

Legislative Watch

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Queen's Park Liaison Forum (QPLF) Goes on the Road

The OCC, in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development & Trade, organizes 5 or 6 QPLF meetings every year. Traditionally, these meetings have been in downtown Toronto. The goal, however, is to periodically take it on the road. In late 2003, a very successful QPLF meeting was held in Kitchener-Waterloo.

We are please to announce the June 18, 2004 QPLF will be held at the London Chamber of Commerce. The topic for this session is Skills Development & Training. A representative from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities will give a general overview of skills development and what has been going on in the London area. Gary Blazak, Director of Alumni Relations at the University of Western Ontario, who is also part of the OCC Education Committee, will give us the OCC perspective. A member of the London Chamber will give a presentation from the private sector perspective.

To register, please contact colleenmacintyre@occ.on.ca

Election Watch...

Launched last week, the OCC's new "Election Watch" has had very favourable reaction. Thank you!! As the federal election campaign continues, our goal is to update you on the platforms and activities of the four national parties (conservative, liberal, NDP and Green). Election Watch is slated for distribution every Wednesday. Remember to also keep Lorie at our OCC office up-to-date on any election-related ideas or best practices you want to share with Chambers/ Boards. Lorie can be reached at loriecrisp@occ.on.ca

Outstanding Business Achievement Awards

Don't be left out....tickets are selling for the 22nd Annual Awards Gala. Download the advanced ticket order form at <http://occ.on.ca/2obaa.asp>. This year's event is being held on Wednesday, November 10th at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Final details are being put together for the awards categories themselves. Information will be circulated to all Chambers and Boards shortly so that you can nominate your local businesses!

World Disaster Management Conference set for Toronto....

The 14th World Conference on Disaster Management is approaching quickly – June 20 – 23, 2004 in Toronto.

The Honourable Anne McLellan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness will open the conference with the first keynote address. She will be

followed by The Honourable Monte Kwinter Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services for the Province of Ontario. They will give you first hand insight into the importance of emergency preparedness and how their respective levels of government are committing money and resources to the issues.

At the conference, there will also be opportunities to meet delegates and speakers from sectors related to the emergency preparedness and disaster management fields.

Go to the WCDM website – www.wcdm.org for complete details and register on-line. Members of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce are being offered a preferred registration rate so remember to identify your membership in the Ontario Chamber of Commerce to receive the Affiliate Rate of \$760.

Upcoming Events

Listed below are some upcoming events that may be of interest:

- Ontario Business Advisory Council with New Brunswick Premier Bernard Lord, June 1, 2004
- OCC Health Policy Committee, June 1
- OCC Education Committee, June 3
- OCC Energy Task Force, June 9
- Ontario Business Advisory Council with Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal, The Hon. David Caplan, June 14, 2004
- Queen's Park Liaison Forum (QPLF), Friday, June 18, London Chamber of Commerce
- Federal Election – Monday, June 28
- Ontario Economic Summit (OES), October 6 & 7, Niagara-on-the-Lake