



Policy & Politics

MISSISSAUGA BOARD OF TRADE

Volume 4 - March 10, 2010

Upcoming Events

March 2010

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|----|---|
| 11 | Educational Seminar:
<i>Social Media</i> |
| 23 | Growth & Power: <i>Going Global: Evaluating your supply chain</i> |
| 29 | Mississauga Business Xchange |

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MBOT NEWS & EVENTS

**Mississauga Board of Trade pleased with the federal budget
Are you ready for HST? BDO seminars can help**

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MUNICIPAL NEWS & EVENTS

Peel Labour Market Survey findings unveiled:

First Peel-specific report shows immigrants lagging behind in accessing the job market

City of Mississauga wants to hear from you - participate in an economic development survey

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BUSINESS MARKETPLACE

Green Expo Mississauga happening May 1

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MBOT NEWS & EVENTS

Mississauga Board of Trade pleased with the federal budget

Mississauga Board of Trade was pleased to see the federal government budget announcement focused on staying the course to achieve its economic recovery plan, promoting a more innovative and competitive economy, and planning to return to balanced budgets.

Budget 2010 confirmed \$19.2 billion in federal spending under year two of Canada's *Economic Action Plan*. It also proposed a number of new, targeted initiatives to build jobs and promote growth, including extensions to work-sharing agreements, investments in training and skills, and strengthening Canada's R&D and commercialization of research. The budget also proposes improvements to the tax system to facilitate investment and reducing red tape for business.

"Coming out of the recession, business in our community are still facing tremendous challenges, and employment, preserving and creating new jobs, will continue to be the top issue of concern facing our city," says MBOT President & CEO, Sheldon Leiba. "There is a need for strong leadership and support from the federal government to stimulate the economy and contribute to business growth, investment and employment opportunities, which we see targeted in this budget in a fiscally prudent manner."

While there was a sweeping reduction in import duties that will help manufacturers importing machinery and equipment, providing other countries better and cheaper access to our domestic market, MBOT believes that the federal government needs to do more to open up export markets for local business, where there are currently significant barriers to access.

The government emphasized that it will return to a **balanced budget** over the medium term (although not explicit in timeline, appears to be 2015-2016) by expiring the stimulus plan, restraining spending, and seeking out savings in government administration and operations. Budget 2010 proposes \$17.6 billion in government savings over the next five years.

MBOT Chair, Syd Martin, President of Affimex Customs and Trade Services (ACTS) Inc. says, "Businesses and households alike have been tightening their belts, being creative in doing more with less, and we expect the same of our government. The federal government's commitment to balance its books without raising taxes on business, consumers and income earners is welcome news, and they must stick to this commitment."

The budget's forecast anticipates modest economic growth of 2.6% this year, 3.2% in 2011 and 3% in 2012.

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Are you ready for HST? BDO seminars can help



Ontario Harmonized Sales Tax: Seminars geared to tackle your fears

Presentation with Bill MacQueen of BDO

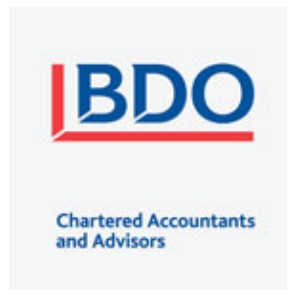
Tuesday, April 13 - Mid-to-large business

Tuesday, April 20 - Not-for-Profit

Tuesday, April 27 - Trades

Breakfast and seminar from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Additional details coming soon!



Be ready for HST:

Individuals interested in attending one or more of the seminars can contact Alex at 905-273-6151 ext. 32 or events@mbot.com.



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MUNICIPAL NEWS & EVENTS

Peel Immigration Labour Market Survey findings unveiled

First Peel-specific report shows immigrants lagging behind in accessing the job market

The Peel Immigration Labour Market Survey is the first study ever conducted that provides local data on the labour market in Peel, and more specifically, how immigrants are faring in finding employment. The short answer: not as well as their Canadian-born counterparts.

In general, respondents are positive about their places of work. They reported positive co-worker relations, fair advancement processes, high commitment to their jobs and felt treated fairly by managers. For immigrant respondents the study shows a significant occupational change from managerial and professional positions into sales and service and manual/trades jobs after arrival.

In the sample of 1,425 immigrants and Canadian-born Peel residents surveyed:

- *Of the immigrant respondents who have international work experience, only one third was successful in obtaining their desired employment.*
- *Lack of Canadian work experience was reported as the barrier faced most often for immigrants and correspondingly, lack of work experience was reported most often by Canadian-born individuals.*
- *Networking was a serious barrier for both immigrants and Canadian-born individuals but more significant for immigrants.*
- *One in four immigrants accessed some government-funded employment services, and just under one-third obtained more education in Canada.*
- *Both immigrants and Canadian-born individuals report underutilization of their skills in their current job.*

The key findings outlined in the final report suggest that there is a lot of talent going to waste in the Peel community among various groups of workers, especially immigrants. The recommendations identify several areas where action can be taken by Community Organizations, Private and Public Sector Employers and all levels of Government to help improve the situation.

The study was funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and conducted in collaboration with Ryerson's Diversity Institute in Management and Technology.

The complete report of survey findings and recommendations is available at www.peelregion.ca/labourmarketsurvey.

For more information contact Lauren Rennie, Project Manager Peel Immigration Labour Market Survey at Lauren.rennie@peelregion.ca or call 905 791-7800 ext 8032.

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City of Mississauga wants to hear from you

Participate in the City's economic development survey!

City of Mississauga is inviting businesses and community stakeholders to share their insights, ideas and thoughts on ways to help shape the City's business future.

The new economic development strategy will identify strategic directions that build off of existing strengths, as well as identify new and emerging opportunities on which to base the future prosperity of our community.

The strategy will also identify key challenges, gaps and barriers, assess the local asset base and propose specific infrastructure requirements for successful economic development.

"We want to hear from our local businesses and community stakeholders on their thoughts and perspectives in helping shape the economic development of our City. That's why we are inviting stakeholders to participate in an on-line survey to get their feedback," comments Larry Petovello, director of economic development at the City of Mississauga.

To provide your thoughts, just go to: www.mississauga.ca/economicdevelopmentstrategy to take the survey, and continue to monitor this site for further updates.

The insights gained from the public, our businesses and institutions are of tremendous value in this undertaking and will assist the City in developing a foundation for economic growth over the coming years. In developing this strategy the City retained Millier Dickinson Blais Inc., an economic development consulting firm with considerable experience with communities and regions across Canada.

A draft economic development strategy is expected to be presented to City Council in June 2010.

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BUSINESS MARKETPLACE



green expo
mississauga
May 1, 2010
Sheridan Centre
celebrating sustainable future
www.trashfusion.ca

REGISTER
ONLINE:
www.trashfusion.ca

Partnered with Bentall Corporation, Sheridan Centre Mississauga will offer the first Green Expo experience for the residents of Ward 8 and surrounding Peel Region. Sheridan Centre is a 30 year established corporate and retail centre located in the heart of Mississauga.

Green Expo offers green products and services along with workshops and forums.

KEY PRESENTATION: Trashfusion Design Contest
LOCATION: QEW & Erin Mills Pkwy. Mississauga
MARKET REACH: 1.5 Million Homes & Businesses
COST: \$150 per space



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For more information about Policy & Politics or **Business Marketplace**, contact Jennifer Jodha at 905-273-6151 ext. 23 or jjodha@mbot.com.