



CONNECTIONS

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Newsletter of the Strathcona Business Improvement Association

Strathcona BIA

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Executive Director's Report:

Happy New Year, on behalf of the Board of Directors and SBIA office, I would like to wish all the members a prosperous, festive, and healthy year! Now that 2009 is already behind us, the SBIA office and Board of Directors is anticipating an exciting year for 2010. To start, we will be hosting a series of Professional Development workshops for SBIA members with Ghost CEO, a world leader in professional development whom has worked with many businesses like **Bank of America** and **Canfor**.

Ghost CEO: International Leader in Professional Development comes to Strathcona

The SBIA is co-hosting a business development workshop with Ghost CEO, whom focuses on the foundation blocks of business development, negotiations, and gender relations in the workplace. Now you can join the ranks of **Microsoft** and **Bombardier** in getting the best in professional development.

On January 18th please join us for this exciting workshop, **Being a Bull in a Bear Market**. Discover 10 proven business development techniques for building business in a downward market. These techniques require little or no cash.

Workshop Details: Monday, January 18, 2010

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Where: Vancouver Japanese Language School, 475 Alexander St.

RSVP: by January 14th at: <http://strathconabia.com/eventRegistration.php>

Space is limited, so act now to save your spot!



From left to right Councillor George Chow, Peter Joe of Sunrise Soya Foods, Toby Barazzuol of Eclipse Awards, and Wayne Nelsen of the Patricia Hotel.

SBIA Holiday Christmas Social

The SBIA hosted our annual holiday social on December 11th at Chapel Arts. Many SBIA members came out to celebrate the season and network over appetizers from HAVE Culinary Training Society. Special thanks to **City Councillor George Chow** for joining the SBIA in celebrating the holidays.

New Mural in Strathcona

Please check out our newest addition to the SBIA's family of murals at 1175 Union Street. In development will be a new mural addition at 569 Powell St.



Newest addition to Strathcona BIA's mural program at 1175 Union St.

Translink Update: Be Transit Ready for the 2010 Olympics

Beginning February 1, 2010, Translink will be adding transit services and bus re-routes related to the Olympics. Make sure you and your employees are aware of these changes, public transit will be the best way to get around as there will be very limited amounts of parking allowed in Vancouver during the month of February.

Check out the full listings at: <http://www.translink.ca/en/Schedules-and-Maps/Transit-Service-Improvements.aspx>

PROGRESS REPORT



Year Street	2006-2007*	2007-2008*	2008-2009*	So far...
Cleaning	1296	1311	5567	5483
Graffiti Tags Removed	1842	1940	3634	2879
Security Hours	7024	7916	7712	3956

*calculated by SBIA's fiscal year from April 1 - March 31 of the following year

Mark Your Calendar

SBIA Member Professional Development Workshop
Being A Bull in A Bear Market
Monday, January 18, 2010. 8:00 a.m.
Vancouver Japanese Language School & Hall, 475 Alexander St.

Did You Know?

Expand your Market via Ecommerce: No Cost Employee Training program for Small Businesses

Have you been looking for a way to wrap your head around ecommerce but just have not had the time to look into available options, especially ones that are at no extra cost? Specifically created to support small businesses and not-for-profit, Etraffic Business Learning Network has developed a series of training modules that are quick to enroll in and implement.

The training modules enable your company to introduce ecommerce selling as part of your retail mix. Developed and delivered by experienced training providers, **Expand Your Market** is a five month structured employee training program that will empower your employees to create and launch your company's own fully functional ecommerce website.

Currently this program is eligible for 100% funding from federal stimulus funds via the BC Workplace Training for Innovation Program. **Please contact Robert at 1 866 658 8238 ext 33 for more information.**

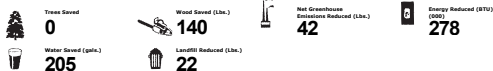


Property Owners Corner

COV Budget & Fair Tax Coalition Updates

On December 18th City Council voted on the final 2010 budget. A number of cuts from the previous budget were made due to declines in city revenue from building permits, brought on by the slack economy, and to cover a shortfall of about \$61 million. The Vancouver Fair Tax Coalition has again successfully compelled city council to continue lowering business property taxes. In light of these major budget cuts, city council agreed to still approve another 1% tax shift from non-residential properties to residential properties to balance the inequitable tax ratio between businesses and residents in Vancouver. As members of the coalition, the Strathcona BIA applauds the coalition's hard work, and our members for all your support. We will continue to work closely with the VFTC to raise awareness of the inequitable tax ratio between non-resident and resident properties.

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of Save-A-Tree® paper



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www.strathconabia.com

Energy Conservation: Shrink your Carbon Footprint, Stretch Your Budget

This year **Terasen Gas** received approval from the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for a new **Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC)** initiative to provide customers enhanced tools and incentives to manage their natural gas consumption, reduce their energy costs, and lower their greenhouse gas emissions.

The benefits can already be seen with two EEC programs for commercial boilers: the **Efficient Boiler Program**, and the more recently introduced **Light Commercial Boiler Program**. The soon to be launched **Efficient Water Heater** program seeks to capture energy savings associated with the heating of domestic hot water.

With almost half the EEC initiatives supporting commercial natural gas customers, the boiler programs are indicative of what Strathcona BIA members can expect from Terasen Gas as the company introduces more Energy Efficiency and Conservation initiatives in 2010.

Learn more about how you can save:

Terms and conditions for the commercial boiler programs and the applications forms can be found in the Business section of terasengas.com, call 1-866-884-8833, or email rebates@terasengas.com.

SBIA on the Move

The SBIA office is moving to another location in February. Our phone and fax numbers will be the same but our mailing address will change to:

**1220 E. Hastings St. Vancouver, BC
V6A 1S6**

Do you have a story for us?

Email

admin_strathconabia@telus.net



RISING STARS

Propellor Designs, 949 E Hastings



Propellor Designs, 949 E. Hastings St

Propellor Designs is a multi-disciplinary studio that specializes in the custom design of lighting, furniture and exhibitions. The team is made up of three Emily Carr graduates: Pamela Goddard, Toby Barratt, and Nik Rust. Propellor celebrated 4 years in Strathcona this past summer and notes the large warehouse spaces, mountain views and location continues to keep them in Strathcona. Toby Barratt remarks **"I like accessibility, to be located centrally, but also to be in a little quieter neighbourhood."**

Turning heads in the Vancouver design and creative world for years, Propellor has been featured twice at **Movers and Shapers**, an exhibit showcasing top emerging designers currently shaping the future. This spring Toby Barratt was invited to speak at **Pecha Kucha Night**, a forum for ideas on design and architecture.

This summer Propellor put on a show at the Museum of Vancouver celebrating bike culture in Vancouver. Barratt added that the team gave up their cars and rely on cycling to get around the city as well as road tripping around the Pacific Northwest. Off the road, sustainability plays a large role in Propellor's design process. Materials are carefully sourced: lights incorporate LED technology, furniture utilizes eco resin and locally sourced wood.

You can find Propellor's thought provoking and sustainable lighting and furniture solutions through out Vancouver establishments and design shows across North America. They sell directly from their website as well as at P&A Furniture in Vancouver.

Visit Propellor online at
www.propellor.ca