



FINAL PROGRAM

Skills Conference 2007: Addressing The Global Challenge October 29 & 30, Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel, Vancouver, BC

Skills shortage is a universal problem. This year's Conference will focus on notable solutions and best practices – by leading employers, governments and others -- in addressing the continuing labour shortage situation. *What are major employers doing on the recruitment and retention front? What are governments doing with regard to immigration, migrant worker programs, credential recognition and training? What about labour market integration and settlement of new arrivals to British Columbia?*

Program and confirmed speakers. **Registration & breakfast at 7:30 am each day.**

October 29 - Opening Keynote at 8:30 am:

Hon. **Colin Hansen**, Minister of Economic Development and Minister Responsible for the Asia-Pacific Initiative and the Olympics

October 29 – Morning:

What Are Employers Doing To Find The Necessary Talent? -- Panel on Recruitment

- **Josh Blair**, Senior Vice President – HR Strategy & Business Support, TELUS
- **Karen Wensley**, Partner, Ernst & Young (Toronto)
- **Anne Harvey**, Vice President – Employee Engagement, Vancouver Coastal Health

What Are Employers Doing To Keep The Newly Found Talent? -- Panel on Retention

- **Jay-Ann Fordy**, Senior Vice President, Human Resources, Coast Capital Savings
- **Herb Isherwood**, Managing Partner, Labour and Employment, Bull, Houser & Tupper
- **Lois Nahirney**, Acting Chief Human Resources Officer, BC Hydro

October 29 – Afternoon:

Aligning The System To Meet Our Workplace Education Needs – Panel on Post-Secondary Education

- **Geoff Plant**, QC, Heenan Blaikie LLP and author of Campus 2020 report
- **Moura Quayle**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Advanced Education
- **Kirsten Tisdale**, Managing Director, Korn/Ferry International

Meeting Our Workforce Needs In The Trades – Panel on Trades Training

- **Kevin Evans**, CEO, Industry Training Authority
- **George Douglas**, CEO, BC Construction Industry Training Organization
- **Jim Hamilton**, President, Okanagan College and Chair of the Consortium (public post-secondary trades trainers)



October 30 - Opening Keynote at 8:00 am:

Zabeen Hirji, Chief Human Resources Officer, RBC (Toronto)

October 30 – Morning:

Solving The Credentials Recognition Conundrum – Panel on Foreign Credential Recognition

- **Tung Chan**, CEO, SUCCESS
- **Patty Wilson**, Manager of Operations, Foreign Credential Recognition Division, HRSDC (Gatineau)
- **Gillian Pichler**, Director of Registration, Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists - APEGBC
- **Lou Dryden**, President, North Island College and Chair, BC College Presidents

Integrating Newly Arrived Foreign Skilled Workers – Panel on Economic Settlement

- **Olga Korpalo**, Project Leader, ALLIES, Maytree Foundation on *TRIEC & ALLIES*
- **Lesley Wood Bernbaum**, Regional Director, Career Edge Organization on *Career Bridge*
- **Kelly Pollack**, Director of Employment Programs, MOSAIC on *ArriveBC*
- **Manley McLachlan**, President, BC Construction Association on *ISTEP*

Come hear what the leading employers, policy-makers and advocates have to say. Learn, share and engage with the speakers and the 200+ (expected) participants. Network with the rich mix of attendees -- comprising employers, government officials, trainers, immigrant service providers and other practitioners and policy advocates – from around the province and from across Canada. Don't miss out!

For the latest Skills Conference 2007 program updates and online registration, visit the Business Council website: www.bcbc.com.