

Subject: News from the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission - August 9, 2010

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Kelowna Scores High on Small Business Happiness Index

TD North American Small Business Happiness Index points to Kelowna as a great place to do business.

What is the secret to happiness? In BC, it seems to be owning a small business. More people in Kelowna and Vancouver than in



***Taking the Stage®*
Helping BC Women Achieve a Dynamic Leadership Presence**

Women's Enterprise Centre is proud to launch Taking the Stage®, an exciting new program that helps business-minded aboriginal, immigrant, youth or women entrepreneurs across BC realize their leadership potential. Women in today's business world have an increasing number of opportunities as they move into new, larger roles. To succeed however, they must become strong leaders and learn to better influence and inspire others.

Women's Enterprise Centre is excited to help women achieve a dynamic leadership presence by offering Taking the Stage® in 11 BC communities starting this September. Trained volunteer facilitators will lead groups of six to 10 women who meet for four dynamic monthly sessions. Taking the Stage® helps women to become strong, confident leaders by teaching them to speak with strength on any 'stage'- from board rooms to meeting rooms, from town halls to phone calls.

Apply today! Application deadline is August 15, 2010. Groups start Fall, 2010.

Okanagan Technology Organizations Agree to Merge and Continue Developing the Tech Sectors

ORIC (Okanagan Research & Innovation Centre) and OSTEC (Okanagan Science and Technology Council) have announced that their respective boards have voted unanimously in favour of merging OSTEC and ORIC into a single organization with the joint mandate of growing and supporting the technology sector in the Okanagan.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Links and Events

[August 12](#)
Westbank Chamber Business After Hours

any other Canadian city surveyed in the TD Small Business Happiness Index say they are happier owning and running their own business (91 percent and 90 percent).

The research - which examined the attitudes and behaviours of North American small business owners in a dozen urban centres - revealed that 61 percent of Vancouver small business owners and 58 percent of Kelowna small business owners would describe themselves as "very happy".

[Click here to view the full article.](#)



Summer 2010 issue of YLW Connection Now Available

Click on the cover above to view the latest issue of the YLW Connection, the official publication of Kelowna International Airport.

Cherry Pit Restaurant

August 19

Kelowna Chamber Business After Hours
Ric's Grill/Shine Lounge

August 23

Small Business BC Video Conference Seminar
Business GPS - Growth, Planning and Succession

August 30

Peachland Chamber Golf Tournament
Two Eagles Golf Course

September 15

Women Leading the Way program application deadline.
For more information click here.

September 21

Westbank & District Chamber Annual Golf Tournament
Two Eagles Golf Course

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