



Network Newsletter - Issue No. 7

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Turbo Charge Your Business Event Monday, June 14, 2010

Turbo Charge Your Business with international speaker, bestselling author, futurist, and customer service activist Roy Prevost.

Do you seek to transform your company into a magical workplace where employees are motivated to go the extra mile?

Learn customer service and business team strategies to outperform your competition. Roy Prevost, hard hitting and humorous, will deliver attitude adjusting strategies which invigorate internal performance. Build customer loyalty like never before and triumph over your competition.

11:30 AM - 2:00 pm EST

Valhalla Inn - Scandia Room

To Register Visit:

<https://www.nwoinnovation.ca/article/-455.asp>

Advisory Board

Help guide a newly created business in Northwestern Ontario. The Innovation Centre is developing Advisory Boards in order to provide guidance and support for our client companies' development and growth.

By becoming a voluntary Advisory Board Member, you will have the opportunity to share your experience and business expertise with growing client companies by participating in quarterly meetings.

Business advisors can be leaders in their own business or industry and must have a strong affinity with small business. They may be retired or semi-retired, or active in business and have the desire and available time to 'give something back' to the small business community.

For more information contact Graham Mailhot at

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Grand Opening of the Fort Frances Public Library Technology

The Fort Frances Public Library will be expanding its wings June 21st, 2010 when they host the grand opening of their new high-tech facility located at 601 Reid Ave. The festivities will last all week with a ribbon cutting ceremony and BBQ on Monday with a variety of activities occurring throughout the week. Judy Sander will be on hand Tuesday afternoon to help showcase the technologies of the new facility through a video conference with Rick Prior at our head office. Together they will discuss ideas and strategies focusing on how to grow your business.

We look forward to participating in the event and wish everyone involved with the new library all the best.

2nd Annual RBC Innovation Awards

On May 13th, 2010, the Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre hosted the 2nd Annual RBC Innovation Awards at the Travelodge Hotel Airline. Two companies along with a well-respected city employee were honoured for their innovative contributions to Northwestern Ontario. The three awards up for grabs were Innovation Hero of the Year, Innovative Project of the Year, and Innovative Company of the Year.

To read this article in its entirety please [click here](#).

Information Communication Technology (ICT) Study is Complete

We are pleased to announce the completion of the Northern Ontario ICT Study. The purpose of this project was to determine the current barriers and issues to achieving social and economic benefits of ICT and provide recommendations and a strategy for moving forward to maximizing the economic development benefits of ICT in Northern Ontario. Recommendations of the study include:

1. Enhance the support systems available to SMEs
2. Attracting knowledge workers to Northern Ontario

To view all the recommendations and full report please [click here](#)

The project was a collaborative effort between the Sault Ste Marie Innovation Centre and the Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre. This is the first time we had the chance to collaborate on a large scale project at a distance. We would like to thank all those involved with the project and especially those that helped fund the study; Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, Bell Aliant, and FedNor.

BizKid Graduate Wins Third Place In Enter The Den

We are very proud of Gerrit Wesselink for his third place finish at the Enter The Den competition. Gerrit has developed the idea to grow fruit and vegetables in a greenhouse to resell to supermarkets or directly to the consumer. The business will sustain winter growth periods to enable the production of crops during their off-season.

Recommended Reading:

Innovation: New Products Are Never Enough

Your real problem may lie not in your company's technical creativity but in the business model behind it.

In the quest to come up with the next great product, many businesses ignore a possibly even greater source of differentiation--the next great business model.

[Click here to for the remainder of the article.](#)

Source: FORBES.com December 2009, by Bill Lay