

June, 2011

TECC and ASTTBC Host 40 MLAs to Lunch



MLAs join the Technology Education and Careers Council and ASTTBC for lunch in May. The group hears about technology education and careers and of the contribution of ASTTBC-registered technology professionals.

40 Members of the BC Legislative Assembly (MLA) joined the Technology Education and Careers Council <http://www.tecc.ca/> and ASTTBC for lunch in May to talk about technology education and careers and the key role of ASTTBC technology professionals throughout BC. MJ Whitemarsh, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders Association (BC) provided an overview of TECC and the work of this leadership group during its first three years. "TECC has moved the goalposts in its first three years as we work together to build a much stronger profile for technology education in BC," said MJ. "As one of the industry leaders at TECC I can say we at TECC appreciate the interest of all MLAs. We encourage greater support for tech education throughout BC, especially in the northern part of our province." ASTTBC's Executive Director, John Leech, provided input from ASTTBC, noting the work of ASTTBC members and their critical role in economic development and the environment. Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Hon Ida Chong (Oak Bay-Gordon Head) <http://www.leg.bc.ca/mla/39thParl/chongI.htm> responded for the Liberal Caucus and Bruce Ralston (Surrey-Whalley) <http://www.leg.bc.ca/mla/39thParl/ralstonB.htm> offered his thoughts for the NDP Caucus. Both Ida and Bruce congratulated TECC and ASTTBC on their work to enhance technology education and careers.

TECC was created by ASTTBC in 2008 to provide strategic leadership and advocacy in advancing technology careers and education in BC. TECC is a catalyst for action and an industry voice into governments and educational systems on policy issues. The Council is composed of senior business and education leaders. "It was a great day with very positive feedback from the MLAs who attended the lunch," said ASTTBC's John Leech. "We see much growth in understanding of the roles of BC's technology professionals and of ASTTBC's role as a professional regulatory body. It is great to have 'ASTTBC' trip off the tongues of MLAs today whereas a few years ago they asked 'ASTTBC who?'. This is the second year for an all party meeting, with the first year attracting 30 MLAs.