

ASTTBC is In the NEWS: Kelowna Daily Courier, August 21, 2013

MLA Norm Letnick and ASTTBC's John Leech Host Lunch to Talk Technology Education & Careers

Technology education and careers was the focus of a conversation between ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, MLA [Norm Letnick](#) (Kelowna -Lake Country), Okanagan College Vice President Andrew Hay, and education and industry leaders in Kelowna. ASTTBC invited over 30 stakeholders and a handful of ASTTBC members to review BC's demand for technologists, technicians and technical specialists.

In attendance were leaders from education, industry and the community including: Hugh Gloster, School District Superintendent; Kelowna Chamber of Commerce CEO, Caroline Grover; Urban Systems CEO, Martin Bell; Senior Associate for Stantec, Brian Anderson; Unicast President, Gerry L'Esperance; and, Interior Health Director, Wrae Hill.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to former Dean at Okanagan College and now Chair, Centre for Architecture, Athabasca University; Douglas MacLeod, PhD in recognition of his leadership in promoting technology education and careers. MORE on this award coming soon.

MLA Norm Letnick set the stage by talking about the number of techs currently in BC and the growing need for additional technical skills as new major projects such as LNG are developed. He congratulated ASTTBC on the Association's contribution to technical careers. Andrew Hay talked about Okanagan College's past and current enrolments and the new [Sustainable Construction Technology Management Program](#) to be launched in 2014. John provided all attendees with a copy of ASTTBC's 'A Strategic Direction for Technology Education and Skills in British Columbia', January 2013 and spoke to ASTTBC's efforts over the past 6 years to promote technology education and careers and plans for the near future. John highlighted ASTTBC's work to promote technology education with First Nations and women, noting that 10% of ASTTBC's technologists and technicians are female, similar to APEGBC and generally other associations in Canada.

MORE on this meeting coming your way in the next month.....

The Luncheon Meeting was featured in an [ARTICLE](#) in the Kelowna Daily Courier on August 21st.