



Chamber and UNB Saint John MBA Program Announce New Partnership Program will see MBA students receive Honourary memberships in Chamber

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SAINT JOHN, NB - The Saint John Region Chamber of Commerce announced today a new initiative in collaboration with the UNB Saint John MBA program by which students enrolled in the MBA program will receive an Honourary Membership in the Chamber. This represents an investment of over \$11,000 per year for the Chamber.

This program recognizes the students as members and provides them access to all the benefits of the Chamber.

The Chamber was instrumental in the efforts to locate a UNB campus in Saint John in 1960s and continues to collaborate with UNB. For the last 2 years, The MBA Program has been a partner with the Chamber on the Distinguished Speaker Series program which provides opportunities for students to interact with business leaders. Students receive special recognition at the events and enjoy personalized networking opportunities they may not otherwise have access to.

UNB Saint John offers a 1 year intensive MBA program for full time students. In October of this year the program welcomed 93 full time students to its new location in uptown Saint John. The program also hosts a very strong part time program which allows individuals to complete their MBA in a little over two years. Students choose from streams in General Management, Entrepreneurship and Technology Management, International Business and Project Management. A new stream official launched this year in Business Development and Professional Sales. Students in the program represent 14 countries and come from a variety of backgrounds ranging from business and engineering, to medical professional and legal backgrounds.

“We are excited that our relationship with the Chamber continues to grow and strengthen. All of our full-time students are required to participate in a Business Consulting Project (BCP) with a local organization to fulfill the experiential learning component of our program. The job posting process will begin in the next few weeks. This partnership offers an excellent opportunity for our students and our community partners to interact, understanding what each has to offer the other. And of course, we want help to grow Saint John. Programs like this strengthen the connections our students have with our community says Dr. Shelley Rinehart, Professor, Director MBA Program at UNB Saint John.

Benefits provided to each student include:

- Profile pages on the Chamber website that allow each student to manage their own content with videos, testimonials and other information. This can be invaluable as a tool for students to share information about themselves with potential employers.
- Access to the Chamber benefits program.
- Transition path to a business membership in the Chamber upon graduation.
- Access to all affinity programs and discounts, such as gas discounts, among many others.
- Receipt of all Chamber invitations. NewsFlash', press releases, policy discussions, business lobbying positions and documents, member success stories and write-ups, opinion polls and participation in focus groups

“These students are tomorrow’s leaders. By working closely with UNB Saint John we are helping to provide valuable learnings and networking opportunities,” says David Duplisea, CEO of the Chamber “We

know that more we engage students in our community and help them learn about the opportunities that are in Saint John, the more likely they will stay, work and live here. We see this as a win-win for both the students looking for jobs and the business community looking to fill them.”, said David Duplisea, CEO of the Chamber

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The Saint John Region Chamber of Commerce is a nationally accredited business organization dedicated to fostering an economic climate that enhances growth, prosperity, and an improved quality of life in the community. With more than 600 member businesses, representing the interests of 37,000 people, The Chamber is a dynamic advocate and the principal voice for the business community of Greater Saint John. It offers a variety of programs, activities, services, and networking opportunities designed to enhance the business prospects of members and the overall business climate of the area.