



Seasons Greetings!



During the Holiday Season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have worked with us towards a prosperous future in Prince George.

Thank You, and Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and the New Year!

Initiatives Prince George will be closed from December 24 to January 2. We look forward to seeing you in 2012!

Congratulations Mayor Green

The Board and staff of Initiatives Prince George (IPG) would like to congratulate Shari Green on being elected as Mayor of the City of Prince George on November 19, 2011. IPG would



Shari Green

also like to congratulate the eight Councilors that were elected: Dave Wilbur, Brian Skakun, Cameron Stolz, Garth Frizzell, Murry Krause, Lyn Hall, Albert Koehler and Frank Everitt. We look forward to working with the new Mayor and Council on the many opportunities that lie ahead.

We also wish to express our appreciation to all other candidates who participated in the election.



Newly Elected Mayor and Council



IPG at Natural Resource Forum in January

Initiatives Prince George (IPG) will be participating in the 9th Annual BC Natural Resource Forum (NRF) hosted by the Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, on January 11 and 12, 2012.

IPG is pleased to once again sponsor the Export Award at the Forum's Business and Technology Show. The Export Award is presented to a company, individual, or organization who has demonstrated excellence in pursuing international market opportunities. IPG established this award at the 2010 Business and Technology Show to recognize the importance of exports to our city and region's economic future.

Keynote speakers at the Forum will include Premier Christy Clark and Jock Finlayson, Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer, Business Council of British Columbia, among others.

The 2012 conference "2020 North—A Clear Vision for the Next Decade" is free to attend with no registration necessary. Tickets for luncheons and the awards banquet can be purchased online.

To learn more about the Natural Resource Forum and to see the agenda for the event, visit: www.bcnaturalresourceforum.com

Thank You!

The Board and staff of Initiatives Prince George (IPG) would like to express their sincere appreciation to former Mayor Dan Rogers for his nearly two decades of service to the City of Prince George. IPG would also like to recognize former Councillor Don Bassermann, who has now retired, and former Councillor Debora Munoz for their past public service. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



Dan Rogers



Debora Munoz



Don Bassermann

IPG Senior Staff Participate in Premier Clark's Trade Mission to China

In early November Initiatives Prince George was invited to travel with Premier Clark on her trade mission to China, along with the Prince George Airport Authority (YXS) and the University of Northern British Columbia.

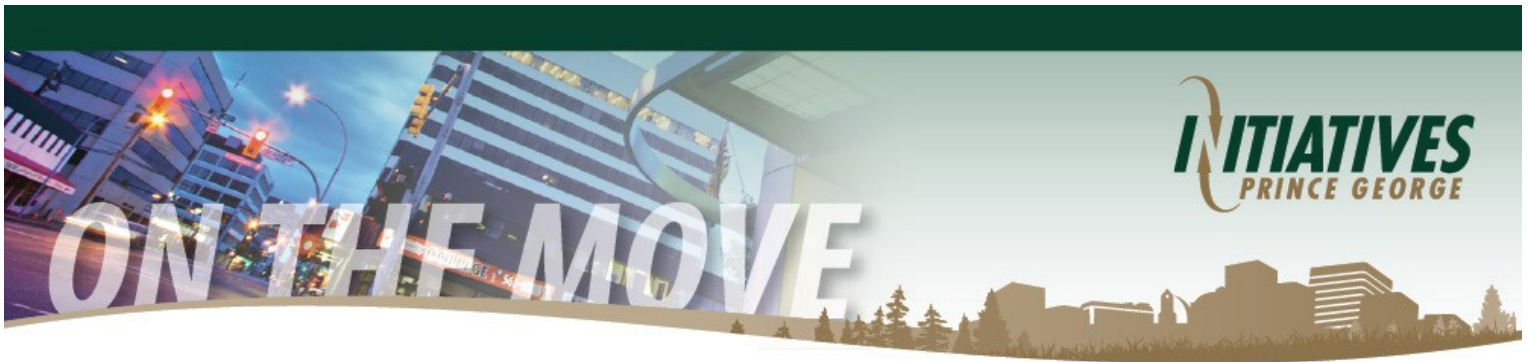
More than 120 BC companies, along with the Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation Pat Bell and Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Steve Thomson participated in the mission, focused on sectors identified in *Canada Starts Here: The BC Jobs Plan* (transportation, international education, mining, forestry, liquefied natural gas, seafood, and technology). IPG senior staff traveled with the delegation to Guangzhou, Beijing, and Shanghai, and held additional meetings in Hong Kong with air carriers and logistics companies. Following stops in these four cities, YXS went on to Japan and Korea for further meetings with air carriers while UNBC travelled with Premier Clark's delegation to India.



Delegates exchange gifts at a meeting of the BC—Guangdong Business Council

IPG and YXS continue to work in deep partnership to promote the transportation hub at Prince George. The investment in infrastructure at the airport and the Air Logistics Park has set the stage for future growth and diversification in the city. Both agencies took the opportunity during the trade mission to advise air carriers and logistics companies of recent developments, including: construction of the Boundary Road connector; the open source fuelling depot and cross-dock facility at the airport, and; the expansion of CN's intermodal facility which will almost double capacity by January 2012. These and other developments will continue to support the rapid growth of Prince George as an "inland port".





Changing the Face of Downtown

Capital Investments

Construction projects in the downtown continue to progress towards completion, including the renovations of the 5th Avenue Post Office building, Ramada Hotel and Scotiabank building. The major renovation of the Keg Steakhouse and Bar and the construction of the new Downtown District Energy System building located at 2nd Avenue and George Street are also set to be complete in 2012.

Work continues on the new RCMP Detachment on Victoria Street, set for completion in 2013. Permits for more than \$30M in downtown construction and renovation projects were issued by the City of Prince George throughout 2011.



The Keg Steakhouse and Bar



District Energy System

Downtown Incentives Program

The City of Prince George continues to work with project proponents eligible for the new Downtown Incentives Program. The Program, a partnership between the City of Prince George, Northern Development Initiative Trust and Initiatives Prince George, offers incentives for new multi-family, mixed-use, commercial and green development, as well as upgrades to existing developments in downtown Prince George. The incentives are intended to encourage new residential development, commercial development and façade improvements for buildings in the City Centre. More information is available at <http://princegeorge.ca/citybusiness/DowntownIncentives/pages/default.aspx>.

Holiday Season Festivities

Integrus Credit Union has decorated the Community Garden at 7th and Victoria with holiday lights, adding festive cheer to the downtown. On Wednesday, December 21, the downtown will host a Winter Solstice celebration at 3rd Avenue and George Street. Activities will include a late-night session of the year-round Farmer's market, a hand-made lantern festival and the 'Embrace Winter' fashion show. For more information, call 250.564.3859.



Other events planned for downtown in the winter months include the Downtown Business Improvement Association's Winterlicious event and the Coldsnap music festival scheduled for late January which will include performances at downtown venues and workshops involving residents of the City Centre. Additional information about Coldsnap can be found here: www.coldsnapfestival.com.

IPG and Centre Port Site Selector Conferences

This fall, Initiatives Prince George (IPG) was granted federal funding to partake in three US site-selector conferences in partnership with CentrePort Canada (CPC) of Winnipeg, MB. The goal for IPG and CPC was to execute a "Choose Canada" marketing campaign to raise awareness in the US about transportation and logistics opportunities in Canada and to ensure that when site-selectors are considering their next location and/or expansion they are considering Canada as an option, particularly Prince George and Winnipeg.

The conferences took place in Chicago, IL, Atlanta, GA and Austin, TX. They were attended by more than 2400 delegates and top professionals.

IPG will be following up with a number of prospects met at the conferences. The anticipated outcome will be the attraction of investment in Prince George's available industrial land, global logistics park, and downtown.





Bioenergy Conference in Prince George

The 5th International Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition is being held in Prince George, BC on June 13 to 15, 2012.

The International Bioenergy Conference and Exhibition is Canada's longest-running forum devoted to the global bioenergy sector, providing opportunities for bioenergy experts, existing organizations and new entrants to come together to explore leading-edge concepts and current applications in the bioenergy sector globally.

The conference will cover the following topics:

- Forest Products and Bioenergy: Industries in Transition
- Around the World in Half a Day: Global Game Changers
- The Integrated Biorefinery
- Developments in the BC Bioeconomy
- Carbon: The International Experience
- Distributed Energy – Partners, Payback, and Potential
- Technologies for Today, Technologies for Tomorrow

For more information and to register for The International Bioenergy Conference & Exhibition 2012 visit: www.bioenergyconference.org
Registration is available at a discounted rate if booked before May, 2012.



The B.C Real Estate Week is Coming!

The 8th Annual BC Real Estate Convention International 2012 is taking place on March 5 and 6, 2012 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. The show brings in over 10,000 attendees making it an excellent opportunity for realtors to meet with potential buyers, sellers and investors of real estate in the local BC market and worldwide.

For more information, registration and booth inquiries visit:
www.BCRealEstateConvention.com



2010 Canada Winter Games—Leaving a Legacy

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed the 7th report in a series assessing the impacts associated with the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The most recent report profiles Prince George as the example of how communities beyond Vancouver and Whistler were able to leverage opportunities from the Games.



Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre

Some of these opportunities resulted in significant legacy benefits, including for example the Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre, in our community. Read the full report here:
<http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/reports/olympics.html>

US Consul General in Prince George

On October 25 and 26, 2011, the US Consul General to Vancouver, Anne Callaghan, and her Deputy Principal Officer Sigrid Emrich travelled to Prince George. The goal of their visit was to build relationships in Prince George and understand the important role that Northern BC plays in the province. During their stay they toured the University of Northern BC and the Bioenergy Facility, the College of New Caledonia, Prince George Inter-continental Pulp Mill, the Aboriginal Choice School, and the CN Intermodal Facility. At a luncheon hosted by Initiatives Prince George, Ms. Callaghan delivered a speech on Canadian-American relations and the importance of growing this relationship. This was the US Consul's first visit outside of Vancouver since her appointment in August, 2011.



PG Sawmill Tour



Anne Callaghan and Kathy Richardson, Principle, Aboriginal Choice School

BC Hydro Site C Clean Energy Project Information Session

On November 29, 2011, Initiatives Prince George, in cooperation with the Prince George Chamber of Commerce and Northern Development initiative Trust, hosted a business information session on the BC Hydro Site C Clean Energy Project.

Site C is a proposed dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in Northeast BC. It will provide up to 1,100 megawatts (MW) of capacity, and produce about 5,100 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity each year—enough energy to power the equivalent of 450,000 homes per year in BC.

Susan Yurkovich, Executive Vice President, Site C, along with other senior project staff, provided an update on the progress of the project, an overview of procurement time-frames and information on how local businesses can benefit from the construction of Site C.



BC Hydro encourages businesses to register on their procurement directory for opportunities to bid on upcoming contracts.

For more information and to access the directory visit:
www.bchydro.com/sitec



Site C Project Rendering