

Government of Alberta News Release

For Immediate Release
October 21, 1999

"The appointment of the Information and Communications Technology committees marks the beginning of an exciting new initiative in which the government and industry will work closely together to strengthen our technological infrastructure, and build an economic sector that will help this province succeed in the new global economy."

Dr. Lorne Taylor
Minister, Innovation and Science

Technology leaders to work with government to strengthen information and communications technology sector

EDMONTON -- Individuals from some of Alberta's leading information and communications technology organizations are partnering with the government to help the province's technology sector grow to a \$30 billion a year industry by 2010.

Minister of Innovation and Science Lorne Taylor announced October 21 the appointment of a number of technology and business leaders to three committees that will oversee and advise the government on the implementation of strategies outlined in a provincial Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy.

Implementation of the strategy, presented to the government by the Alberta Science and Research Authority (ASRA) in October 1998, is one of the key responsibilities assigned to the department by Premier Ralph Klein when he created the department of Innovation and Science in May 1999.

The ICT strategy, which was developed in consultation with business, industry, universities and government departments, is aimed at growing Alberta's ICT sector to a \$30 billion a year industry by 2010. The ICT industries and businesses in the province currently generate about \$8 billion a year.

Another goal of the strategy is to increase the number of jobs in the sector by 35,000 by the province's centennial in 2005. The ICT sector in Alberta currently employs 40,000 Albertans.

MLA for Calgary Egmont Denis Herard was appointed earlier this year to lead the private-public sector ICT Advisory Committee. Two sub-committees of the Advisory Committee will focus on ICT infrastructure and ICT business growth respectively.

Herard will chair the ICT Advisory Committee and the ICT Infrastructure Sub-Committee, while Glenn Rainbird, the President and CEO of TRILabs and a member of the Alberta Science and Research Authority Board of Management, will chair the ICT Business Growth Sub-Committee.

ASRA Chairman Bob Church said he is excited to see the province moving ahead with what ASRA considers to be one of the most important economic initiatives for the province in the next century.

John Brick, the Chair of ASRA's Information and Communications Technology Committee, and a key driver behind the strategy, added: "Alberta has the assets to become a world-class centre of excellence for ICT. I am very pleased this government recognizes that we have to make a serious effort if we are going to compete and succeed in the global knowledge-based economy."

A list of committee and sub-committee members is attached, and brief biographies of the individuals

appointed to the committees, along with terms of reference for each of the committees, can be found on the web at www.gov.ab.ca/is.

A copy of the ICT Strategy, released in October 1998, is available on-line at www.gov.ab.ca/sra.

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For more information, contact:

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Background

ICT Advisory Committee Members

Denis Herard - Chair
MLA for Calgary Egmont

Dr. Roger S. Smith

- Vice Chair
Vice President (Research and External Affairs), University of Alberta

Dr. Len Bruton

Vice President (Research), University of Calgary

Dr. Elizabeth Cannon

Professor, Department of Geomatics Engineering, University of Calgary

Linda Hohol

Financial Executive

Nancy Knowlton

President and Chief Operating Officer, SMART Technologies

Dr. Roger Palmer

Deputy Minister, Alberta Innovation and Science

Glenn Rainbird

President and CEO, TRILabs

Dr. John C. Samson

Chair, Department of Physics, University of Alberta

Dr. Jonathan Schaeffer

Professor, Computing Science, University of Alberta

Robb Stoddard

Chief Information Officer (ex-officio and non-voting)

ICT Business Growth Sub-Committee Members

Glenn Rainbird - Chair
President and CEO, TRILabs

Dr. R.J. (Bob) Fessenden

Deputy Minister of Alberta Economic Development
Denis Herard

MLA for Calgary Egmont
Linda Hohol

Financial Executive
Dr. Thomas P. Keenan

, I.S.P.
Dean, Faculty of Continuing Education, University of Calgary
David N. Kitchen

Retired Senior Vice-President, Royal Bank of Canada
Nancy Knowlton

President and Chief Operating Officer, SMART Technologies
Rosemary A. McCarney

Vice President, Workforce Strategy and Employee Communications
Nortel Networks
John R. McDougall

, P.Eng, F.C.A.E.
Managing Director and CEO, Alberta Research Council (ARC)
Dr. Roger Palmer

Deputy Minister, Alberta Innovation and Science
Bruce A. Saville

Founder and Chairman Emeritus, Saville Systems PLC
Dr. Brian W. Unger

Professor of Computing Science, University of Calgary

ICT Infrastructure Sub-Committee Members

Denis Herard - Chair
MLA for Calgary Egmont

John Ballheim

President, DeVry Institute of Technology, Calgary
Earl T. Hickok, P.Eng.

President, Tecskor Software Inc.
Don Kjosness

, PhD, P.Eng.
Principal, SIGMA Technology Corporation_
Drew McNaughton

Vice President, Network Services, Nortel Networks.
Karl Meema

xwave solutions
Dr. Roger Palmer

Deputy Minister, Alberta Innovation and Science
Michael L. Pfeiffer

President & Chief Executive Officer, QC Data International
Art Price

President and Chief Executive Officer, Axia
Fred A. Stewart, Q.C.

President, Fred Stewart & Associates, Inc.
R. Stewart Thompson

President, Khyber Pass Entertainment
Robb Stoddard

Chief Information Officer (ex-officio and non-voting)
Henry C. Yip

, P. ENG.
Vice President, Network Operations, BCT.TELUS

Brief biographies of these individuals are available online at www.gov.ab.ca/is.

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