

CPRN: Networking in British Columbia

CPRN's network of friends extends coast to coast. Judith Maxwell and I were in Vancouver in early October to meet with CPRN's stakeholders there. The trip was an excellent opportunity to share CPRN's latest research and get caught up on developments in British Columbia.



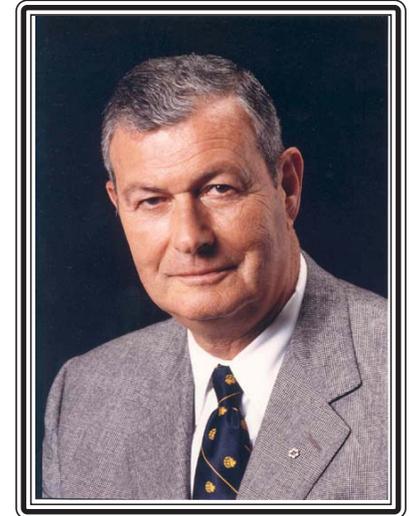
A few of the guests at the dinner hosted by Peter Bentley: (left to right): George Hungerford, Partner, Fasken Martineau, Jane Hungerford, Janet Austin, CEO, YWCA of Vancouver, Penny Ballem, Deputy Minister, Health Planning and Service, Government of BC, Eva Kwok, Chair & CEO, Amara International Investment Corp., Judith Maxwell, President of CPRN, and Kyle Mitchell, Partner, Ray & Berndtson/Tanton Mitchell.

at a Vancouver Board of Trade luncheon. Judith's speech on early childhood development, "*Children are Everybody's Business*", resonated with the 140 people in attendance. Judith emphasized how important it is for Canada to give its young people the best start in life, and the crucial role that family, community, governments and the private sector have to play. The lunch was sponsored by our friends at Ray & Berndtson/Tanton Mitchell and Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP).

On the final day of the trip, Janet Austin, CEO of the YWCA of Vancouver, hosted a forum on the issue of 'vulnerable workers'. Over 25 representatives from career placement centres, non-profit groups and HRDC came to share their experience and knowledge. Judith's presentation drew on her paper "*Smart Social Policy: Making Work Pay*" and recent research by Ron Saunders, Director of CPRN's Work Network.

It was clear by the end of the trip that Judith Maxwell and CPRN are definitely a key resource in British Columbia for those working to help make Canada a more just, prosperous and caring society. To our friends out west, we say "thank you".

– Pamela Miles, Vice-President, Development, CPRN



The host of the Vancouver dinner: Peter Bentley, Chair of Canfor Corporation.

Judith started her trip in Victoria, where she had an opportunity to meet with several senior officials.

In Vancouver, Peter Bentley, the Chair of Canfor Corporation, hosted a private dinner at the Vancouver Club for 16 of CPRN's old and new friends. Similar to events hosted in other cities, the dinner discussion focused on CPRN's report: "*Citizens' Dialogue on Canada's Future: A 21st Century Social Contract*".

On October 7th, Judith was the keynote speaker



Janet Austin, CEO, YWCA of Vancouver, with Judith Maxwell following the forum on vulnerable workers.

