

The business of Culture

by Gloria Welton

Upcoming Event



Forum 2009

On May 8, you will want to attend **Cultural Forum 2009: the Business of Culture**. The **PEI Cultural Human Resources Sector Council (CHRSC)** is presenting this second-annual forum. This event offers the chance to discuss the best practices and challenges of working in the cultural community.

PEI has a vibrant cultural community. People who work in this sector can only benefit from the insight, inspiration, and support offered through a forum setting.

The majority of people who work in the cultural sector are self employed or operate a small business of between one and 20 people. As a result, many business issues surface.

The Sector Council has taken steps to address human resource issues such as recruitment, retention, and skills development. Also, they have been looking into linking more closely with the tourism sector.

The forum will provide an opportunity to update and discuss the work that is taking place in these areas:

Hot Topics

• Training

A **Training Strategy for PEI's Cultural Sector** will be presented by consultants **Kelly Hill** and **Megan Williams**. "We have been working for about five months on this project and now the training strategy has taken shape," says **Julia Pike**, Executive Director, CHRSC. "At the forum a panel will discuss the training strategy."

• Tourism

The Relationship Between Culture and Tourism will be discussed by The Tourism Research Centre. "The research centre was hired to help us gain an understanding of the needs of the tourism and cultural sector," says Julia. "They will present ways that the two sectors can better work together toward their common goals."

• Mentorship

Alix MacLean, Research Assistant with CHRSC, will discuss a new pilot **Mentorship Program** that is under development by CHRSC. "This program is for youth between the ages of 15 and 27 seeking employment in the cultural sector," says Alix. "Youth will be matched up with professionals to work together on projects, gain experience, and learn about the various disciplines within the sector. A panel discussion will follow the presentation."

• Grant Writing

The **Canada Council for the Arts** will have a workshop on **Grant Writing Information**. "This was a specific request from last year's forum," says Julia. "Proposal and grant writing is a reality for many people in this sector and it's important to have a better understanding of what is involved in this process."



For more information, call the **PEI Cultural Human Resources Sector Council** at 367-4460. Visit the website at www.peiculture.ca

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