



Weekly Window Vol.2

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<http://www.nbsg.org/>

Mission Statement:

"To promote small business in general and specifically to aid, enhance and motivate each other in our respective business enterprises. Our desire is to expand the knowledge and personal network base of each and every one of our members and to make them better at what they do."

A Private Health Plan for Entrepreneurs

Neil Hamilton, President of the North Shore Business Success Group, presented his Focused Chat to the group this week regarding a private health plan that is directed to the self-employed.

Provincially regulated, but privately administered, the Olympia Trust Private Health Services Plan offers a unique, inexpensive coverage against everyday medical expenses the self-employed are out of pocket for otherwise. After a one-time \$400 registration fee, the service plan offers total coverage for the individual, and total tax deductibility for the company, supported and approved by CCRA.

Effectively, here's how it works:

- The client goes to the doctor or otherwise recognized professional practitioner, and personally pays for services rendered.
- Client takes the receipt and returns to the company
- The company writes a cheque for the full amount, plus 10 % (a payment of 110%)
- Olympia Trust sends back to the individual client the amount paid (the original 100% paid to the practitioner; the remaining 10% is the commission retained by Olympia)
- The company claims the amount paid as a medical expense; since the client is reimbursed at 100%, no taxable benefit exists.

For the individual, the benefits are clear; all medical expenses are covered at 100%, as opposed to reimbursement from CCRA over and above the \$1844 limit. For the company, they receive a full tax benefit without burdening the individual or employee with a taxable benefit. Everyone wins.

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Verticals:

Accounting/Finance

Architect

Banking

Brokerage (Mortgage, securities)

Building Inspection

Business Services

Cleaning Services

Communications, Marketing (Advertising, Design, Sales)

Computer H/ware

Construction

Counseling

Database Mktg

Home Renovation

Insurance (Life, Asset)

Medical (Holistic, Therapeutic)

Non-profit

Office Mgmt.

Real Estate (Investment, Sales/buying)

Retail

Software

Special Event Mktg.

Taxi Service

Travel

“The first thing out of clients mouths, including my own, is ‘It’s too good to be true’, says Neil Hamilton. “..but it works, and it’s approved by CCRA”.

Like many plans, there are limitations; however, exceptions can be made with an appropriate letter stating the case.

Neil gave an example of special schooling for children with extremely unique health and disability conditions.

The plan came into being as part of the trend to reduce transfer payments to the provinces for health care. Conventional wisdom suggests that the government is more likely to pay less and less into health care as we go forward.

For a complete list of eligible items, visit www.olympiatruster.com, or contact Neil Hamilton at 604.925.4711, or compass8000@shaw.ca.

Guests:

Jim Fitzpatrick, Investment banker, 604.338.7600, jjohnfitzpatrick@hotmail.com

Christine Melling, BHK Management, Sports and Leisure programming, christinemelling@aol.com.

Robert Zalaudek, Technology Recruiter, Robert Half Technology, robert_zalaudek@rht.com.

Next Meetings:

Wednesday August 16, 2006. Duncan McNiven, iGoNet VOIP service

Duncan will provide us with a primer on Voice over Internet phone service, and how it saves you money

Wednesday August 23, 2006. Bobbi Van Reit Tall Poppy Records

Bobbi will talk to us about how her North Vancouver company plays in the music industry.

We are open for focused chat presentations by members beyond August 23; anyone wishing to present, please contact Neil Hamilton.

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Announcements:

The Executive is looking for volunteers to form a committee and assist in the planning and execution of social activities for the NSBSG.

Spearheaded by a Social Director, the committee assists the selected individual in the planning, organizing, tracking participation, and set-up and tear down/cleaning before and after the activity.

Each quarter, the group has social events marking certain calendar dates, such as Christmas, mid-summer, and mid-winter dates. Past events included the Fireworks Boat Cruise, Christmas Party, and Mid-Winter Social.

By forming a committee, it is hoped that the organizing and clean up of such events don't just fall on the shoulders of one person.

Interested parties should contact the Executive with copies to: compass8000@shaw.ca, lmacht@shaw.ca, and naccipiter@hotmail.com.

Please specify the position you are seeking. Should we have more than one person requesting the Directorship, a special election will be held. Final decisions on Committee members at-large will remain at the discretion of the Executive and Social Director.

Perfect Evening for the NSBSG Boat Cruise

The membership applauded **Pat Miller of Fairweather Cruises** in-absentia for organizing the NSBSG Fireworks Boat Cruise. A more perfect evening could not have been had.

The weather was perfect, remaining warm throughout the evening, seas calm, and a near perfect sunset.

Our cruise took us from Coal Harbour, west along the North and West Vancouver shoreline to view the "Lifestyles of the Rich and Nervous", back across the bay to Jericho, and then east to English Bay in time to view the fireworks.

Mexico was the final competitor to exhibit, followed by the Grand Finale. As luck would have it, Mexico was the winning show.

The entire fireworks performance was breathtaking, accompanied by music re-broadcast by 101CFMI-Vancouver.

The potluck was a nearly overwhelming success, in so far as the quality of the food was unsurpassed, and more than enough for everyone. Yet, there was hardly anything left at

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evenings' end.

Other than the predicted traffic mayhem, too many people trying to board Skytrain at Burrard Station, and the usual suspects of yahoos stirring trouble, it was an amazing, pleasurable evening with good fun and socializing.

Harvest Project Summer Splash and Auction

The Harvest Project is hosting an entertaining evening of music, laughter, and charity auction fundraiser, August 24, 2006, at the North Shore Holiday Inn, located at 700 Old Lillooet Road.

Author and Comedian Gordon Kirkland will emcee, and singer Linda Maze will “amaze” the audience with her talented voice.

Tickets are \$100 each, and are available from the Harvest Project at 604-983-9488.

Gracious Host: Bikini Fashion Show/Singles Boat Cruise

Alice Zhou of Gracious Host, and Posh Entertainment Inc. are hosting a boat cruise on three consecutive Saturday afternoons, August 5th, 19th, and 26th on board the M.V. Hornblower.

This singles event will feature a bikini fashion show, music and dancing, and mingling. Games, door prizes, food and beverages are all part of the fun in the sun theme.

Appropriate beach attire suggested.

See the details below in the networking section, or contact the editor, Norman Accipiter for more information.

Overnight Cruise: Vancouver to Seattle for NSBSG Members

Velia Tham of Gold Ticket travel has announced a repositioning cruise to Seattle on board the Holland America Line's *MS Veendam* and will take place on Sunday September 24, returning Monday September 25.

The return trip is via Amtrak to Vancouver

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The cost of the trip is \$190 CAD including tax per person; two person sharing twin accommodations, inside facing cabin, food, and bar. An outside cabin is available for a \$20 upgrade, and for \$40, a balcony cabin can be acquired.

Contact Velia at Gold Ticket Travel, at 604.724.8800.

Acknowledgements:

Len Macht, TGIF Singles, thanks **Arnie Gauthier** of **datacom Consultants** for retrieving his database.

Bob Rogers, Executive director of **Harvest Project**, thanks **Sandi Ma**, Graphic Communicator, for her continued work on behalf of the Harvest Project.

Networking Events:

Dunbar Business Circle Networking Group

Monday, August 14

Guest Speaker: Richard Willems - "Using Systems to Build Your Business"

Are you tired of working in your business and not on your business? Are you continuously fighting fires and dealing with crises? Do you feel like none of your employees can do as good a job as you do? Do you have systems in place to guarantee consistent performance? Systems?

Systems are the backbone of all successful business. Why does a company like McDonalds that makes an okay burger become one of the most profitable businesses out there? Systems. How can manufacturing facilities produce a consistent product time and time again? Systems.

Why can you walk into any Pizza Hut anywhere in the world and get a consistent product? Systems.

Learn how to implement systems that will help you take your business to the next level.

TIME: 6pm for supper & networking

COST: \$17, supper included

LOCATION: Cafe Organica

3500 W. 41st Ave.

Corner of Collingwood

Near Dunbar Street

Vancouver

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Entrepreneurial Success Group – on summer hiatus

ESN Networking Social Evening: Last Tuesday each month.
Empire Landmark Hotel, 1400 Robson St. 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Attend an evening of speed networking in a fun, social environment

Contact Deb Brown at 604.303.6580

info@esnorg.org

<http://www.esnorg.org>

Gracious Host Events & Posh Entertainment Inc.

Saturday August 5th, 19th & 26th

“Summer Fun In The Sun Bikini Cruise” Summer Beach Wear Cruise

Location: Hornblower Yacht Charters (foot of Denman, Coal Harbour)

When: Boarding begins at NOON. Boat leaves with or without you at 1pm SHARP!

Time: Cruise is from 1pm till 4pm.

Itinerary: 01:00 – 01:45pm Mingling, Appetizers served

01:45 – 02:30pm Singles/Ice Breaker games

02:30 – 03:00pm Fashion Show & Door Prize Draw

03:00 – 04:00pm Mingling, Dancing, Door prize

Tickets: \$65.00 for Ladies, \$85 for Gents

Includes: Hors d’oeuvres, Desserts, Bikini Fashion Show, Games, Dancing, Door Prizes, goodie bag ... A perfect afternoon of mingling!

Payment can be made via Pay Pal direct to Gracious Host’s website.

www.hornblower.ca

www.gracioushost.ca

eWomen's Network Monthly Networking

Wednesday, August 23, 7-10pm

Shadai Spa & Salon

1740 - 152nd Street

South Surrey, BC.

Phone (604) - 536 - 4996

Cost: \$45-55

Contact: 604-985-3739 for tickets

Maple Financial Conference

Thursday August 24, 8am-5:30pm

5 Superstar Speakers

Cost: \$125 Trade or \$150 cash

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Contact: Shelly at 604 294-5881 Networking Extravaganza Evening
(Thank you to Gracious Host for the submissions)

Harvest Project “Summer Splash” Charity Gala

Thursday August 24, 2006. Holiday Inn – North Shore

\$100/ticket

Entertainment, Live Auction, Door Prizes including Spa package and “Secret” Celebrity Lunch

Contact Bob Rogers at the Harvest Project, 604.983.9488

Sponsored by Harvest project, Sunshine Cabs, Vancity

Richmond Chamber

Thursday August 24, 2006

Networking Breakfast

Take 90 Minutes and bring 50 business cards and "Get Connected" at a networking breakfast.

Tickets: Members \$13.00 Incl. GST Non-Members \$18.00 Incl. GST

Registration 7:00 am

Breakfast & Networking 7:30 am

Location: Quilchena Golf & Country Club, 3551 Granville Avenue

Co-Sponsored by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce & Quilchena Golf & Country Club

Vancouver Business Network Forum

- VBNF Burnaby Chapter - 2nd Tuesday of the month.
- VBNF Vancouver Chapter - 4th Wednesday of month

http://vbnf.com/next_meeting.html

Vancouver Chapter Meeting

Date: August 23, 2006 (Wednesday)

Time: 6:15 - 8:30p.m.

Address: Park Place , 666 Burrard (across the Burrard Skytrain station)

Conference room at the lower floor,

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Resource Guide:

For a listing of members' web sites, please visit our website at www.nsbsg.com

Online Business Webinars:

http://main.placeware.com/demos/web_seminar_archive.cfm

Virtual Handshake – Online Business Book:

<http://thevirtualhandshake.com/free-book-download.htm>

<http://vancouver.craigslislist.org/>

<http://www.soho.ca/>

Vancouver Enterprise Forum – Vancouver's High Tech networking forum

<http://www.vef.org/web/EventDetails.asp?ProductID=82>

Chamber events:

http://www.hpmarketing.com/cgi-bin/events_calendar.cgi

Maps and Directions:

<http://www.mapquest.com/>

Networking Database:

LinkedIn Resources: SONI Canada

<http://www.atomiccreative.com/sonicanada.html>

<https://www.linkedin.com/home>

Job Boards:

<http://charityvillage.com/>,

<http://working.canada.com/vancouver/index.html>

<http://jb-ge.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/>, <http://regionalhelpwanted.com/home/167.htm?sn=167>

FutureWorks - Wage Subsidy Program (& Job Board)

<http://fwt.bc.ca/>

Sales Coaching/ Consulting:

Fiona Walsh

FM Walsh & Associates

604-339-5706

www.fmwalsh.com

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Social / Event Management:

<http://gracioushost.ca/> www.perfectday.ca, www.tgifbc.com,
<http://fairweathercruises.com/>

Urban Legends Reference Page:

<http://www.snopes.com/>

Yellow Pages Business Finder:

<http://www.yellowpages.ca/searchBusiness.do>