



CKCA National Forum 2019 – Calgary, AB
April 25-27, 2019

DRAFT PROGRAM – subject to change

Excellence in Kitchen Manufacturing

Note: All events take place at the [Sheraton Suites Eau Claire](#) (SSEC) unless otherwise listed

Thursday, April 25, 2019

- 7:00 AM** Suppliers setup for tabletop displays (Wildrose North & Centre, SSEC)
- 8:30 – 9:15 AM** Registration/Welcome Desk Open (Main Foyer, SSEC)
Coffee and muffins available before the tour
- 9:15 AM** Depart for Plant Tour – *(Transportation is provided)*
- 9:45 AM** **Plant Tour [Multiwood](#) (11580 40 St SE, Calgary)**
Multiwood specializes in the production of cabinet and passage doors made of both solid wood and MDF. They can provide services such as CNC machining and wood processing (engraving, edge banding, planing, ripping, sanding, moulding, laminating).
- 11:00 AM** Depart from Plant Tour – *(Transportation is provided)*
- 11:30 AM** **Buffet Lunch Opens (Wildrose North & Centre, SSEC)**
For your convenience we're setting up your suppliers around the perimeter of the meeting room. Feel free to speak with them at their displays or as they mingle with you throughout this 2.5 day program.
- 12:00 PM** **Opening Remarks – A Thriving Industry**
Presenter: Mike Slobodian, CKCA President
CKCA is your industry association. We are here to support you and help you connect because we know that businesses who stay informed do well. Come and hear what we're up to and how 2019 is a busy year with lots of programs and services to deliver to you!



12:15 PM-1:00 PM



Keynote Session – Building Business Resilience

Presenter: Michael Poynton, Business Development Corporation

Our industry is thriving, but can we assume it always will? Are your strategic plans for 3-5 years still good? Or should you be doing strategic planning more often? With the challenges currently facing our industry such as labour shortages, pressures from foreign imports, costs to upgrade and adopt new technologies combined with the speed that change is happening, how and what can you do to keep up? BDC is a trusted Canadian source of information and support. Their expertise is based on real business experience. To be of service to you they have to be on top of what's happening in the business world. This presentation will share insight on what it takes to be successful and resilient in this global economy where change is constantly changing.

1:00 – 1:40 PM

Suppliers Update Part 1

Presenters: 4 suppliers, 10 minutes each

Did you miss the news about the new product? Are you too busy to meet the sales rep when they come to your shop? Want to know what's new, what your supplier is doing? Well here's your chance to hear from many of your suppliers. This will save you a lot of time and bring you up to speed on what's trending.

1:40 - 2:00 PM

Refreshment Break and networking time

2:05 PM

Depart for Plant Tour – (Transportation is provided)

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM



Plant Tour - [Denca](#) (555 60 Ave SE, Calgary)

The 40,000 square foot manufacturing facility attached to design and sales studio is where Denca's vision springs to life. Denca is home to one of Calgary's largest CNC nesting machines with 7'by 11' bed, providing our client with longer pieces & less seams whenever possible. The factory is fully equipped to manufacture custom veneer cabinetry and millwork. They work with a wide variety of species including Maple, Cherry, Walnut, Anigre, Oak, Zebrawood and many more.

Note: The afternoon is spent visiting Denca and its manufacturing facility as well a chance to visit the Merit Kitchens showroom. Due to limited space, when the group arrives at Denca we will break into groups, some will start at Denca, others will start at Merit. Everyone will have the chance to see both facilities.

Merit Kitchen showroom open house (Walking - 1-6130 4 St SE, Calgary)

Great designers are the difference between a good space and an amazing space. Merit designers are passionate, experienced and committed to bringing a complete design experience to the client's door.





- 5:00 PM** Depart from open house - *(Transportation is provided)* - **Please note that buses will depart from Denca.**
- 6:15 PM** Depart for evening event as follows – *(Transportation is provided)*
- 6:30 PM** **Reception and Dinner**
The Rec Room (901-64 Ave NE, Calgary T2E 7P4)
Enjoy a relaxing evening of good food, great conversation and some fun.
- 8:00 PM** Stay and enjoy this venue, packed full of fun and games (literally!)

Friday, April 26, 2019

- 7:15 AM** Registration Desk Open/Full Breakfast (Foyer, SSEC)
- 7:45 AM – 8:30 AM** CKCA Annual General Meeting
- 8:45 AM** Depart for Plant Tour – *(Transportation is provided)*
- 9:10 AM** **Plant Tour Schenk** (4415 61 Ave SE, Calgary)
Schenk invests in technologies and processes that position them as leaders in the marketplace. They strive to be on the cutting edge of manufacturing and in design trends in the woodworking industry. They are leaders in contemporary styling with their focus on maintaining that position within their niche by identifying emerging trends and technologies and adapting them to fit their business.
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- 10:45 AM** Depart from Plant Tour *(Transportation is provided)*
- 11:15 AM** Buffet Lunch and networking time
- 12:40 PM** Depart for Plant Tour – *(Transportation is provided)*
- 1:00 PM** **Tour DIRTT Environmental Solutions** (7303 30 St SE, Calgary)
Description of tour here.
Refreshments served at end of tour
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- 4:15 PM** Depart from Tour *(Transportation is provided)*

6:00 PM **Pre-dinner Reception** (Wildrose North & Centre, SSEC)
Description of event.

7:00 PM **President’s Dinner** (Wildrose North & Centre, SSEC)
Presentation from CKCA Partner Habitat for Humanity and WOODSure

Saturday, April 27, 2019

7:15 AM **Breakfast** (Wildrose North & Centre, SSEC)

8:00 AM **Supplier Presentations Part 2**
More updates on products, programs and services from your suppliers.

9:00 – 10 AM **Topic: The Why of Wood: Repairing Recruitment in the Kitchen Cabinet Industry**

Speaker: Jon Callegher, PhD - [JobTalks](#)



Did you know that you work in one of the HAPPIEST sectors in the country? In this dynamic presentation, Job Talks Executive Director Dr. Jon Callegher will take us through his ground-breaking research into the Skilled Trades. Using a recent case from the construction industry, he will demonstrate the power of marketing in changing the mindsets of career-seekers, parents, and educators. Jon will also recommend data-driven solutions for addressing labour shortages in our sector, including creating the right kind of workplace for the next generation.

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM **Refreshment Break – Thanks to our sponsor:**

10:30 – 11:00 AM **Topic: Hate the Freakin Rework!**

Presenter: Garold Gipman, Accelerated Consulting Group



Is everyone on the same page in your company? Have your got your processes documented anywhere? What about onboarding a new employee or just making sure those on the shop floor know what they’re supposed to be doing? Garold grew up in our industry under the mentorship of his father, Harold Gipman of Gipman Millwork and Design. He saw a niche to help companies build and document processes that define what it takes to do the

work. Getting everyone on the same page is key strategy to any company's success and Garold has some insights that will help you get there.

11:00 -12:40 PM

Topic: Kaizen and Sunrise Kitchens – Creating cultures for employees and companies to thrive

Presenters: Chris Leonard, The Kaizen Institute Canada Inc. and Amrita Bhogal, Sunrise Kitchens Ltd.



Kaizen is focussed on people and believes in involving the whole organization, opening communication channels, building a cohesive team, acceptance to try new things and acceptance of failure. Sunrise Kitchens is like many manufacturers, they need to foster an environment that will attract and retain good talent. Sunrise Kitchens has embraced Kaizen and are already seeing improvements in HR. Chris and Amrita will share their insights, their lessons learned and their expertise on why Kaizen could be a powerful tool to help attract and retain the right talent for your shop.

Roundtable Discussion: At the conclusion of this presentation, we will break into roundtable discussions (**please note this session is open to all attendees**) so you have the chance to talk amongst your groups about the strategies you think our industry could/should be using to move the dial on attracting and retaining the right talent in our industry. Chris, Amrita and Jon Callegher will facilitate this session. Let's create an industry plan together!

12:45 PM

Adjournment CKCA President to offer some final thoughts.

Grab and Go Lunch

12:45 PM

Manufacturers Roundtable (Willow Room, SSEC)

Manufacturers are invited to stay longer and move to another meeting room to informally discuss and share business ideas and challenges. This is free time to speak about what's happening in your business amongst your colleagues. This session is always well received, so come with your questions, your thoughts and make the most of this time to discuss matters. You may just get the answers you were looking for!

Connect – Learn - Prosper