

## President's Report - March



Following up on our successful month of February, with three events ably described elsewhere in this note, we have two outstanding sessions set for March. The first, the National Breakfast event of March 5<sup>th</sup>, will be long over by the time that you read this. You will, however, still have time to register for the Chapter breakfast on March 13<sup>th</sup> when we will be joined by **Glen Ringdal** of the New Car Dealers' Association. There is more to come in April, May and June. The details are below.

This 'season', we have two social events planned:

First - Responding to interest from many members, we are planning a day dedicated to golf. In a departure from the past, this golf tourney is not associated with the AGM, which will allow all of us to focus on our short game, driving, staying within bounds or whatever your golf goal may be. Several of our members have banded together to organize the day – with the Vancouver charity, Kidsafe, as the beneficiary for the day. Why not take this opportunity to invite one or more of your financial colleagues to a great day of golf, and also support a worthy cause?

Second – Recalling a successful AGM held at sea some years ago, we are once again planning this year's annual meeting to be on board a harbour cruise.

Both should be a great opportunity to visit with fellow members and to broaden your network within the vibrant business community here in the Lower Mainland.

While you're contemplating your calendar for the coming months, consider too the significant benefit of having the FEI Annual Conference close by this year. It's in Jasper this June. You could drive, or you could take advantage of the special discounts with Vancouver's own Rocky Mountaineer that we have arranged for those attending the conference. The conference features outstanding seminars and speakers and excellent social and special interest events. It is usually attended by about 500 people. Next year, it's in the East, returning to our region in 2010 – Victoria, so this is a great chance to attend. Details are on the FEI website: [www.feicanada.org](http://www.feicanada.org).

FEI Canada has two active national committees of members: one concerned with corporate reporting; the other concerned with other issues and policy matters. More information can be found on each of these committees on the FEI Canada website. Each committee is open to new membership. Should you have an interest in becoming involved, please contact FEI Canada in Toronto or give me a call and I will be pleased to arrange an introduction.

We are extremely fortunate to have a motivated and active Board in this Chapter. We owe all of them our gratitude. In the coming weeks, **Danley Yip, Brad Cruickshank** and I will be formulating the slate for next year's Board to be recommended to the AGM. Please give me a call if you wish to enjoy a deeper involvement in your FEI Chapter.

## Membership Report

Welcome to new members joining in February:

**Rob Malli**, Vice President, Finance, VanCity Savings Credit Union

**Michelle Miller**, Corporate Controller, Taiga Building Products Ltd.

Members please watch for upcoming events and use the opportunity to invite a potential member as your guest.

This year the chapter will be having our annual golf tournament in May. The golf committee and the chapter board are making special arrangements to invite potential members. We have contacted representatives of the professional accounting societies – CA, CMA, CGA for their help in promoting the event. This will be a great opportunity to promote FEI membership and enjoy a golf game and dinner. Watch for the notices of the golf tournament and use the opportunity to bring in a new member. Thanks for your help!



**Jeff Champion**

## February Dinner Meeting



*President Peter Ballachey  
thanks our speaker*

On Thursday February 21, the Vancouver chapter hosted a dinner event at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel. Ms. **Pat Jacobsen**, the current CEO of Translink, presented her thoughts on the transportation challenges facing Metro Vancouver now and in the foreseeable future.

The presentation was particularly insightful, as Ms. Jacobsen has recently tendered her resignation after seven years at the helm and is now helping with the transition to her successor. Topics such as the Canada Line, the Golden Ears Bridge, the Port of Vancouver, and HOV and bicycle lanes were bandied about in a spirited discussion following the formal presentation. It is apparent that among the major challenges facing our region in the next 20 years, transportation and in particular, public transit, ranks near the top of the list.

Thank you again to our sponsors; and to Ms. Jacobsen for her insights, and best wishes in her future endeavours!



**Doug Morison**

## Translink Trip Planning Tools

If Pat Jacobson inspired you to use transit more often, you may be interested in following features.

### Google trip planning

Use the “Get directions” of Google Maps to plot a route from your departure to your arrival location. Then click on “Take Public Transit”. It will show your route and how long it will take. Use “Options” to select other dates and times.

It’s much faster than using the Translink website – and you can toggle back to “Drive There” if transit doesn’t work well for this trip.

### Cell phone – Next Bus Service

When you get to a bus stop, you can find out when the next bus is coming by entering code 33333 in your cell phone and then the code number that’s on the bus stop sign. Seconds later, a return text message tells you when the next six buses are scheduled to arrive at that stop. If a stop serves more than one route but you only want to know about one particular route, you can enter a space after the bus stop code, then the route number. The return message gives the next six scheduled arrivals for that particular route. Buses will soon have GPS so the system can give the actual time instead of the scheduled time.



**Hugh Lindsay**

## FEI Canada—New Website Launched

In February, FEI Canada launched their new Website which, if you have not yet checked out, please go to: <http://www.feicanada.org/>.

Upgrades and changes include:

**Centralized Calendar of Events** – Find all events across Canada in one place – National AND Chapter Events

**E-commerce expanded** – Now you can register online for events and conference as well as renewing your membership.

More powerful **Membership Directory** – More ways to find your fellow members – by city, by industry, by province, by chapter, by revenue and more

**Simplified menus** – Items are now grouped in simplified associative menus

“**Latest News**” section on the homepage - On a daily brings members the top news stories from across Canada and around the world

FEI Canada **highlights section** – Brings to the fore, items and programs of timely interest to members

**Mark Your Calendars... (and register!!)**

Dust off your golf clubs, the **FEI Annual Golf Tournament** will be held on **Wednesday, May 14, 2008** at **The University Golf Club**.

The Tournament this year is being for the benefit of **The KidSafe Project Society**, a registered BC charity. All funds raised by the Tournament after expenses will be donated to The KidSafe Program. The KidSafe mission is to help develop safe havens for at-risk inner-city elementary school students when schools are traditionally closed. The Program keeps schools open during winter, spring and summer breaks, providing a nurturing safe haven for nearly 400 inner-city elementary students. For more information, please visit their website at [www.kidsafe.ca](http://www.kidsafe.ca).

### **Golf Tournament**

**This year the Golf Tournament is open to FEI members and their guests as well as Sponsors and their guests.** The format will be a scramble as in previous years. The number of golfers is limited, so register early.

- Date:** Wednesday, May 14, 2008
- Where:** University Golf Club  
5185 University Boulevard  
Vancouver, BC, V6T 1X5
- Tee Times:** 12:00 noon to 2:30 pm
- Cost:** Members – Golf and Dinner - \$100 (dinner is free for FEI members)  
Sponsors and Guests – Golf and Dinner - \$150 each  
Sponsors and Guests – Dinner only - \$50 each

**Register by March 15, 2008 and have your name entered into an early bird draw for a special prize.**

## 2008 Events Listing

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event Type</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Location</i>
March 13th, 2008	Breakfast Event <b>Registration—7:30 AM</b>	<b>Glen Ringdal, President</b> New Car Dealers Association	Four Seasons Hotel
April 17th, 2008	Breakfast Event <b>Registration—7:30 AM</b>	<b>Pete Marchell</b> Alexander, Morfood and Woo D&O, Succession Planning	Four Seasons Hotel
April 24th, 2008	National Breakfast Event <b>Registration—7:30 AM</b>	<b>PWC Presenting</b> The Greening of Corporate Finance - Developing Long Term Corporate Sustainability	Fairmont Waterfront Hotel Malaspina Meeting Room
May 14th, 2008	Tee Times: <b>12:00 noon to 2:30 pm</b>	Annual Golf Tournament	UBC Golf Club
May 29th, 2008	Dinner Event <b>Reception—6:00 PM</b>	<b>Business in Surrey Today</b> Surrey Board of Trade	Sheraton Guildford
June 2008	Annual General Meeting	Harbour Cruise!	TBA
June 9th—11th 2008	FEI Annual Conference	National Conference	Jasper, Alberta

### Event Attendance Fees

Regular chapter members pay no fees for attending monthly meetings. There is no charge for first time guests of members. For **FEISTERS** and **Members in Transition**, the following fees apply:

Option One: Annual Fee

Option Two: Pay as you go

Attend all regular meetings:

\$100.00 per year

- Dinner Meetings \$40.00
- Lunch Meetings \$30.00
- Breakfast Meetings \$20.00

Please note that attendance fees for the Wine Tasting, Golf Tournament, and AGM events are set separately!

**FEI Vancouver Salutes our Sponsors !**

**Chapter Sponsors**



**Chapter Supporters**

*Aon Reed Stenhouse*



Should you be interested in sponsorship or have a recommendation for us to follow up on, please contact Alan Wong by e-mail at: [alanwong@telus.net](mailto:alanwong@telus.net) or by telephone: (778) 772-6511

## 2007/2008 Chapter Board of Directors

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