

Andrew Saxton, MP Talks Internationally Trained Technology Professionals with ASTTBC's John Leech



MP for North Vancouver, Andrew Saxton (left) met recently with ASTTBC CEO John Leech. Following their conversation John presented Andrew with an ASTTBC eagle feather carved by Salish artist Len McKay.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance, [Andrew Saxton](#), Member of Parliament representing North Vancouver met with ASTTBC CEO John Leech to review latest developments at ASTTBC, notably ASTTBC's work to assist and support Internationally Trained Technology Professionals (ITTP). ASTTBC has received funding in the past three years to development programs and various resources that will further enhance and refine ASTTBC tools to assess international credentials, inform ITTPs as to the world of work in BC / Canada and support ITTPs as they get settled in BC. The funding is part of the federal contribution to the provincial government in support of the Labour Market Agreement.

“Andrew was quite interested in learning of the various new resources including a number of dedicated web sites developed to house information for ITTPs,” said ASTTBC's John Leech. “I focused much of our time reviewing a number of new programs and services developed for ITTPs and that assist those in Canada get registered as quickly as possible so they can enter the job market with a credential that is accepted by BC employers.”

ASTTBC's CEO also spoke of the role of technologists, technicians and technical specialists and the importance of promoting technology education and careers. Leech mentioned ASTTBC's role in

advancing technology careers with First Nations and the need to grow participation of women from the current 10% membership. Andrew encouraged John to follow up with him on this and the other subjects covered during their conversation.

A regular at ASTTBC functions such as the Technology Awards and Recognition Celebration, Andrew knows of ASTTBC and the Association's work as a professional regulatory body. "It was a pleasure sitting down with Andrew again; and to know we have someone who is well informed on ASTTBC and the important role of technology professionals in BC's and Canada's economy," concluded Leech.