



THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH

5:00 PM

Registration

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Networking Reception: (Harold's Bar)

Exclusive Opportunity to talk with representatives from DFAIT and the Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19TH

7:00 - 8:30 AM

Breakfast at Your Leisure (Coupons will be provided for Harold's Bistro)

8:30 AM

Welcome and Introductions (Minoru D)

- Opening comments
Michael Fine, Director General, International Trade Strategy and Portfolio Bureau, Foreign Affairs & International Trade Canada
- Update on Canada's Pacific Gateway
Virginia Leung, Director, Value Added Gateway Project, Policy Group, Transport Canada

8:45 AM

Using the HST as a Competitive Advantage

- Hon. Colin Hansen, BC Minister of Finance

10:00 AM

The View from Asia: Attracting Asian Business to Canada

- Shirley Ong, Consul and Trade Commissioner, Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong, Foreign Affairs & International Trade Canada

10:25 AM

Break

10:40 AM

Canada's Competitive Advantages

- Comparison of Canada's FTZ equivalent programs vs. US' FTZs
Virginia Leung, Director, Value Added Gateway Project, Policy Group, Transport Canada

11:05 AM

Exploring Canada's Tax and Duty Advantages:

- Duty Deferral Program
Scott McCormick, Senior Program Advisor, Duty Deferral Unit, Canada Border Services Agency
- Canada's GST Regime
- Export Distribution Centre Program
- Exporters of Processing Services Program
Jeff Frobél, Industry Sector Specialist, Border Issues Unit, Canada Revenue Agency

11:45 AM

The CentrePort Model: Bringing together programs from three levels of Government

- Marilyn Kapitany, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy, Planning And External Relations, Western Economic Diversification

12:15 PM

Discussion and Q&A's

12:30 PM

Lunch

1:30 PM

Marketing British Columbia

- Marcus-Ewert Johns, Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development

2:30 PM

Adjournment