



BUSINESS VOICE

November 2008

Chamber All Candidates Forum

The Chamber of Commerce is proud to host the All Candidates Forum 2008

Date: November 5, 2008

Time: 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm)

Location: Quesnel Community Campus Atrium

Come out and meet all the candidates on an equal footing and hear where they stand on different issues. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Business

Women In Business

Wednesday November 12, 2008

8:15 am – 9:30 am

Best Western Tower Inn

Topic – Skin Care for the Winter

Guest Speaker Wendy Courtice, Advanced Aesthetics and Skin Spa

Come learn how to take care of your skin this winter.

Next Chamber lunch is November 26th from 12:00-1:00 at the Legion

Guest speakers are the new City Council Elect team. This is an opportunity for members to put forward their ideas for the future of Quesnel.

Cost is \$12. Please call Patty at 992-8716 to reserve your seat.

Business Excellence Awards

Don't miss your opportunity to nominate in one or more of the below categories. Or, if you own a business that you feel has excelled in the past year let us know about it. The nominee must have been in business in Quesnel & Area for a minimum of one year (with the exception of Young Entrepreneur that may have started a business within the calendar year). The award is based on the calendar year from January 1 to December 31, 2008. Deadline for nominations is November 30, 2008.

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Retailer of the Year: This award acknowledges a business that markets and advertises effectively. The business is proactive to changing market trends, provides a variety of products it willingly stands behind and gives good value. Business you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Tourism Excellence Award: This award acknowledges the efforts made by an individual, business or organization that promotes Quesnel & area as a tourism destination and to facilitate the enjoyment of visitors to our area. Business/individual or organization you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Employee of the Year: This award is presented to an employee who has demonstrated initiative and enthusiasm for the job, performs exemplary customer service and creativity and has taken a leadership role and worked on team spirit within their place of business. Individual you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Home Based Business of the Year: This award recognizes those individuals that have sought out innovative ways to provide quality product(s) and/or service(s) through a home based business. Business/Individual you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Customer Service Award: This award recognizes a business's dedication to customer satisfaction through integrity and excellent service and/or development of an outstanding product, beyond customer expectation. It also provides staff with updated training to meet changing customer needs. Individual you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Community Spirit Award: This award recognizes a community service group project, business or non-profit organization whose accomplishments have significantly benefited the community over the past year. Business/organization you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Business Person of the Year: This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated personal strength while inspiring motivation and encouragement in others. Individual you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Go Green Award: This award acknowledges the business that appreciated that the protection of the environment is a shared responsibility. It recognizes innovative businesses that are making a difference by encouraging physical activity, energy conservation, and producing environmental benefits. This business encourages others to strive for clean air, water and land. They also encourage sustainable use of renewable resources, protection of special spaces and species and the preservation of the Cariboo region. Business you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Young Entrepreneur Award: An Entrepreneur, under the age of 30 years, who has demonstrated business excellence, innovation & leadership. Individual must have at least part ownership of business. Individual you would like to nominate and why or how you feel this nominee has excelled in the past year:

Please send in nomination form to Quesnel & District Chamber of Commerce:
Fax: 250-747-0126 qchamber@quesnelbc.com or mail to:
679-B Hwy 97 South Quesnel, BC V2J 4C7

Career Fair 2008

Career Leap 2008

Thursday November 20, 2008

Quesnel Community Campus

Keynote Speaker Rick Hansen

For more information please call Helen Dixon Centre at 250-983-6900

Employers are needed for the Employment Certificate Program Workshops at Career Leap. We are looking for employers to give their perspective on the challenges of hiring and keeping employees. We are asking for a 50 minute time commitment. Sessions available include:

9:00 am

10:00 am

11:00 am

1:30 pm

2:30 pm

This is an opportunity to discuss issues that affect your business and meet potential new employees. Please call Michelle Daniels at 250-983-6929 or 250-991-2539 to sign up.

Book your Santa and Mrs. Claus now! The Quesnel Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society offers a Rent-a-Santa and Mrs. Claus service for business and private parties. Please call the Canadian Cancer Society office at **250-992-6551** to book a Santa (and Mrs.) Claus. The fee is \$40 for the first hour, and \$30 for every half hour after that. Particular arrangements will be made when the Santa Coordinator confirms your booking.



Unlock your company's potential

When Rene came to JobWave, she had been a single, stay-at-home mother for 10 years. When she was accepted into the program, she felt she had nothing to offer an employer. But the JobWave team helped Rene get back in touch with her employment-related abilities, and she supplemented her existing skills with program workshops. As a result, Renee was offered an office-manager position in Kelowna.

In our tight labour market, how can you recruit skilled and enthusiastic workers like Renee? Here are a few hiring tips from our new JobWave Web site, at www.jobwavebc.com.

You can't do it all: In a small business, the jobs you create may depend on what you prefer not to do or what you don't have the time or ability to do. Remember: Do what you do best, then hire others to do the rest.

A real need? Check how much overtime your employees are putting in. Is it smarter to hire more people to avoid paying time and a half or double time?

Check your customer service: Can you meet commitments with current staff? Is there a valid business case for expansion? Never hire before you're sure company revenue will support new employees.

Define the job: Identify tasks and responsibilities and how often they're done. Accurate job descriptions help you find the right employees.

Use the experts: Human-resource professionals can save you time, money and headaches by finding the best candidate. Hiring isn't cheap—do it right the first time. JobWave can help!

Rene says of her JobWave experience, "I think JobWave is an amazing program. . . . I've gotten a good job with benefits; I now have higher self esteem and better social skills. I feel better mentally and physically about my life."

JobWave is delivered by WCG International HR Solutions in partnership with the Ministry of Housing and Social Development. WCG has helped employers fill over 68,000 job openings since 1995. For more information, call us today at 1-888-JOBWAVE or visit the new www.jobwave.ca.