



Commerce Connection

Business Is Good

In This Issue

- Complete the Vermont Economic Survey**
- Legislators Return To Montpelier**
- Support Tourism Marketing**
- Attend the Vermont Economic Conference**
- The Vermont–Québec Trade Relationship and 2020 Calendar**
- Proposals Sought for Workforce & Talent Summit**
- Nominate Someone for the Hospitality Awards**
- Join the Vermont Chamber Team**
- Nominate an Outstanding Business for the Deane C. Davis Award**
- Member Spotlight**
- Welcome New Chamber Members**

January 2020

Complete the Vermont Economic Survey

To better understand Vermont business owners' perception of the state's fiscal economy, Davis & Hodgdon Associates CPAs and the Vermont Chamber are seeking your input in our annual survey related to the economy and local businesses.



Please [take the annual 5-minute VT economic survey](#) of small- to medium-sized businesses. The results of the survey will be compared to results from the previous surveys, published, and shared with all participants and local media in February 2020.



Legislators Return to Montpelier

Legislators returned to the State House last week and jumped into hearings on paid leave, minimum wage, health care costs, student debt, chemical regulations, global warming, out-migration and other issues that will impact businesses.

Advocacy is one of the key benefits of your Vermont Chamber membership. If you have an issue impacting your business, our lobbying team is ready to advocate on your behalf. Please contact [Charles Martin](#), Vermont Chamber Government Affairs Director, to learn more about our advocacy work and legislative agenda.

Support Tourism Marketing

Support Vermont's economy and its tourism industry by attending the 2nd Annual [Tourism Day](#) at the State House on Wednesday, January 15th. Contact your legislator and [sign the petition](#) to increase funding. Tourism is the state's second most lucrative industry after manufacturing and a significant economic driver. Yet the State's investment in destination marketing has declined 6% since 2015. It's time to reverse the decline.



[Learn More](#)



Attend the Vermont Economic Conference

The Vermont Economic Conference [registration](#) is open. Join us on Thursday, January 23rd to find out what's in store on the economic horizon and how your business will be impacted. Seats are selling out quickly.

Registration deadline is Friday, January 17. Tickets are

\$150 per person or \$120 per person for four or more tickets.

[Get Your Tickets Today!](#)

The Vermont–Québec Trade Relationship and 2020 Calendar

Québec is Vermont's closest northern neighbor and the State's most important trading partner.

Recognizing the importance of cross-border trade and commerce, the Vermont Chamber signed a Cooperation Agreement with the [Québec Federation of Chambers of Commerce](#) (FCCQ) in 2005, and since then, the Vermont Chamber has championed a consistent and collaborative initiative to strengthen our relationship with Québec, including a Memorandum of Understanding with [Aéro Montréal](#) in 2013 to build an Aerospace Trade Corridor. The Vermont



Chamber has also developed and fostered trusted relationships with key partners and engaged in collaborative efforts, events, and industry-focused programs.

The Vermont Chamber has a robust calendar of projects in 2020 to further strengthen ties with our Québec neighbor.

- Vermont Chamber's Vermont Economic Conference , **January 23**
- New England – Canada Business Council, **March**
- Aéro Montréal Aerospace Innovation Forum, **April 20-21**
- Vermont Chamber's Annual Manufacturing Summit, **September 3**
- New England – Canada Business Council, **November**

To learn more, please contact [Chris Carrigan](#), (802) 223 0904.



Proposals Sought for Workforce & Talent Summit

Presentation proposals for the **Vermont Workforce & Talent Summit** are due Friday, February 14th.

A partnership between the Vermont Department of Labor, Advance Vermont, and the Vermont Futures Project, the Workforce & Talent Summit is a day-long conference on May 28th focused on promoting the long-term economic health of our state and providing opportunity for Vermonters.

The 60-minute seminars will provide attendees with solutions to workforce challenges and information about ongoing opportunities. Conference coordinators are looking for informative, relevant, engaging, and interactive presentation proposals. [Submit a presentation proposal by 5pm on February 14.](#)

Nominate Someone for the Hospitality Awards

The Vermont Chamber of Commerce presents their annual Hospitality Awards at the [37th Annual Vermont Tourism Summit](#), held at the Killington Grand Resort Hotel. This summit draws one of the largest gatherings of tourism professionals in the state including owners, managers, and employees of the many businesses connecting to this important segment of the Vermont economy. Nominate an exceptional [innkeeper](#), [restaurateur](#), [chef](#), or [tourism partner](#) that is a leader in Vermont's tourism industry. [View the 2019 award recipients.](#)





Join the Vermont Chamber Team

We are seeking candidates for two key positions on our team: Membership Manager and Communications Specialist. Learn about the [Membership Manager](#) position and send a resume and cover letter to jobs@vtchamber.com. Read about the

[Communications Specialist](#) position and apply to with a resume and cover letter to communicationsjob@vtchamber.com.

Nominate an Outstanding Business for the Deane C. Davis Award

The Vermont Chamber and *Vermont Business Magazine* are soliciting nominations for the 30th annual Deane C. Davis Outstanding Business of the Year Award.



The Deane C. Davis Outstanding Business of the Year Award is awarded to a Vermont business with outstanding accomplishments in 2019, a history of success, and a uniquely Vermont brand. [Deadline for nominations is March 6.](#)

Member Spotlight



[The Mailing Center](#) is a direct mail service company in Barre, VT that completes both high and low volume mailings. Their professional and friendly staff treat everyone like a valued customer, have excellent attention to details and are experts in managing issues, delivery, and project cost.

[Jet Service Envelope Company](#), Inc is a Barre-based printing company that has been family-owned and operated by the Blow family since 1945. To keep up with the competitive printing industry, Jet Service has expanded its service to include anything printed on paper including lawn signs, wall graphics, vinyl decals, books, brochures and more.



Welcome New Chamber Members

This month we welcome:

[Generator](#)

[YogaSix South Burlington](#)

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

#LetsGrowVT

[Women's Enterprise Center Makes Connections](#)

[Four Efficiency Projects Any Business Can Tackle in 2020](#)

[Caledonia Spirits Gives Tip Money To Local Organizations](#)

[Generator Names Meg Hammond Executive Director](#)

[Burlington Makers Add Sense of Smell to Virtual Reality](#)

[Barr Hill Distillery Receives Excellence in Architecture Award](#)

[Paw Print Under New Ownership](#)

This section features news about growing Vermont companies.
Email news@vtchamber.com with your good news.

In Other News

[Maple Industry Report: Look To The Niche Markets, And Abroad](#)

[Report: Vermont Economic Divide Is Growing Larger](#)

[State Offers Grants For People Who Move Here To Work For Vermont Companies](#)

[Broadband Expansion Via Utility Infrastructure Would Cost \\$300M](#)

[Mandatory Composting Takes Effect July 1](#)

[Woolf: Vermont's Population Drops Again In Latest Census Report](#)

[State Alliance Seeks Increased Destination Marketing Investment](#)

Save the Date

[Tourism Day at the State House - Jan. 15](#)

[Economic Conference - Jan. 23](#)

[Vermont Workforce & Talent Summit - May 28](#)

[Manufacturing Summit - Sept. 3](#)

Want great exposure for your business? Sponsoring the statewide Vermont Chamber newsletter is an affordable and effective way to reach your target customers. Email news@vtchamber.com for pricing and more information.

