

## Minister Coell Meets TECC for Discussions about Technology Education February 2009



The Technology Education and Careers Council (TECC) Chair and members met with Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, Murray Coell, to update the Minister on TECC's first 6 months of operations. The Minister attended the launch of TECC held at Science World in June 2008. During the discussion with the Minister, TECC board members outlined the key goals for TECC during its self-imposed three year mandate. TECC stressed the need for technology education funding to be tied to market needs and the real need to revitalize technology programs in Prince George and northern BC. TECC Chair Sandy Innes stated, "the Minister was very open to receiving an update from TECC. Minister Coell indicated general support for the goals set by TECC and promised to work with TECC to address issues relating to technology education and careers. "I am confident TECC has established a constructive working relationship with the Minister and that, together, we will maintain a vibrant and sustainable technology education system in BC," continued Innes. Minister Coell indicated an interest in exploring a cooperative approach to enhancing awareness of technology education and careers. Pictured are (seated at right) Minister Murray Coell and TECC Chair, Sandy Innes (Vice President TELUS) and (standing left to right) Andrew Hay (Vice President, Okanagan College); Don Wright (President, BCIT); MJ Whitemarsh (CEO, Canadian Home Builders Association (BC)); and John Leech (Executive Director, Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC).