

**Subject: News from the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission - June 14, 2010**

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### New Eco-Friendly Office Building in Lake Country

The owners of [Beelineweb.com](#) decided to focus on the bigger picture when considering where and how to build a new office for their growing online search marketing firm.

With climate change making an impact in the Okanagan, they knew anything they built had to be energy efficient, water wise and respectful of local conditions. So rather than add to the Okanagan's urban sprawl with more run-of-the-mill construction, Lauren Gaglardi, President, and Ched Gaglardi, CEO, set out to limit the company's environmental footprint, create a positive workplace for their employees and help establish a regionally appropriate architectural legacy for their community.



[More information...](#)



### Better Access to Foreign Grads Helps BC Business

Businesses will gain improved access to highly skilled, in-demand foreign graduate students with an expansion of BC's Provincial Nominee Program (PNP). The expansion was recently announced by Moira Stilwell, Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development.

A three-year pilot program will enable graduates from BC Masters and PhD programs in Natural, Health and Applied Sciences to apply for immigrant status in advance of receiving and accepting a full-time offer of employment, eliminating the need to wait for a job offer. With more foreign students per capita than any other province, British Columbia is well positioned to tap into this valuable talent pool.

[More information...](#)

### Change to Temporary Foreign Worker Program for Information Technology (IT) Specialists

Effective October 1, 2010, employers who wish to hire Temporary Foreign Workers previously eligible for IT facilitated processing will be required to apply for a Labour Market Opinion (LMO).

Under the facilitated process, an employer is not required to obtain a Labour Market Opinion in order to hire foreign workers in seven specific IT occupations. In turn, a foreign worker to be hired in one of the seven IT occupations is not required to submit a copy of the LMO to Citizenship and Immigration Canada as part of their work permit application.

Ending the facilitated process will contribute to the integrity of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP), a Government of Canada priority as per Budget 2007, by ensuring that the hiring of foreign workers does not result in an adverse impact on the Canadian labour market. It also ensures that the TFWP is more responsive to current and future labour market conditions in the information and communications technology



## Do You Know a Powerful Woman?

Then nominate her in any of the categories below for *Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100*.

Arts & Communication  
Champion  
Corporate Executive  
Entrepreneur  
Future Leader  
Professional  
Public Sector Leader  
Trailblazer & Trendsetter

To date, 460 women across Canada have received the Top 100 Award. Winners will be announced on November 29, 2010 at the Top 100 Summit and Awards Gala in Toronto.

Deadline for nominations is June 30, 2010 at 5 pm EST.

For complete details visit:  
[WWW.TOP100WOMEN.CA](http://WWW.TOP100WOMEN.CA)

industry.

[Learn more....](#)

### Links and Events

[www.ic.gc.ca/smedirect](http://www.ic.gc.ca/smedirect)

A website providing information to small and medium-sized enterprises.

**June 16**

Peachland Business After Hours  
Working Horse Winery

**June 17**

Lake Country Business After Hours  
Gatzke's Farm Market

**June 17**

Kelowna Business After Hours  
Chances Gaming Entertainment

**August 1-31**

9th Annual BC Cultural Crawl  
Submit your registration by July 1st

**November 15-18**

Building SustainAble Communities Conference  
Free admission if registered by June 30th!

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