



THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG

1993-1994 COMMITTEES

BY MARGARET COATES

The strength of the Chamber is in its committees, which plan and carry out the wide range of services and programmes available to members and others interested in business linkages between Canada, Hong Kong, China and Indochina.

For 1993-1994, 14 committees are in place and hard at work. Briefly, they are as follows:

Business Briefings, chaired by **Robin Hibberd**, is developing a service to provide delegations from Canada or other countries with an effective overview of the business environment in Hong Kong and China.

China Business & Investment, under the leadership of **Kyan Ko**, is developing a strategy for the Chamber's future role in China. It is also planning a trade mission to Beijing and Shanghai in late 1993 and a major Canada/China Trade & Investment Conference in China in 1994. As well, the committee will organize regular speakers throughout the year on trade and investment in China.

The growing importance of Indochina is reflected in the **Indochina Trade & Investment** Committee, which plans a trade mission to Hanoi in October, 1993 as well as opportunities throughout the year to hear speakers in a wide variety of relevant fields. The chairperson is to be confirmed.

Members are the heart of the Chamber and **Ada Tsang** and the **Membership** Committee have a series of initiatives planned to recruit new members and ensure that the existing members renew their memberships. It also runs the popular monthly Happy Hour.

Publications, chaired by **Heather Doyle**, provides the Editorial Board for the Chamber's main publication, *Canada Hong Kong*

Business magazine. Committee members are responsible for the editorial direction of the magazine and also write many of the articles.

Scholarships & Awards, under the leadership of **Helen Wong**, organizes the very successful annual MBA Canada-Hong Kong Trade Competition and the Voyageur Award.

A regular feature of the Chamber's calendar is the many addresses by local and visiting speakers whose views, knowledge, experience and influence are of interest to members and their guests. Chairman **Henry Chong** and the **Speakers** Committee are charged with seeking out individuals to address these events.

Paul Lam is chairman of the **Trade & Investment** Committee, which promotes trade and investment in Canada, Hong Kong and China through trade missions, factory visits, and speakers. This year it is organizing a mission to Canada in late 1993 to promote export and investment opportunities in Hong Kong and southern China.

Last year, the **Entrepreneurs** Committee organized a very successful Open House/Trade Show. This year, under the direction of chairman **Susan Mey**, another Open House/Trade Show will be held in the spring, as well as a series of Entrepreneur Forums and panel discussions/seminars on "How to Start and Run Your Own Business in Hong Kong."

Legal & Policy, chaired by **William Thomson**, plans to review the services provided by the government of Canada to the Canadian business community in Hong Kong. It will also promote an awareness in Hong Kong of the changes to the Canadian immigration rules. The committee provides a regular column in *Canada Hong Kong Business* magazine.

The mandate of the **Public Relations** Committee, chaired by **Jill Killeen**, is to increase the profile of the Chamber, both in the local community and in Canada. It is involved in organizing over-all strategic public relations plans and campaigns.

Human Resources, chaired by **Brian Gunderson**, intends to initiate seminars and speakers to address personnel issues and to provide a forum for the exchange of views, ideas and possible solutions to human resource issues.

The **Liaison** Committee, under the direction of **Don Roberts**, is charged with networking between other local, Asian and Canadian business organizations in order to promote common interests.

Larry Mills and the **Long-Range Planning** Committee are reviewing the Chamber's short and long-term needs for its own premises and will be recommending to the Executive viable alternatives.

The only committee not yet in place is the one that organizes and oversees the Chamber's major fundraising event of the year, the **Spring Ball**, which will be chaired by **Angela Gawwretz**. The responsibilities of this committee run the gamut from choosing a theme and entertainment to soliciting sponsors and publishing the ball programme.

Anyone interested in participating on the Spring Ball Committee, or any of the other committees mentioned above, should contact the Chamber at tel: 526-3207. This is an opportunity to get involved, meet other members, gain new business contacts and profile, and make a contribution. ♦

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