

COALITION OF BC BUSINESSES

For immediate release

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Coalition of BC Businesses Announces New Chair and Vice-Chair Appointments

Vancouver—The Coalition of BC Businesses today announced the appointment of Philip Hochstein as the new Chair and Kevin Evans as the new Vice-Chair of the Coalition of BC Businesses.

Mr. Hochstein, a member of the Coalition since its formation in 1993, replaces Suromitra Sanatani who is now with Partnerships BC. Mr. Hochstein is the Executive Vice-President of the Independent Contractors & Businesses Association and has been a strong voice for small and medium-sized businesses on fair and balanced labour policy and legislation.

Mr. Hochstein is also on the transition advisory committee for the Industry Training and Apprenticeship Commission and has previously served on the provincial red tape taskforce and the homeowner protection office advisory board.

Kevin Evans is Vice-President, Western Canada for the Retail Council of Canada. Mr. Evans sits on the Steering Committee of the BC Business Summit and has also served on the Employers Forum on the WCB and the Employers Advisory Group to the BC Human Rights Commission.

Joining Mr. Hochstein and Mr. Evans on the Coalition of BC Businesses' 2003 Strategy Group are:

James Chase, Executive Vice President
BC & Yukon Hotels' Association

Geoffrey Howes, Chair
BC Restaurant & Foodservices Association

Mark Startup, President & CEO
Retail Merchants' Association of BC

Mark von Schellwitz, Government Affairs Manager - Western Canada
Canadian Restaurant & Foodservices Association

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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Full Bios and Photos available on request

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