



# Commerce Connection

*Business Is Good*

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November 2019



### **Vermont Chamber Goes on the Road**

Every fall the Vermont Chamber travels around the state to provide legislative updates at local chambers of commerce. Usually taking the form of a coffee or breakfast brief, the legislative updates give members of local chambers a summary of the previous legislative session, as well as a forecast of hot button issues expected to arise in the upcoming session.

This year the Vermont Chamber will visit fourteen chambers, delivering legislative updates to each. The updates are generally attended by a mix of local chamber members and legislators. For more information, please contact [Charles Martin](#), Vermont Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Director.

Included below are visits that will occur in November and December.

Host	Date
Franklin County Regional Chamber of Commerce	November 12
Stowe Area Chamber of Commerce	November 20
Deerfield Valley Chamber of Commerce	November 20
Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce	November 21
Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce	November 21
Brattleboro Area Chamber of Commerce	November 22
Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce	December 4
Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce	December 6
Addison County Chamber of Commerce	December 10

## Tourism Day

Save the date of Wednesday, January 15, 2020 for the 2nd Annual [Tourism Day](#) at the State House. Tourism is the state's second most lucrative industry

after manufacturing, but some lawmakers worry the state spends only [\\$3 million in marketing tourism](#). Join us in making a difference. This is an excellent event to attend if you are part of a local chamber or care about tourism funding in Vermont.

## SAVE THE DATE



**TOURISM DAY** at the State House  
Wednesday, January 15, 2020



## You're Invited to Celebrate!

Join us on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 for a business celebration honoring the prestigious Citizen of the Year Award, as well as the recipients of the Above and Beyond Awards and the Celebration of Business. There will be dinner, drinks, dancing and a wine pull for charity!

- **Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2019
- **Time:** 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- **Location:** Hilton Burlington Hotel
- **Tickets:** \$85 per person; \$680 for a table of 8

Get Your Tickets Today!

## Take a Quick Survey on Taxes

The Vermont Tax Structure Commission is evaluating how the state raises revenue. They are not charged with looking at how the state spends money, but they are very focused on the tax system and how demographic,



social, economic and environmental changes will impact its future. The Commission is interested in hearing your ideas on this topic and invite you to take a [six-question online survey](#).



### Reminder: Minimum and Tipped Wages to Increase

The Vermont Department of Labor recently announced an anticipated increase to the State's minimum wage.

For more information about the Vermont's minimum wage, please contact [Charles Martin](#). Additional information, including specific employer requirements, can be found at [www.labor.vermont.gov](http://www.labor.vermont.gov).

### Regional Workforce Development Summits



The Regional Development Corporations (RDCs) of Vermont, in partnership with Vermont Department of Labor (VDOL) and the Vermont State Workforce Development Board (SWDB), have announced the dates for 12 regional workforce development summits, which they will host this fall to support state efforts to increase the size and skill of Vermont's workforce.

Learn more and Register [here](#).

### Ten Second Survey

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce government affairs team is interested in learning more about your major legislative concerns as we head into the 2020 legislative session. Please take a moment to respond to this brief survey.

Please select the issue area of greatest importance to you.

Housing

Select

Economic Development

Select

Healthcare

Select

Taxes

Select

Public Infrastructure Improvements

Select

Childcare

Select

Permit Process

Select

## Cloud Connect Summit



The Cloud Connect Summit is the  
Must-Attend IT Event of the Year



WHAT: Cloud Connect Summit  
WHEN: Wednesday, November 13, 2019  
WHERE: University of Vermont, Davis Center 401 (Silver Maple Room),  
Burlington, Vermont  
TIME: Registration at 1:30 p.m.; event 2 to 5 p.m.;  
cocktail reception 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Use promo code to waive \$150 registration fee: Burlington REGISTER HERE >>

## Welcome New Chamber Members

These new members are now listed on the [Vermont Chamber Directory](#) online, which gets 55,000 unique views a year.

This month we welcome:

[SeaComm Federal Credit Union](#)

[Newgrange IT Consulting](#)



## Member Spotlight

Sonnax designs, develops and manufactures the highest quality aftermarket automotive products. They are the world's largest full-line supplier of torque converter parts, and offer transmission and specialty driveline components through a global network of parts distributors.

To learn more about how you can be our featured member of the month, contact [Chris Carrigan](#). It's just one of the numerous benefits of being a member of the [Vermont Chamber of Commerce](#).

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## #LetsGrowVT

[Mountain biking brings new boost to Vermont tourism economy](#)

[USA Today: Two Vermont craft distilleries are among the best in the nation](#)

[In red hot labor market, Royalton company goes the extra mile to find workers](#)

[Vermont Electric Cooperative celebrates new battery storage device](#)

['There's a lot of people to hire': Vermont ski resorts boost benefits to entice seasonal workers](#)

[National Life launches indexed universal life insurance products](#)

[Castleton journalism students partner with local newspapers and UVM](#)

[Smugglers' Notch retains lead for family-focused winter vacations](#)

[Casella wins award for people-centered sustainability initiatives](#)

This section features news about growing Vermont companies. Add [news@vtchamber.com](mailto:news@vtchamber.com) to your distribution list.

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## In Other News:

[UVM named the #4 Top Green School](#)

[Schaffer talks 'strength and resilience' to Chamber](#)

Superior Technical Ceramics wins excellence award from Raytheon

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**Save the Date:**

2019 VT Veterans Small Business Day - Nov. 7

Cloud Connect Summit - Nov. 13

Citizen of the Year and Above & Beyond Awards - Nov. 19

Holiday Festival - Best Western Plus Stowe Waterbury - Nov. 29 - Dec 1

Tourism Day at the State House - Jan. 15

Economic Conference - Jan. 23

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