate seminars and year-end parties?
- Are you looking for a trendy spot to entertain your friends and business associates?
- Look no more! Singapore Racecourse offers you the most exciting venues for all your corporate and private needs...

From a cosy ambience to pulsating action, *the Singapore Racecourse has it all*. On racedays, you can celebrate in style and watch all the exciting action on the racetracks. While on non-racedays, the racecourse is a superb retreat from the hustle and bustle of the corporate world for which you could plan the next battle!

**So, instead of hosting your functions at the usual places, check out these unique function venues first!**

For more information on rates and facilities, please contact:  
Marketing & Facilities Department  
Singapore Turf Club

**Want to advertise your events  
or  
services on our e-Newsletter?**  
Contact  
**eventmanager@cancham.org.sg**  
or 6734 5054  
for ad rates and further details