



Canadian Kitchen Cabinet Association



Association Canadienne de Fabricants
d'Armoires de Cuisine

December 15, 2011



SECOND NOTICE

CKCA National Forum February 2 – 5, 2012 Fairmont Empress Hotel

Our 18th National Forum is fast approaching and we encourage all members to join your industry peers in Victoria next February for an outstanding opportunity to network and learn about programs, tools and resources that are available to you as a CKCA member.

The site will be the imposing, yet elegant, Fairmont Empress Hotel and our program will feature plant tours, informative presentations on timely topics, a supplier showcase and a manufacturers' round table. The forum will also provide opportunities for delegates to develop valuable business contacts.

Business casual attire is set for the entire conference.

REGISTRATION

Please refer to the attached Registration Form for registration fees. Please note that additional company delegates and spouses can also benefit from reduced rates. Fees include - 2 receptions, 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, all business sessions and some unique and exciting entertainment offerings.

Please note that all non-member delegates attending a CKCA meeting for the first time can register at the member rate!

PROGRAM

A copy of our tentative program and itinerary is attached for your information and review. The majority of the featured presentations on the

agenda will be presented by the **Wood Manufacturing Council (WMC)**.

WMC has developed and offers many programs that support the advanced wood manufacturing sector in Canada and can ensure that employees in the sector have the skills they need to succeed.

The council will provide Forum delegates with a practical insight of what they have to offer. Participants will find these sessions to be very informative and of great benefit to help them face and resolve the many and varied HR issues and challenges facing the sector.

Some of the featured flagship programs and tools include:

- **WMC Management Training**: A comprehensive suite of short training courses designed to equip participants with the skills and knowledge to move into management or supervisory roles within value-added wood products companies. The courses are offered online by the Centre of Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP) and lead to a nationally recognized certificate.
- **WoodLINKS**: An industry-developed high school curriculum that provides woodworking certification for graduates. Can be used as a school-to-work or school-to-post-secondary program.
- **Rapid Internal Skills Enhancement (RISE)**: An on-site program that offers practical plant floor training and skills upgrading for nine wood manufacturing competency areas.

- [National Occupational Standards \(NOS\)](#): A set of guidelines that identifies the skills, knowledge and abilities workers will need to perform to standard in the wood manufacturing industry for particular occupations.
- [Career Focus](#): A program that offers advanced wood manufacturing sector employers a wage subsidy to hire skilled youth on a full-time, four-to 12-month internship placement.
- [Essential Skills Awareness and Assessment](#): An online tool that increases the awareness of Essential Skills and their benefits to the advanced wood manufacturing sector. The tool assesses employees on five of the most important Essential Skills for the sector.
- [Wood Employee Readiness Curriculum \(WERC\)](#): A pre-employment training program designed to attract workers from a variety of backgrounds—including Aboriginal Canadians, persons with disabilities, new Canadians and immigrants working in Canada.
- [Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition \(PLAR\)](#): A human resources strategy document that defines PLAR and includes recommendations for its use in the wood manufacturing sector.
- [Virtual HR Department \(VHRD\)](#): This resource is designed to assist small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to manage the most important aspects of human resources (HR) management. The VHRD contains tools, templates and guides that can be downloaded, customized and used on an ongoing basis by the individual company.

There will also be a presentation on Internet Marketing for Woodworking businesses. The objective is to introduce simple, practical tactics for increasing the visibility of a company profile and driving new, targeted customer inquiries using low-cost web-based tools and applications. The aim is to also demystify the world of online search and social media and provide no-nonsense, plain-language advice that can enable wood products manufacturers to exploit new marketing opportunities, while avoiding spending hours of non-productive time in cyberspace.

All companies can benefit from what the Wood Manufacturing Council has to offer in terms of programs, tools and resources. We encourage everyone to participate!

PLANT TOURS

On Friday February 3rd two very interesting plant tours will be featured: [Benson Industries Ltd.](#) and [Island Precision Manufacturing Ltd.](#) We extend our appreciation to these organizations for their willingness to open their doors to our tour groups. The CKCA and its members always appreciate opportunities to visit manufacturing facilities and other related industries when in a region.

Following the tours, participants will be treated to a wonderful lunch at Victoria's most spectacular oceanfront restaurant at the Brentwood Bay resort & Spa before heading back to the Fairmont Empress.

WHAT'S NEW? / SUPPLIERS' SHOWCASE

A number of supplier members have reserved specific times during our "What's New?" session on Saturday morning, February 4th. Featured will be the latest news on their products, services and material availability to meet manufacturers' requirements. The line-up of firms involved is in the attached program outline.

There will also be a full complement of companies participating in the **Suppliers' Showcase** taking place during the President's cocktail reception on Saturday evening.

We take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our Supplier members' generous support for various program functions. Their involvement enables us to provide all delegates with both an informative and entertaining program at reasonable registration fees.

MANUFACTURERS ROUNDTABLE SESSION

The very popular Manufacturers Roundtable Session, for "manufacturers only" will be held on Sunday morning February 5th. This highly valued component of the program provides an opportunity for frank and open discussions on current industry matters.

ENTERTAINMENT

Both Friday and Saturday evenings will feature some special entertainment opportunities and experiences for Forum delegates.

On Friday, delegates and guests will step outside and walk across to the **Royal BC Museum** for dinner and be treated to some native culture and dancing featuring the **Le-La-La Dancers** – a First Nations dance company who have travelled worldwide to share their Kwakwaka'wakw culture. Members of the company have come from families with chiefly traditions and have the inherited rights to perform ceremonial and sacred dances of their ancestors. The Le-La-La Dancers promote cultural pride and heritage with respect for all.

On Saturday evening at the CKCA President's Dinner, the **The Light Jazz Quartet** will be featured. Delegates will experience the West Coast cool sound of this unparalleled 4-piece instrumental group. They've earned accolades from national and international associations, including the Disney sponsored National Theatre Owners Association and the Tourism Industry Association of Canada.

Following dinner - A long time favorite of locals and visitors alike, Chris Millington and **DANCIN!** is about great vocals, solid horns, and laying down the funk with shake your bootie grooves. This smokin' dance band will keep everyone moving to Cha-Cha, Disco, Salsa, Swing, Pop, Rock and so much more!

ACCOMMODATIONS

A CKCA room block of rooms has been reserved at the **Fairmont Empress Hotel** in Victoria. A hotel room reservation form is attached for your convenience and use. The hotel is also pleased to extend our preferred room rates for three days pre and three days post conference dates.

Delegates are asked to make their reservations directly with the hotel. The numbers to call are: Tel: 1-250-384-8111 / 1-800-441-1414 or by faxing the form to 1-250-389-2747.

REMEMBER to mention the Canadian Kitchen Cabinet Association National Forum.

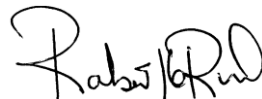
A special portal has also been set up by Fairmont for on line reservations. The link to use is: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ckcanationalforum>

Delegates are urged not to delay making their reservations for accommodations until after the holiday period. Members have a tendency to wait until the cut-off deadline approaches and often find that the room styles and rates they would prefer are either not available or at different rates! Avoid potential disappointment and make your reservations NOW!

Please book by **January 9th, 2012 to guarantee these room rates**. After this cut-off date, rooms will only be offered subject to availability and possibly at different rates!

*** If you have special dietary requirements, please remember to advise both the CKCA and the hotel prior to your arrival! ***

We look forward to welcoming you to Victoria!



Robert H. Rivard
Manager, Association Services

Attchs: