

Asian Business Opportunities Committee (ABOC) 2012

CHAIR:	Joaquim Balles	(through to June 30th 2012)
HON. CO- CHAIR:	Lily Wang	
DIRECTOR LIAISON:	NR	
STAFF LIAISON:	Gerry Macartney/Cheryl Chambers	

Objectives:

1. To build and grow the ABOC committee into a sustainable part of the Chamber's future for the betterment of its members, the wider business community in London and its economic prosperity.
2. To provide information/education to both London's Business Community and those seeking commercial business opportunities in Asia in keeping with Objectives #1 and #5 of our Strategic Plan.
3. To maintain a liaison between public and private officials in Asia and their counterparts in Canada in order to aid Objective #2 (above) and to facilitate further commercial opportunities, inbound and out.
4. Introduce networking opportunities for the Asian Business Opportunities Committee (ABOC) members and their guests with other Chamber members and groups both here and in Asia.

Strategic Priorities:

1. Attract and retain a membership that reflects London's diversified Asian business community.
2. Capitalize on business connections between ABOC members and associates located in Asian countries to better improve our own trade prospects and attract Foreign Direct Investment to London.
3. Establish, maintain, and grow a repository of information: (i) about Asian business opportunities for access by our members in both electronic and hard copy formats; and (ii) about London business opportunities for access by members from Asian Chambers that have entered into a cooperation agreement with the London Chamber.
4. Focus on those Chambers that we have signed a cooperation agreement or MOU with us to date, i.e. Sichuan Chamber of Commerce, Chongqing Private-Owned Business Association etc.

Program Plan:

- A. Establish communications link with: (i) partner Chambers in China and other Asian countries that have entered into a cooperation agreement with us; and (ii) government entities responsible for international trade in China, such as but not limited to the CCPIT (China Council for Promotion of International Trade)
- B. Organize seminar(s) for members and guests re: How to do Business With/In China and other Asian countries as our opportunities and relationships expand
- C. Through ABOC assist with facilitation of international trade with China and other Asian countries that can lead to greater investments
- D. Look for opportunities to match companies here in London (area) with counterparts in China/Asia
- E. Engage the Canadian Chamber of Commerce to build on what we have established and broaden our scope and reach with their counterparts in China/Asia
- F. ABOC will act as a point of contact for China/Asia business opportunities for London but will defer political and contractual obligations to the appropriate local stakeholders such as the LEDC and CSTAR where/when appropriate