



Coordinator's Corner

Dear Members,

You have heard a great deal about the cruise and now the time is right to start looking at the details to make the cruise into a convention.

You will note that the Newsletter format has changed. That is because we now have a talented Newsletter Editor, Chris Janda, who will be covering more highlights and information about the convention. You can look forward to valuable and fun items from a variety of committees to keep you informed.

The Convention Committee members generated a great deal of enthusiasm at our first full committee meeting. They had many thought-provoking questions and presented numerous ideas and suggestions to create an educational and fun convention for the members of **POWERtalk** International. Cruise line queries were handled by Christine More, owner of the Burnaby Cruiseshipcenters.

We were honoured to have in attendance the Div. I Vice President, Joan Frank, International Parliamentarian, Irene Laidley, President of the Pacific Northwest Region, Gerry Redmond and President of Lewis and Clark Region, Dawn Ratliff.



Look for more to come as we surf toward a new and exciting experience.

Doris Ginther
Coordinator, Convention 2009



Cruise News

UPDATED INFORMATION

The November 1, 2007, Booking Deadline has passed yet there is still time.

Thanks to those who booked by November 1. Those who booked on time will be receiving a bonus - watch for it later - along with the fact that the choice of their cabins and prices are secured.

If you have not forwarded your cruise booking form, ***you still have time to book a cabin at the convention price.*** We suggest you do so as soon as possible. For those of you who indicated that you have guests attending, this is a reminder to forward their booking form also. They are required to book now.

Don't wait another minute. ***Get your registrations in without further delay.*** Booking forms and newsletters are found on the website: www.powertalkinternational.com. Look under Resources/Convention/2009.

This particular cruise is always fully booked, so once the cruise line opens reservations to the public you can be sure there will be no cabins available for those who delay. The cruise line has confirmed there will be no last-minute fare reductions or discount coupons offered for either ITC members or the general public.

Because each passenger is charged individually according to the room size, there are no advantages to multiple people sharing a room. The cabins (approx. 12.5' x 14' [4m x 4.3 m] without furniture or beds) are small and the bathrooms are generally large enough for only one person at a time.

Need a cabin-mate for the convention cruise, ***Catch the Wave?*** Email Chris Janda, Janda0245@comcast.net

We will match you with someone in the same cabin category. Just send Chris your name and email address so we know who is available.

Do the arithmetic: The per person cruise cost includes 7 nights lodging, 3 meals a day plus snacks just about any time you want them, an outstanding mid-night buffet (even after you've had your dinner!), nightly entertainment, and gratuities.

If you start saving (USD) in December 2007...

\$72/mo. you will have saved \$1440	=	N—Interior Cabin (\$1422.44)
\$87/mo. you will have saved \$1740	=	H—Ocean View Cabin (\$1732.44)
\$111/mo. you will have saved \$2220	=	E2—Deluxe Balcony Cabin (\$2212.44)

TRAVEL VISA REQUIREMENTS:

The 2009 *Catch the Wave* Pre-Convention and Convention activities will embark from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Upon reaching Alaska, if you choose to take a short excursion, you may need a visa to get back on the ship.

Who will need a travel visa to enter Canada? Members and guests from the following countries will need visas to enter Canada.

South America South Africa Malawi Jamaica Zimbabwe

For more information go to: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>

Who needs a travel visa to enter the USA? If the purpose of your planned travel is recreational in nature, including tourism, amusement, visits with friends or relatives, rest, medical treatment, and activities of a fraternal, social, or service nature, then a visitor visa (B-2) would be the appropriate type of visa for your travel. If the purpose of your planned travel is to consult with business associates, travel for an educational, professional or business convention, or conference on specific dates, then a business (B-1) visitor visa would be the appropriate type of visa for your travel.

The USA has a **Visa Waiver Program**. The Visa Waiver Program (VWP) enables nationals of certain countries to travel to the United States for tourism or business for stays of 90 days or less without obtaining a visa, if certain requirements are met. Under the VWP, time spent in Canada, Mexico, and adjacent islands counts towards the maximum of 90 days stay allowed under the program. Applicants for visitor visas, or visa waivers should generally apply at the American Embassy or Consulate with jurisdiction over their place of permanent residence. Citizens of the following countries may qualify for the visa waiver program:

Iceland	Norway	Australia	Ireland	Austria
Italy	Belgium	Japan	France	the Netherlands
Switzerland	Germany	New Zealand	United Kingdom	

For more information go to: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_2664.html

People on the CONVENTION COMMITTEE you may want to contact:

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Program Coordinator: Lyn Policha lindel@shaw.ca
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Convention Web Site: Wyn Bowler wynb@reprise.com

Renew & Review Your Skills Here's Your Opportunity

Do It Your Way... If you go to ITC conventions purely for the parties, STOP reading right here! If, on the other hand, you attend conventions for the purpose of learning new things and increasing your skills (in addition to the parties, of course!) and if you want to ensure you get what you want from the 2009 Convention, you may be just the person we need.

International conventions showcase the highest level of training our organization has to offer. To meet this challenge, the chair of the program committee for the 2009 POWERtalk Convention, *Catch the Wave*, is looking for committee members to plan an educational component that meets or exceeds members' expectations. Convention is not the time to rehash the basics we all learn in our first years with ITC - Convention is a time to move beyond basics to building skills and taking learning to a whole new level.

Join the program committee and be part of creating an exciting, dynamic, and stimulating training experience. Contact Lyn Policha, program committee chair, at lindel@shaw.ca.

Taking the Best of the Best... The program committee for the 2009 POWERtalk Convention, *Catch the Wave*, is looking for dynamic plenary speakers with expertise in the areas of communication, leadership, coaching and/or organization. Potential candidates should be aware that the opportunity will take place during a week long luxury cruise to Alaska, and that, in addition to their plenary presentation, we will be asking them to conduct a follow-up workshop on the same topic. Because of our budget constraints, we will be asking potential speakers to underwrite at least part of their own expenses. In return, we will provide them with the opportunity to sell any books, tapes or videos they may have created on their topic.

If you know anyone who might be appropriate, please send their name and contact information to the program committee chair, Lyn Policha, at lindel@shaw.ca. If you feel you are in a position to make initial contact with the individual, let us know that as well. We look forward to hearing from you.

Don't forget...

Don't wait another minute...

While prices are still good and cabins still available, send us your cruise registration form without further delay.

Booking forms and newsletters are found on the website: www.powertalkinternational.com. Look under "Resources/Convention/2009"