



British Columbia Wage and Salary Survey

In 2009, the first-ever Wage and Salary Survey was completed by the BC Government. This survey provides up-to-date wage and salary information on part-time and full-time wages, hours of work, hiring difficulties, and vacancies for 121 of the province's most common occupations. In BC's three largest economic regions (Vancouver Island/Coast, Mainland/Southwest, and Thompson/Okanagan), the top 100 occupations were targeted, and in the five remaining regions (Kootenay, Cariboo, North Coast, Nechako and Northeast), the top 35 occupations were targeted.

To view the full report [click here](#).



WorldHost Training Services Presents a Customer Service Training Workshop

Saturday, February 27
9:30 am to 4 pm
Tourism Kelowna Visitor Centre,
544 Harvey Avenue
Cost: \$75 person

This one-day workshop teaches front-line employees the skills and techniques that result in professional service.

Participants will gain an understanding of the importance of excellent customer service; learn to communicate more effectively and efficiently with customers; learn to demonstrate their attentiveness to customer



Olympian Kristi Richards with Steve Thomson, Minister of Agricultural and Lands

Okanagan Regional Success at Olympic Business Event

The Okanagan was showcased to the world during a successful business to business networking event on February 18th at the 2010 Olympics.

The Okanagan Valley Economic Development Society (OVEDS) organized the event which was designed to profile the Okanagan to international media and develop relationships with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, BC Investors Services Branch, and international food buyers at the 2010 BC Showcase and Commerce Centre.

OVEDS is a joint initiative between economic development commissions throughout the Okanagan. Its primary objective is to design and implement economic development initiatives that support collective opportunities for the region. Members include Osoyoos, Penticton, Summerland, Kelowna/Central Okanagan Regional District (CORD), Vernon and the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association (TOTA).

More than 100 Okanagan Valley companies attended the event and several were connected to Trade Commissioners and BC Investor Services as a means of accessing foreign direct investment. In addition, more than a dozen international media representatives attended looking to connect with Okanagan companies for story ideas on our diverse region.

"This is what the 2010 Business Hosting Program is all about - promoting British Columbia's businesses and regions to an international audience and creating a lasting Olympic economic legacy throughout the province," said Iain Black, Minister of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development.

Terry Bigsby of Aspenware of the north Okanagan states, "I was extremely delighted with the opportunity to showcase our product at the Okanagan reception during the Olympics! We were very pleased with the turnout of officials and contacts from around our region and outside. The event that the economic development offices organized gave us a great opportunity to network with those individuals as well as others attending the Games that wouldn't have happened otherwise. The venue was spectacular and really complemented all of the Okanagan companies and opened the world to us! We believe

needs, and to better understand the social and economic contribution of a healthy tourism industry.

Pre-registration is required by emailing worldhost@tourismkelowna.com or calling (250) 861-1515 ext. 207.

Thrive Not Survive Seminar Series

Pitch Your Business

March 2 - 2 pm to 4:30 pm
Coast Capri Hotel
1171 Harvey Avenue, Kelowna

Speakers:
Myrna park, Max-U Inc. and Rhonda Victoor, Incite Coaching

The Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission, Kelowna Chamber of Commerce, and Okanagan Science and Technology Council invite you to attend this series of seminars/workshops that will provide you with the tools and information to maximize opportunities in the current climate and ensure that you're prepared for future growth.

Learn how to pitch your business to financiers and investors! This workshop will teach you to condense your company's value proposition into a short, compelling presentation and help you prepare and refine your pitch.

For more information or to register [click here](#).

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that these types of contacts will allow Aspenware to reach out to the international community and create export opportunities for us."

For additional information please contact OVEDS regional members:

Jo Knight, Destination Osoyoos, 250- 495-5070 ext 202
jknight@destinationosoyoos.com David Arsenault, Penticton Economic Development, 250-493-3323
darsenault@penticton.org
Scott Boswell, District of Summerland, 250-404-4042
sboswell@summerland.ca
Corie Griffiths, Kelowna/CORD, 250-469-6283
corie.griffiths@cord.bc.ca
Kevin Poole, City of Vernon, 250-550-3249
kpoole@vernon.ca
Glenn Mandziuk, TOTA, 250-860-5999
gmandziuk@totabc.com



Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada

Affaires étrangères et Commerce international Canada

Seminar:
Expanding Markets - Increasing Sales

Tuesday, March 16 - 8:30 am to 12 Noon
Coast Capri Hotel, 1171 Harvey Avenue, Kelowna

The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service and the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission are offering this information seminar to help you get the answers you need to grow your markets.

Representatives from key government agencies will be on hand to provide an overview of their programs and services as well as meet with you, one-on-one, to answer your specific questions.

Speakers and topics include:

- Public Works Canada - Selling to the Federal Government;
- Small Business BC - Starting a Business, Researching Your Markets;
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency - Importing Food Products;
- Export Development Canada - Export Financing, Insuring Your Receivables;
- Canada Border Services Agency - Customs Requirements for Importing and Exporting;
- Agriculture Canada - Services for Exporters;
- National Research Council - Funding for Product Development
- Business Development Bank - Financing and Consulting Services Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission - Getting Ready for Export Markets
- The Canadian Trade Commissioner Services - Exporting Your Products or Services.

There is no cost to attend however pre-registration is required as space is limited. To register, please call Sandra Ballan-Brown at 250-469-6280 or email info@investkelowna.com