

COLLABORATION | Business groups support Greater Vancouver's millennials

**CYP program for under-35 professionals expands to
North Vancouver, Richmond and Tri-Cities**

BY GREG HOEKSTRA

Four chambers of commerce from across the Lower Mainland are joining forces to provide networking and professional development opportunities for millennials beginning their careers.

Since 2007, the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade has offered a program called the Company of Young Professionals, with events and workshops catered specifically to those under the age of 35. The program will be expanded to include Members of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, and Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce, as part of an exciting new regional partnership.

"When a young person is starting his or her career, that individual needs advice, inspiration, and connections with others in the business community. The CYP program fosters an environment

where millennials can learn from seasoned business leaders while forging long-lasting relationships with other young professionals," said Iain Black, President and CEO of the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade. "We're thrilled to announce this new partnership, which will help create a strong, interconnected business community across our region."

"Collaboration is the key to greater success for all. That's why the North Vancouver Chamber is partnering with the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade and other regional chambers on the Company of Young Professionals program," said Louise Ranger, CEO of the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. "Together, we can support the next generation of business leaders for the future success of our region."

"The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade has been a leader engaging with millennial professionals as they advance in their careers. We're excited to be partnering with the Company

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of Young Professionals program in 2016-17, to expand this excellent networking and development initiative to young leaders in Richmond," said Rob Akimow, Chair of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce.

"In less than a decade, one in every two people in the world's workforce will be a millennial. This data underscores how important this demographic is to



Members of the CYP program share a laugh during a summer networking reception at the Port of Vancouver. Last month, the program expanded to communities across the region. | NORAVERA VISUALS

the future of our regional, provincial, and national economies — not to mention the future of business organizations and chambers of commerce," added Michael Hind, CEO of the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce.

"Programs such as the Company of Young Professionals are crucial to our collective success and will help us ensure the chamber movement remains

relevant to Greater Vancouver's next generation of business leaders." **SB**

To learn more about the Company of Young Professionals, including the program's upcoming networking events, development workshops, volunteer opportunities, and how you can get involved, visit boardoftrade.com/CYP.



Welcome to some of our newest members

Companies

Sherry Sinclair
BC Association of Family Resource Programs
frpbc.ca

Robin Turnill
Exalt HR Consulting Inc.
exalthrconsulting.com

Howard Ma
Meritocracy Capital Partners
meritocracypartners.com

Nicole Sudom
Pyrrha Design Inc
pyrrha.com

Geolyn Mantei
Quickshot Media
quickshot.ca

James McGregor
Tacit Management Consulting Inc.
tacitconsult.com

Ann Yap
The Smokehouse Sandwich Co. Vancouver
smokehousesandwich.ca

Cam Landell
Watershed Communications Group
watershedgroup.ca

Jay Lundgren
CREW Marketing Partners
crewmp.com

Selena McLachlan
Modo
modo.coop

Colin Iverson
OWL (Orphaned Wildlife) Rehabilitation Society
owlcanada.org

Lukas Montani
The Sky Guys Aerial Services Inc.
theskyguys.ca

Maureen Glover
Westport Fuel Systems Inc.
westport.com

Peilin Wang
China Council for the Promotion of National Trade
ccpnt.org

Tako Van Popta
McQuarrie Hunter LLP
mcquarrie.com

Lise McKenzie
Trump International Hotel & Tower
trumphotels.com/vancouver

Patrick Mitchell
Shaw Communications
business.shaw.ca

Individuals

Seuree Kim
Melissa Ng

Miranda Zhang

Amanda Brubaker

Tristan Burgoyne

Amanda Jordan

Annie Luu

Nika Moeini

Aaron D'Souza

Beverly Amy

Sheldon Coxford

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Melanie Belanger-Finn

Heather Dyble

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