

# COALITION OF BC BUSINESSES

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## News Release

For immediate release

October 6, 2004

## Coalition of BC Businesses Announces New Chair Appointment

**Vancouver**—The Coalition of BC Businesses today announced the appointment of Kevin Evans as the new Chair of the Coalition of BC Businesses.

Mr. Evans, a member of the Coalition since 1998, replaces Philip Hochstein who is the Executive Vice-President of the Independent Contractors & Businesses Association. Mr. Evans is Vice-President, Western Canada for the Retail Council of Canada. Approximately 90 percent of Retail Council members are small business retailers.

"I would like to thank Philip Hochstein for the passion and commitment he has invested as past Chair of the Coalition," said Evans. "Looking ahead, the Coalition's priority is to focus public attention on the benefits of new labour and employment policies.

"As the provincial economy shows signs of recovery, we must ensure BC does not slide backwards, but moves forward on balanced employment and labour laws," Evans said.

Mr. Evans is joined by existing members of the Coalition of BC Businesses' Strategy Group:

- James Chase, Executive VP, BC & Yukon Hotels' Association
- Philip Hochstein, Executive VP, Independent Contractors & Businesses Association
- Geoffrey Howes, Chair, BC Restaurant & Foodservices Association
- Glen Ringdal, President & CEO, BCADA—New Car Dealers of BC
- Mark von Schellwitz, VP-Western Canada, Canadian Restaurant & Foodservices Association
- Mark Startup, President & CEO, Retail Merchants' Association of BC
- John Winter, President, BC Chamber of Commerce

*The Coalition of BC Businesses speaks for organizations representing over 50,000 small and medium-sized businesses active in all sectors of BC's economy. The Coalition's focus is the development of labour policies that will foster a positive relationship between employers and employees and a positive climate for new economic growth, opportunities and jobs.*

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Further information:

Victor Vrsnik

NATIONAL Public Relations

604-691-7393 or 604-764-2877

## Kevin Evans

- In August of 1998, after 23 years in journalism, Kevin Evans accepted a position as B.C. Vice-President of the Retail Council of Canada – a national non-profit trade association representing 9000 small, medium, and large-sized retailers. He was promoted to VP, Western Canada in 2001.
- In his capacity with Retail Council of Canada, he is now Chair of the Coalition of BC Businesses, a member of the Minister's Council on Employment for Persons with Disabilities, and a member of the Board of the Canada LabourWatch Association.
- Kevin's community involvement includes sitting on the Board of Governors of the Coast Mental Health Foundation, Vice-Chair of the Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue Council, and membership in the North Vancouver Rotary Club, Vancouver Board of Trade, North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.
- Through his company Evans Endeavours Inc., Kevin is often been called upon as a facilitator, speaker and MC at conferences and community events.
- From 1996 to 1998, he was Chief Journalist, TV News and Current Affairs at CBC British Columbia, where his primary focus was provincial government affairs.
- From 1989 to 1996, he was co-anchor of the CBC Evening News – a regional supper-hour news program broadcast from Vancouver. In this role Kevin frequently moderated public forums, panels and debates - both on the air and in the community.
- His broadcasting career began in his hometown of Winnipeg in 1975, with stops in Toronto and Halifax - where he was Atlantic Canada correspondent for CBC National TV -News – before settling in Vancouver.