

www.victoriachamber.ca

# **2007 Annual Report** The Voice of Business



Past Chair Lindalee Brougham inducted into the Board of Governors, presented by Governor Robin Adair, at the Greater Victoria Business Awards on April 16, 2008.

# 2007 Annual Report

# Presented April 24th, 2008



# **Greater Victoria** CHAMBER of COMMERCE

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Minutes of the April 24th, 2007 Annual General Meeting	2
Chair's Message	3
Past Chair's Message	3
Listing of Board Members	4
Chief Executive Officer's Message	5
Greater Victoria Development Agency Chair's Message	5
Auditor's Report	6
Statement of Financial Position	7
Statement of Operations	8
Statement of Changes in Net Assets	9
Statement of Cash Flows	10
Summary of Significant Account Policies	11
Notes to Financial Statements	12

#### Minutes of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting Held on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 11:45 a.m. at the Delta Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort & Spa

#### **Call to Order**

Greater Victoria CHAMBER of COMMERCE

> Lindalee Brougham called the 2006 AGM to order and reported that we have more than 130 members in attendance hereby constituting a quorum.

#### 2006 AGM Minutes

**Motion** to approve the minutes of the last AGM dated April 27, 2006. Moved By: Dave Marshall Seconded by: David Rand

#### Motion: Carried

#### Audited Financial Statements

Honourary Treasurer, Dave Marshall, presented the financial statements.

**Motion** to accept the audited financial statements Moved by: Lindalee Brougham Seconded by: John Espley

#### Motion: Carried

#### **Appointment of Auditors**

Motion to appoint Crawford Paterson Campbell & McNeill as Auditors for 2007. Moved by: Lindalee Brougham Seconded by: Bill Anderson

#### Motion: Carried

**Motion** to adjourn the 2006 AGM. Moved: David Rand Seconded: Mike Black

#### Motion: Carried

The AGM featured an address from Mayor Alan Lowe. Director, John Juricic thanked the speaker. The luncheon adjourned at 1:30 p.m.





# **Chair's Message**



**Every year brings a few new issues** to the chamber board and a number of ongoing items that need the continued attention of the Chamber of Commerce and our advocacy efforts. This year is certainly a good example of just that.

The Chamber has been advocating to improve the environment in which our members operate their businesses by addressing issues of homelessness, crime reduction, transportation infrastructure

improvements over the last few years. Some positive steps have come to fruition this year including the formation of the Greater Victoria Commission to End Homelessness, on which the Chamber holds a seat to represent business concerns. There have also been moves towards more integrated policing services. We continue to advocate for improved transportation planning in our region through the implementation of a Regional Transportation Authority.

However, this could be a favourable year for us in our advocacy efforts. Every once in a while all the political calendars seem to coincide, and this is one of those years. With the municipal elections in the fall, the provincial elections coming in the spring, and the federal elections seeming to loom at any time, there has been no better year than this one to keep the focus on issues that are important to the business community.

The Chamber is looking for leadership at all levels of government. We are seeking leaders who will work hard towards developing a regional vision for our community that improves our business environment, enhances the quality of life and work in the region, and seeks excellence in all we do. As we move forward through the year and towards each election, the Board of Directors will focus on important business issues to bring to our candidates and find how they have performed and how they plan on addressing ongoing issues.

No doubt the remaining portion of our year will be full of such opportunities. It is our role as leaders in business to ensure that business is being heard. We welcome the input of our members at every opportunity to guide the Board of Directors in our advocacy efforts on your behalf.

Margaret Lucas, Chair Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce

# **Past Chair's Message**



As I become the Chair of the Board of Governors for 2008 I am encouraged to see the Chamber continuing to push for leadership with a regional perspective. The Chamber stepped forward in that leadership role on the economic development front in 2007 with the formation of the Greater Victoria Development Agency.

Economic development work was faltering in the region, and our

regional government decided not to adopt the role as part of their public service. The Chamber could not stand by and see regional economic development fall by the wayside once again. We stepped forward, with a significant amount of financial input from the Chamber and formed an industry-led economic development agency. We have many successes, locally and internationally, with the Agency that have raised the profile for Victoria as a place to do business and live.

In 2007, we launched the Junior Chamber Committee, a group of young professionals who are very active in bringing new networking and professional development opportunities to our younger chamber members. I am very impressed by this group and believe they represent the future chamber leaders.

One of my great honours as Chair was to host over 400 delegates at the BC Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting. Our Chamber and the community put on a great show. We used the success of this conference to stage a bid for the Canadian Chamber Annual General Meeting and now look forward to hosting our national body in 2009. Looking back, 2007 was a great year!

I look forward to my new role as a Chamber Governor. The Board of Governors offers years of experience in the business community of our region and an important part of our role is to provide that continuity of experience to the Chamber on those issues that are ongoing from year to year.

The Chamber is about moving business and community forward, and in 2007 we took some positive steps for our community. I am sure that the remainder of 2008 will bring see the chamber continuing on that road of positive community development and encouraging business vibrancy.

Lindalee Brougham, Past Chair Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce





# 2008 Board of Directors

Margaret Lucas, Chair Hotel Rialto

John Juricic, Executive Vice Chair Etraffic Solutions

Lindalee Brougham, Past Chair LL Brougham Inc.

David Marshall, Secretary Treasurer Strategus Consulting

George C.B. Fuller, Executive Member at Large Fuller, Pearlman, McNeil

Richard Gordon, Executive Member at Large Access Records & Media Management

Rose Arsenault, Director Placement Group Victoria

Michael Black, Director Capital Iron

John W.D. Espley, Director Accent Inns

Richard Gray, Director A-Channel Vancouver Island

Victoria Starr McMichael, Director Starrboard Enterprises Inc.

Paul McGeachie, Director Camosun College

David Nicholson, Director HSBC Securities (Canada) Inc.

Pauline Rafferty, Director Royal BC Museum

David Rand, Director Langham Court Theatre

Shawn Steele, Director Prospect Lake Golf Course

Captain (N) Mike Williamson, Director Canadian Forces Pacific Esquimalt

Bruce Carter, Ex-Officio Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce



### **Board of Governors**

2007	Lindalee Brougham
2006	Robin Adair
2005	Jim Tighe
2004	Rebecca Grant
2003	Bob Cross
2002	Dwayne Peverett
2001	lan Ferguson
2000	Robert Wickson
1999	Lana Denoni
1998	Lawrie Spooner
1997	Myrna Borleske
1996	Bob Brown
1995	Dan McAllister
1994	Vern Fitzgerald
1993	Al Crow
1992	Mike Kynaston
1991	Carole Didier
1990	Bill McCreadie
1989	Bob Skene
1988	Glenn Terrell
1987	Bob Verpoorte
1986	Jim Currie
1985	Frank Leonard
1984	William Hazell
1983	lan Cairns
1982	Bill Anderson
1981	Arne Lane
1980	Cedric Steele
1979	Mel Cooper
1978	John Ansell
1977	Alan Emery
1976	Jack Hutchins
1974	Kenneth Murphy
1973	Terry Farmer
1972	Helen Beirnes
1970	Clare Copeland
1963	John Wallace
1956	Pat Dunn
1969-94	Brian J. Small (General
	Manager)
	<b>U</b>

#### 2008 Greater Victoria Development Agency

John Juricic, Chair Etraffic Solutions

Bruce Carter Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce

Dan Gunn ViaTeC

Richard Paquette Victoria Airport Authority

Valerie Kuehne University of Victoria

Paul McGeachie Camosun College

Paul Servos Greater Victoria Harbour Authority

Christine Stoneman GT Hiring Solutions Inc.

Glenn Terrell Victoria Real Estate Board

Melissa McLean Tourism Victoria

Bill Valentine The Focus Group

Frank Van Bree Sidney Business Association

Naomi Hamilton Sierra Systems

Mike Weston Cube Global Storage Ltd.

Eric Donald Transpacific Management



# **GVDA Chair's Message**



The Greater Victoria Development Agency (GVDA) has worked hard in its inaugural year to continue to diversify our local economy and make sure that Greater Victoria remains a natural place to do business. By partnering with regional stakeholders, the GVDA has accomplished a great deal in its first year, helping over 240 local businesses, creating new partnerships and reaching out to the world to showcase what

Greater Victoria has to offer. The GVDA's core business is to help existing businesses grow, retain existing businesses and attract new businesses and investment to the region. In addition the GVDA is working to develop a Sustainable Development Business Cluster.

GVDA, which operates as a committee of the Chamber, has received funding from all three levels of government as well as the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber contributed \$61,829 in the first year, the City of Victoria, \$50,000, the District of Saanich, \$20,000. The GVDA is now in its second round of funding proposals to municipalities, the province and the federal government.

Since it was formed, the GVDA has hosted six business development workshops on issues ranging from how to attract employees to expanding into Asian markets, chaired a labour market symposium for 125 companies, and developed strong partnerships with industry and our region's academic institutions to develop and brand Greater Victoria as the centre for business in sustainable technologies and services. As a part of that venture, GVDA led a regional delegation to Globe 2008 in Vancouver, one of the world's largest environmental tradeshows. The show resulted in over 50 new business leads for the region. The efforts of GVDA were recognized by the agency's peers earlier this year as GVDA was chosen as a finalist for the provincial Prestige Award, recognizing excellence in economic development.

In the year to come, we look forward to building on the many successes of our inaugural year, and to continuing to serve the people and stakeholders of the Greater Victoria region.

John Juricic, Chair Greater Victoria Development Agency

# **CEO's Message**

**2007 was an excellent year** at the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce. Our finances are in good shape, our membership remains strong and continues to grow, and we successfully launched the new Greater Victoria Economic Development Agency, bringing a truly regional approach to economic development.

We updated our member services in 2007. Members can now register for any of our

events on-line, and pay invoices in the same convenient way. We introduced a new look for our Business Matters magazine, and in early 2008, we have put the magazine on-line creating more benefit to members for their advertising dollars. The year ahead will bring more developments in our quest to keep our chamber up-to-date and of relevance to our members. Improving on our package of member services is also a current project on the go.

Our event calendar was packed in 2007. We hosted over 400 delegates at the BC Chamber annual convention and we held our most successful chamber auction to date, with Hudson Mack as our auctioneer. We introduced the Governor selected Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2007 Greater Victoria Business Awards, with John Chew becoming the award's first recipient. We asserted ourselves and the business community as a partner to be duly considered in the social issues that affect the community.

Also in 2007, we started the tradition of a mayoral address at our AGM. The Mayor of Victoria, Alan Lowe, presented at last year's AGM and we are pleased to welcome Saanich's Mayor Frank Leonard as this year's speaker. I am confident that this process will continue!

Looking ahead, 2008 will see continued involvement in the Victoria Spirit Committee, and leadership on bringing up issues during the municipal elections in the fall. Our members will have a new selection of events to choose from along with some of our yearly classics – such as the annual fun golf tournament right around the corner. In 2009 we will be involved in a provincial election and hosting the Canadian Chamber annual conference in Victoria. Certainly being involved with the Chamber is being at the centre where everything business happens!

Bruce Carter, CEO Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce







**Auditors' Report** 

#### To the Members of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce

We have audited the statement of financial position of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce as at December 31, 2007 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Chamber's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Chamber as at December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

#### Crawford Paterson Campbell & McNeill

Chartered Accountants

Victoria, BC February 21, 2008

James Crawford, CA\*

Kent Campbell, CA\* Grant McNeill, CA\* Lynda Mason, CA\*

David Paterson, FCA (retired)





December 31		2007	2006
Assets			
Current Cash Marketable securities (Note 1) Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses	\$	1,477 717,213 58,945 32,380	\$ 15,698 621,360 52,900 16,357
		810,015	706,315
Property and equipment (Note 2)	_	73,424	 68,002
	\$	883,439	\$ 774,317
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred revenue (Note 4)	\$	59,756 342,943	\$ 26,643 302,034
		402,699	328,677
Net assets Net assets invested in property and equipment Unrestricted		73,424 407,316	68,002 377,638
		480,740	445,640
	\$	883,439	\$ 774,317

## Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Statement of Financial Position

On behalf of the Board: Director Director

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Crawford Paterson Campbell & Mcneill CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



For the year ended December 31	2007	2006
Revenue Benefit recovery Business directory Contributions to Greater Victoria Development Agency (Note 6) Contract administration fees Investments Mailers Members' dues and assessments Fundraising Programs Rent Business awards Sponsorships Newsletter Gain on sale of shares	\$ 67,592 30,817 70,000 12,100 36,233 21,553 583,408 77,909 140,485 10,773 56,118 35,950 28,980 68,875	\$ 51,181 118 26,995 28,480 546,799 60,835 119,943 14,200 49,942 35,525 24,673 - -
Cost of Activities Fundraising Committee activities Greater Victoria Development Agency expense (Note 6) Program expense Business directory Business awards Advertising Newsletter Surplus of revenue over expenses before administration	24,091 12,416 131,829 138,836 18,117 26,365 6,320 23,194 381,168 859,625	 18,752 13,879 103,259 68 26,983 2,785 19,720 185,446 791,945
Administration Affiliation and association dues Amortization Occupancy costs Interest Membership expenses Office Postage Professional fees Salaries and employee costs Telephone Travel and convention	14,935 32,316 83,108 474 4,407 73,448 22,028 12,320 551,456 14,621 15,412 824,525	14,170 33,844 95,235 778 8,645 72,487 22,245 13,095 492,101 10,774 13,941 777,315
Surplus of revenue over expenses	\$ 35,100	\$ 14,630

## Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Statement of Operations

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



8

		Grea	Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Statement of Changes in Net Assets	Cha f Chá	mber of anges in	Cor	nmerce Assets
For the year ended December 31					2007		2006
	ā	Invested in property and equipment	Unrestricted		Total		Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$	68,002	\$ 377,638	\$	445,640	↔	431,010
Surplus (deficiency) of revenue over expenses		(32,316)	67,416		35,100		14,630
Transfer to net assets invested in property and equipment		37,738	(37,738)				
Balance, end of year	\$	73,424 \$		Ś	407,316 \$ 480,740 \$	φ	445,640

The accompanying summary of sign ficant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Crawford Paterson Campbell & Mcneill CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

	51	atement O	Cas	II FIOWS
For the year ended December 31		2007		2006
Cash provided by (used in)				
Operating activities				
Surplus of revenue over expenses Item not involving cash	\$	35,100	\$	14,630
Amortization		32,316		33,844
		67,416		48,474
Changes in non-cash working capital items				
Accounts receivable		(6,044)		(13,659)
Prepaid expense Accounts payable		(16,023) 33,113		(5,395) 69
Deferred revenue		40,909		55,944
		119,371		85,433
Investing activities				
Purchase of property and equipment	·	(37,739)	2	(72,204)
Increase in cash during the year		81,632		13,229
Cash, beginning of year		637,058		623,829
Cash, end of year	\$	718,690	\$	637,058
Represented by				
Cash	\$	1,477	\$	15,698
Marketable securities		717,213		621,360
	\$	718,690	\$	637,058

### Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Statement of Cash Flows

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements. 7

Crawford Paterson Campbell & Mcneill CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



#### Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

December 31, 2007	
Purpose of the Organization	The Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce ("Chamber") is incorporated under the Board of Trade Act of Canada and its principal activity is to promote and improve trade and commerce and the economic, civic, and social welfare of Greater Victoria.
Marketable Securities	Marketable securities are carried at the fair market value.
Property and Equipmer	nt Property and equipment is recorded at cost. Amortization based on the estimated useful life of the asset is calculated on a straight-line basis as follows:
	Furniture and equipment- 20% straight line basisComputer hardware and software- 30% straight line basisLeasehold improvements- 10 years straight line basis
Revenue Recognition	The Chamber follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.
Contributed Materials and Services	Donated property and equipment are recorded at fair value when received.
	The Chamber is dependent on the voluntary service of many members and others. Since these services are not normally purchased by the Chamber and, because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, donated services are not recognized in these financial statements.
Financial Instruments	The Chamber has classified its cash and marketable securities as financial assets held for trading. Accounts receivable are classified as loans and receivables. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities and deferred revenue are classified as other financial liabilities.
	<b>Financial assets and liabilities held for trading</b> Financial instruments classified as assets held for trading are reported at fair value at each statement of financial position date, and any change in fair value is recognized in interest income (loss) in the period during which the change occurs. Fair value for term depositis and GICs redeemable within the year are stated at cost which, together with accrued interest income, approximates fair value given the short term nature of these investments. Fixed income securities and equities are valued at year-end quoted market prices.
	Loans and receivables and other financial liabilities Financial instruments classified as loans and receivables and other financial liabilities are carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method. Interest income or expense is included in interest income (loss) over the epxected life of the instrument. The carrying value of financial instruments cash, marketable securities, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and deferred revenue approximates their fair value due to their short-term maturity and capacity for prompt liquidation.
Measurement Uncertainty	The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions which affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.





### Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Notes to Financial Statements

#### December 31, 2007

#### 1. Marketable Securities

Marketable securities consist of fixed income and equity investments at a cost of \$710,770 (2006 - \$621,360) with a market value of \$717,213 (2006 - \$701,716). The funds are managed by BMO Harris Investment Management Inc., an external professional manager, in accordance with the Chamber's Investment Guidelines.

#### 2. Property and Equipment

		 	 2007	2006
	 Cost	 cumulated nortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Furniture and equipment Computer hardware and	\$ 266,603	\$ 232,622	\$ 33,981	\$ 26,958
software Leasehold improvements	 206,524 14,153	174,419 6,815	32,105 7,338	32,789 8,255
	\$ 487,280	\$ 413,856	\$ 73,424	\$ 68,002

#### 3. Bank Indebtedness

The Chamber has a \$75,000 operating line of credit with its banker. The outstanding balance is payable on demand, secured by a commercial security agreement granting a first priority interest in all present and after-acquired property of the Borrower, with interest charged at the banker's basic lending rate + 1%. At December 31, 2007, the balance outstanding on the line of credit is \$NIL (2006 - \$NIL).

#### 4. Deferred Revenue

	_	2007	2006
Members' dues Other	\$	269,550 73,393	\$ 288,411 13,623
	<u>s</u>	342,943	\$ 302,034

Crawford Paterson Campbell & Meneill CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS





### Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Notes to Financial Statements

#### December 31, 2007

#### 5. Commitments

Commencing February 1, 2006, the Chamber has entered into a lease for new premises. The lease expires on January 31, 2011 and has one five year renewal option. The lease is triple net with minimum rent payments of \$33,323 per year plus a proportional share of operating costs and property taxes.

Annual payments of minimum rent over the next five years are:

Year	Amount	
2008 2009 2010 2011	\$ 33,323 33,323 33,323 2,777	
	\$ 102,746	

#### 6. The Greater Victoria Development Agency

The Greater Victoria Development Agency is a committee of the GVCC and was formed to help develop, retain and attract businesses to the Greater Victoria region. They are an industry led initiative, and in collaboration with other sector partners strive to help build the best possible economic environment for local entrepreneurs and businesses in which to operate.

	 2007
Revenue	
Municipal	\$ 70,000
Expense	
Advertising	21,279
Affiliation dues	1,225
Convention and travel	225
Hosting groups	2,279
Insurance	750
Lease	6,750
Marketing	5,688
Office	7,571
Professional fees	23,134
Staff expenses	2,413
Telephone	1,513
Wages and benefits	 59,002
	 131,829
Deficit (contribution from Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce)	\$ (61,829)



Crawford Paterson Campbell & McNeill CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS





Camosun College's co-operative education program provides employers in the Greater Victoria area with motivated and skilled employees who bring their enthusiasm and up to the minute skills into the workplace. In 2007, almost 400 students participated in our co-op programs, and we are fortunate to have the support of many Chamber members who hired our students throughout the year. Co-op students are available year round for three to six-month work terms depending on their program, and with the introduction of internships, there is more flexibility around placement and length of the work term in a student's program. This flexibility can often assist with an employer's needs.

Camosun recently added co-operative education as an option for our applied and associate degree students, which brings our program participation up to 18 and

growing. Camosun provides co-op and internship students from business, technology, arts, science and sports education programs as well as offering practicums and apprenticeships in healthcare and the trades. Our local business community is invaluable in facilitating the applied education opportunities so essential for our career focussed educational programming.

Both students and employers reap the benefits of co-operative education as it provides our learners with real world experience and skill development, while employers have the opportunity to preview future employees and reduce the cost of training and recruitment. Thank you to all who have hired our coop students, and we look forward to your continued support.





We've enjoyed an eventful and productive 2007 in the UVic Co-op Program.

In July, Norah McRae took on the role of executive director, following 16 years with the UVic Co-op Program, first as a coordinator in Arts Co-op and then as manager of the Business Co-op and Career Centre.

In 2007 we placed more than 2,600 students in co-op work terms, and over 200 of these work terms were with Greater Victoria Chamber members, an increase of 30 per cent over the previous year. Co-op students are placed year-round (41 per cent in the summer, 26 per cent in the fall and 33 per cent in the spring), making co-op a potential short-term employment strategy for employers throughout the year. More than half of our employers hire more than one co-op student per year, and 85 per cent hire students from more than one program area. Ninety-two per cent of employers surveyed at the end of work terms rated co-op students' preparedness for the work place as good or excellent.

We'd like to thank all the Chamber members who hired our co-op students in 2007. When co-op students are hired to do meaningful work, co-op employers benefit from short-term help and get to know potential future employees, which is so important with today's labour shortages. At the same time, students benefit from the application of their academic skills in real-life situations and develop important work place skills.

To learn more about UVic's Co-op Program visit our web site at www.uvic.ca/coop, contact us by phone at 721-6076 or e-mail us at employer@uvic.ca.

# A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

Uptown is underway. On the site of the Town & Country shopping centre, Uptown will feature retail, residential and office space that will transform this mixed-use centre into a gathering place for the whole community.

### SHOPUPTOWN.CA





WCG International HR Solutions wants to thank the Victoria business community for its support of Triumph Vocational Services – our employment program for people with disabilities.

In just 6 years, Triumph has helped clients achieve over 2,500 placements in the workforce – approximately 650 in the Greater Victoria region alone! Our Triumph team has also achieved an important milestone of 17,200 workshops delivered.

Thank you to all the chamber members who have made this tremendous success possible. Together, we have built a stronger and more vital community.

In the upcoming year, we will continue to create opportunities in the workforce for people with disabilities and employers looking to grow their business by hiring from one of Canada's largest hidden pools of talent.

We look forward to growing our partnership with Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce members.

Darlene Bailey,

Chief Operating Officer WCG International HR Solutions

WCG International HR Solutions is an award-winning leader in customized workforce, consulting and technology solutions.

WCG has helped job seekers achieve over 69,000 placements in the workforce and has worked with over 65,000 employers to meet their hiring needs since 1995.

















# **Running Your Business.**

You know what it's like to run a small business these days. Phone calls, meetings, deadlines, budgets, decisions. When they say 'run' your business, they mean run! And with all that going on, who's taking care of you and your employees?











# The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan

Get the plan working for you. It gives your firm access to group benefits to take care of you and your employees when the need arises. If you own a small business, even a one person shop, you join over 27,000 Canadian Companies (including home-based businesses and farms), getting flexible and affordable group benefits.

Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan®

For additional information and to see how The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan can work for you and your employees contact: Robert Jack Jack Insurance and Financial Services, (250) 383-9866 www.bcbenefitplans.com