

QUESNEL & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ...

BUSINESS VOICE

CEO NETWORKING EVENT and 100th ANNUAL AGM

May 26, 2010

Billy Barker Casino Show Lounge

Cost: \$20 (tickets available at the Visitor Centre and Chamber)

5:30 Doors open

6:00-7:00 Networking

7:00 Dinner

7:45-8:00 Review of 2009 AGM

8:00-8:30 Guest Speaker Graham Barnes

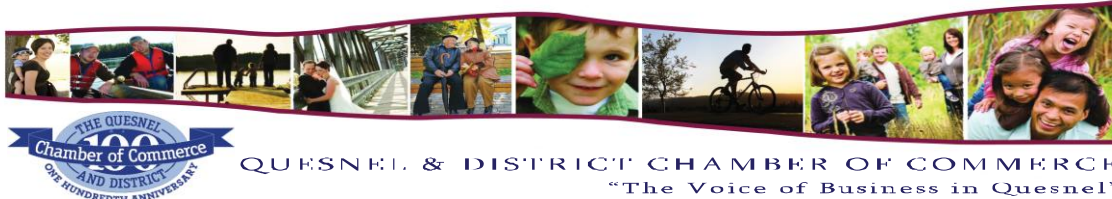
Do you want to grow your business? Do you want more clients? Don't miss this interactive evening designed to make your business more money...

We are pleased to have as our guest speaker this year Mr. Graeme Barnes. In 1972 he entered the insurance business and worked as a group benefits advisor until 1979. That year he was recruited by the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and began his career as Assistant General Manager. During his first year he helped take the Chamber from a deficit in programs to a \$65,000 profit and was instrumental in developing programs specifically for women in business.

In 1982 Graham returned to the insurance industry as one of the founders of the national marketing team that has become the force behind the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan. From 1982 to 1996 he was the Regional Marketing Director for the Prairies. In 1995 he took on the same role for British Columbia. Since 1995 the plan has grown in British Columbia from \$6.5 million to almost \$60.0 million of sales and over 7,000 Chamber member firms. The plan disburses back to local Chambers over \$1.9 million in administration fees.

Graham also has other business interests and investments in private medical clinics, a computer company and recently became a principle owner / shareholder of CHEK Media Group in Victoria.

Graham will discuss the 7 principles of his success and how this can be translated into success in your business.



*The Chamber of Commerce would like to
WELCOME our New Members!*

Ad Boom Studio
567 Marsh Rd., V2J 6H1
250-991-0001

Advanced Aesthetics and Skin Spa
1431 B Jade Rd., V2J 4L2
250-747-8447

Baker Creek Enhancement Society
410 Kinchant St., V2J 7J5
250-992-5833

Canadian Cancer Society
332 Front St., V2J 2K3
250-992-6551

Cariboo Industrial Electric
187 Fiege Rd., V2J 5T6
250-983-2992

GRD4 Contracting
511 Donnelly St., V2J 6B7
250-992-2188

Johnston Equipment
350 Legion Drive, V2J 2A3
250-992-8474

Little Ron's Chopper Shop
3931 Bulova Rd., V2J 6V2
250-992-2469

Looking Good Exteriors
2904 Rawlings Rd. V2J 7E2
250-249 5492

Quesnel Millionaires
Box 4478, V2J 3J4
250-992-7181

Quesnel Portable Toilets
270 Sargeant St., V2J 3G3
250-992-0030

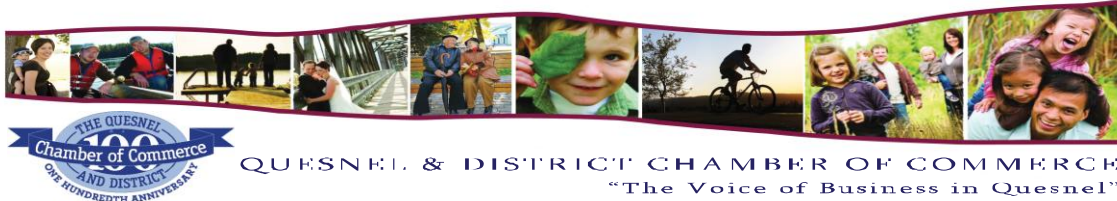
Sunset Sweeping
2939 Stebbe Rd., V2J 7E7
250-991-9865

Tenorex GeoServices
PO Box 4656, V2J 2M0
250-316-3333

Tracy Bond Consulting
2184 Williams Rd., V2J 6K1
250-992-2295

Troll Ski and Snowboard
P.O. Box 4085 Reid St., V2J 3J2
250-994-3352

Urban Woman
West Park Mall
#8-155 Malcolm St., V2J 3K2
250-992-1154



Quesnel Business Networking

Quesnel Business Networking, previously known as Women's Business, is a networking group for all business people regardless of gender. This month Graeme Armstrong of Edward Jones will be speaking. You are encouraged to bring a friend or co-worker and come network with other Quesnel business people. Taking place at the Best Western/Tower Inn, from 8:15-9:30 am. Quesnel Business Networking meets every second Wednesday of the month.

The next meeting will be held on:

Wednesday May 12 from 8:15 am – 9:30 am.

For more information call Patty at the Quesnel Visitor Centre at 250-992-8716.

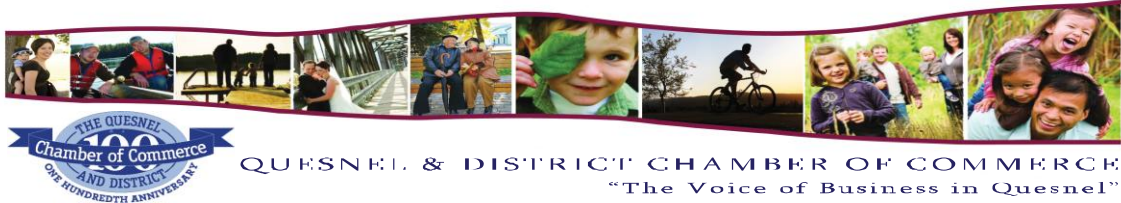
Chamber of Commerce 3rd Annual Golf Tournament

The Quesnel & District Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce that we will be hosting a Golf Tournament again this summer. Join us and enjoy a fun day at the Quesnel Golf & Country Club!

3rd Annual Texas Scramble Golf Tournament & BBQ
Thursday June 10th, 4pm
Quesnel Golf & Country Club
\$10,000 Hole-in-one prize
Fun for all skill levels!

Cost per person is \$45 person which includes burger bbq with salads and 9 holes of golf (taxes included)

To Register please contact the Visitor Centre at (250) 992-8716 or email qvisitor@quesnelbc.com.



Memorabilia Book

We worked hard to create a Memorabilia Book that celebrates both the Chamber's 100 year history in Quesnel, and also to showcase how far Quesnel has come since its earliest beginnings and show off our beautiful community. The Memorabilia Book is *available now* at either the Chamber of Commerce office downtown Quesnel, or at the Visitor Center. There is no cost.

2010 Relocation Directory

The new relocation directory from the Chamber of Commerce will be available soon.

Beware of Fraudulent Companies!

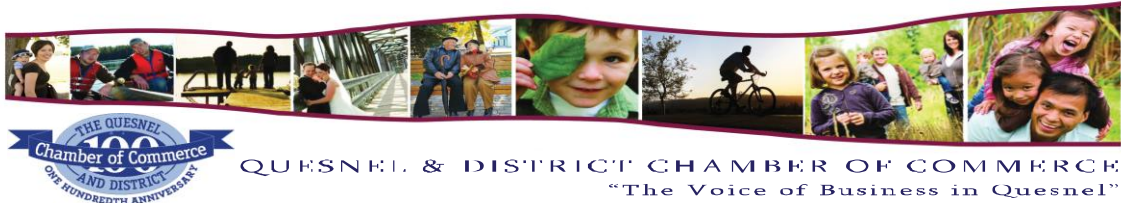
The Chamber was recently informed that a local business was nearly the victim of a fraudulent company. We want to extend this information our members and hope that we can make sure that no one else will be affected.

A group called Yellow Page is offering free advertising to businesses. They are reaching them by email and fax, and offering to advertise for free on their site and on google. After the process is completed (and it is a few stage process) the business owner receives a bill. The company is pretending to be the Yellow Page Group and are using the logo, but upside down. Other than that the police officer said that the whole thing looks very legitimate, except the company doesn't exist.

If you have been contacted in any way by a company that sounds similar to this, you should contact the Quesnel RCMP.

5 Free Online Tools That Make Managing Your Business Easier...

We all know that managing a business means multi-tasking. This can be a daunting task, but there are many online resources that have cropped up in the last few years that can help with this. Many of them are even free, which is always a good thing! These are a few of my favourite applications that I use all the time in my marketing business. (I don't have any kind of affiliation with any of these companies, I just have found them to be very useful.)



Action Method (www.actionmethod.com)

The Action Method is the tool I use for managing multiple projects and my to-do lists, as well as to delegate work to my assistant who works from her home. The Action Method uses the following tools:

- **ACTION STEPS** are tasks that need to be completed. Each Action Step should start with a verb: "Call Y," "Follow up with X," "Buy a gift for Z."
- **REFERENCES** are notes, links, files, sketches - any information related to a project that gives context to your Action Steps.
- **BACKBURNERS** are the brilliant ideas that you want to come back to later, but are not yet actionable.
- **DISCUSSIONS** enable you to manage ongoing conversations across all of your projects with anyone that works with you. All relevant communications (shared documents, solutions to problems, feedback, decisions) are in one place.
- **EVENTS** are the key occasions/meetings/milestones/etc toward which you (and your team) are working. Events can be used to coordinate deadlines for Action Steps, aiding project management.

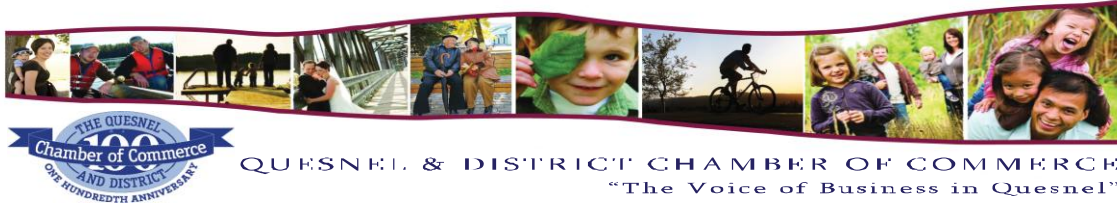
I have found it to be so valuable in my day to day activities, helping me to stay focused and to be more productive overall. It is free to use if you have less than 50 Action Steps, and then it switches to a monthly/yearly subscription at really reasonable rates, considering the productivity you can gain.

Posterous (www.posterous.com)

Posterous is a blogging platform for people who aren't bloggers. If you are wanting to add a blog to your marketing activities, but not sure where to start Posterous is perfect for you. The thing that makes this platform different from other blogging tools is that once you have set up an account, you create a post by sending an email to post@posterous.com. If you want to post a photo, you simply attach it, and the application formats your text and photo into a blog post. Dead simple and they look fantastic. This is the blogging platform I use on my website (www.adboom.ca), and it is completely free.

Freshbooks (www.freshbooks.com)

I am fairly new to using Freshbooks, but so far I think it is fantastic. It is an online invoicing tool that allows you to send invoices either by email, or by snail mail, depending on the preferences of your clients. You can also create estimates, use time tracking tools, enter expenses and attach them to invoices, or use project management tools. If you invoice less than \$300,000 a year, it can also stand in as an accounting system – depending on how complex your accounting is. It is made primarily for freelancers and service based businesses, so it keeps things simple (ie: doesn't track



inventory). You can use it on a limited basis for free (up to 3 invoices a month), and then it operates on a monthly subscription based on how many clients/projects you carry.

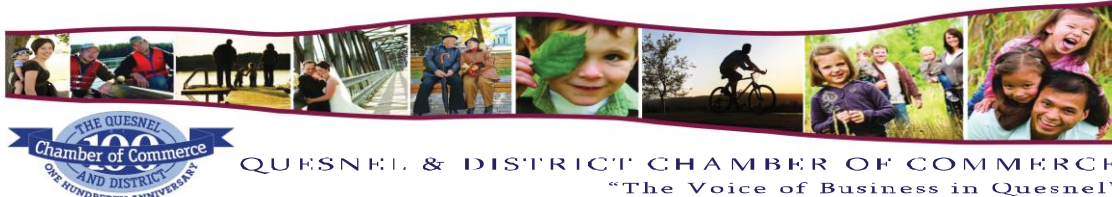
Dropbox (www.dropbox.com)

Dropbox creates a network ability between computers without having a physical network. I use it to share documents between my laptop and desktop computer, but it is also great for syncing files that are being used by multiple people. You can share 2 GB a month for free and then there are subscription fees for more storage.

Rescue Time (www.rescuetime.com)

Rescue Time is a Productivity and Time Management tool that tracks what sites and programs you use, and tells you how productive your computer time has been, based on goals you set for yourself. For example, in my business, typically time spent on graphic design programs is productive whereas say, online shopping, isn't especially productive. I set a goal for myself in Rescue Time that I will have at least 6 hours of productive time a day, and it tracks my progress, sending me a weekly summary of where I spent my time and showing me where I did and didn't meet my goals. There is options to indicate whether you were in a meeting, on the phone, or doing non computer work too. This is a great management tool as well for people who work mainly on the computer because it really does work to inspire people internally to be more productive, rather than feeling like someone is watching over their shoulder. It is free for individual users, and then there are packages for bigger companies.

This article written by Amy Quarry: Owner of AdBoom Studio, an alternative marketing company offering consulting, ambient and email marketing products and graphic design services. Amy can be found various places online including her website (www.adboom.ca), her Facebook Page (AdBoom Studio) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/adboomstudio), or you can contact her at 250.983.5675



May Events

Date	Event Name
May 06	Missionary John Williams and the Cannibals in South Pacific
May 07	Lace Drakes - Dinner Theatre
May 08	Move for Health Day
May 08	Lace Drakes – Dinner Theatre
May 08	Friends of the Museum Used Book Sale
May 08	Friends of the Quesnel and District Museum and Archives Book Sale
May 08	Nazko Valley Dinner / Auction
May 08	Old Time Fiddlers Dance
May 10	Theatre Royal Spring Show Begins
May 10	Barkerville School Program Begins
May 12	G R Baker Hospital Auxillary Community Appreciation Day
May 12	Quesnel’s Business Networking
May 13	Lace Drakes
May 14	Evening of the Stars
May 14	Lace Drakes – Dinner Theatre
May 15	Quesnel Community Foundation Awards Gala
May 15	Spring Mixed Media Painting Workshop with Edward Epp
May 15	Lace Drakes – Dinner Theatre
May 22	Cottonwood House Opens
May 23	Goldrush Relay
May 24	Victoria Day Afternoon Tea
May 24	Victoria Day Brunch
May 26	Chamber of Commerce CEO Lecture Series
May 28	TRAILRIDING with Blackwater Spruce Ranch
May 29	TRAILRIDING with Blackwater Spruce Ranch
May 30	Big Bike - Heart & Stroke Foundation
May 30	TRAILRIDING with Blackwater Spruce Ranch
May 31	Rocky Mountaineer Vaction Train Schedule