



CANADIAN · CROATIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

presents

BEA ²⁰²² *gala*

Friday, May 13, 2022

Business Excellence Awards

Recognizing Excellence in our
Croatian-Canadian Community

MNP

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Bell



Celebrating leaders in the business community

At CIBC, our purpose is to help make our clients' and communities' ambitions a reality.

That's why we're proud to sponsor the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala that recognizes leadership, innovation, and excellence.



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to welcome you to the 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards. We would like to thank you all for being here to honor our outstanding and deserving award recipients. Tonight, we are joined by Mr. AJ Piplica, Founder and CEO of Hermeus, an exciting aerospace company specializing in hypersonic air travel. AJ leads a team focused on radically accelerating air travel, including passenger planes capable of achieving Mach 5 speeds. AJ follows the vision of so many great Croatians whose ingenuity and passion for invention change the way we live forever. Welcome AJ - we're delighted to have you here tonight.

I speak for everyone when I say we're truly grateful for the opportunity to gather with all of you tonight and celebrate the Chamber and the Croatian-Canadian community at large. It's been three years since our last BEA and although we've been unable to host our annual BEA Gala due to the pandemic, we've continued to support Canadian-Croatians and Canadian-Croatian businesses. Since our last BEA Gala, in addition to our regular activities and annual events such as our Annual Taste of Croatia Golf Tournament and Croatian Christmas (Hrvatski Božić), we have organized the 4th Annual Croatian Heritage Night with Toronto FC (featuring the Zaprešić Boys); film presentations of "General" (Ante Gotovina) and "Glavu Dole, Ruke na Leđa" (as part of our "Canada for Vukovar" series); performances by Klapa Samoana; an NBA Croatian Heritage Night with the Toronto Raptors (featuring Dario Šarić of the Phoenix Suns and Croatian National Basketball Team); an "Empowering Youth for Career Planning – Student Networking Event"; various Zoom presentations (including Croatia 2.0); and a number of fundraising events, among others.

While we find ourselves in turbulent times, the world appears to have opened back up as it relates to the pandemic, enabling us to join together again and advance new opportunities to strengthen our community. As an organization, we will continue our efforts to grow and strengthen our bond across the country to remain a powerful voice for all Canadian-Croatians.

Although the last few years have been anything but ordinary, our mission has not changed. The Chamber will continue to make opportunities for Croatian-Canadians to network and better connect within Canada, with Croatia and with Croats abroad. We are ever so encouraged to see so many of our youth prosper, and our scholarships and bursaries have been a fruitful investment into our community's future. Our motto - "Together, we make success" – remains true thanks to your constant support and presence within our incredible community.

Thank you for being here. I wish you all a wonderful evening.

Best regards,



John Marion
President and Director, Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

May 13, 2022

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the Croatian-Canadian Chamber of Commerce's 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards.



You have gathered this evening to honour the accomplishments of members of the Croatian Canadian business community. I would like to congratulate this year's award nominees and recipients. Your hard work, entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to excellence contribute to our country's prosperity and make you most deserving of this special recognition.

It continues to be a challenging time for planning and hosting events. That is why I would also like to thank the Croatian-Canadian Chamber of Commerce for ensuring this year's awards gala could still take place. This evening provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon your organization's many achievements and to set goals for a future of continued cooperation and mutual support.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable evening and for continued success.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Embassy of Canada



Ambassade du Canada

Prilaz Gjüre Deželica 4
10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Dear members of and friends of the CCCC,

Best wishes from the entire team of the Embassy on the occasion of the 2022 Business Excellence Awards, and congratulations to the winners! It is timely that this ceremony is re-starting once again this year, as we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the international recognition of the Republic of Croatia by Canada on January 15, 1992. Canada was one of the first countries to recognize Croatia.

The last years and months have been difficult for the entire world because of COVID-19 and more recently, Russia's unprovoked and unjustifiable invasion of Ukraine. Our support for Ukraine is unwavering, with both Canada and Croatia welcoming refugees and being among the strongest voices condemning Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine. We have both adopted strong measures to hold President Putin and his regime accountable including unprecedented economic sanctions, humanitarian assistance and military aid.

On top of this, Croatia has faced additional challenges due to the two major earthquakes in 2020. Some say that true friendship is tested in times of adversity. If that is true, Canada and Croatia have passed the test with flying colours, starting with our earthquake response, where Canadian-Croatians immediately mobilized to help those in need. Thank you. Your commitment, and that of the Government of Canada, have made a difference. That said, much remains to be done in order to "build back better" and help affected areas fully recover. In my view, the best thing we can do is continue to build trade, investment and innovation links.

We have much to build on, as trade and investment links have continued to expand even during the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples include Canadian IT companies establishing or strengthening their presence in Croatia, the Croatian export to Canada of a cargo vessel that helped maintain jobs during the worst days of COVID-19, and advancing a Canadian project that will increase Croatia's energy security.

While the foundations of our relationship are strong, we need to expand our bilateral engagement at all levels. The Embassy will continue to promote trade, investment and innovation links, as well as values that make both Canada and Croatia's democracies more resilient, such as inclusive societies and media freedom. One area of special focus will be to continue to promote CETA, a landmark trade agreement now in effect for five years, with Croatia as one of the first countries to ratify, and which the CCCC and its sister organization in Zagreb, the CCBN, have done so much to promote. We look forward to working with you on advancing these and other shared priorities and to seeing so many of you in person more often, especially as direct flights between our two countries have finally resumed!

Very best regards,

Alan Bowman

Ambassador of Canada to Croatia

Canada





REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
PREDSJEDNIK

**Letter of the President of the Republic of Croatia Zoran Milanović
on the Occasion of the 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards
of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce
13 May 2022**

Dear members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce,

It is my pleasure to extend greetings on the occasion of the 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce. I would like to express my gratitude to many of you for your dedication and achievements, which have contributed to enhance cooperation and overall bilateral relations between Croatia and Canada.

Furthermore, I use this opportunity to congratulate the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on having gathered and connected businesspeople, professionals and companies in a constructive way throughout the years with the goal of promoting investments and fostering economic cooperation.

Croatia has demonstrated its wish to improve economic cooperation with Canada by being one of the first European Union member states to ratify the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. In subsequent years, Croatia has recorded a surplus in trade between our two countries. Unfortunately, last year the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic also impacted our trade, causing its decline. Although the global situation does not give cause for optimism at the present moment, I am nonetheless confident that recovery will follow in the coming years and ensure future growth in our commercial relations.

There are opportunities for improving our current economic cooperation and intensifying its future development in a number of sectors. In tourism, the restoration of direct flights between Croatia and Canada, namely Zagreb and Toronto, will certainly facilitate this. One step away from celebrating 30 years of friendly diplomatic ties between our countries and their anniversary next year, I am confident that our cooperation on all issues will resume, as always, on a positive note.

Once again, I congratulate all winners of the 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards and wish you much success in your further work.

Sincerely,



Zoran Milanović

*Veleposlanik Republike Hrvatske u Kanadi
Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Canada
Ambassadeur de la République de Croatie au Canada*

Ottawa, April 6, 2022

*Dear Members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce,
Dear Friends,*

On behalf of the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia it is my great pleasure to extend greetings to all members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of the 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala.

Let me also extend my congratulations to this year's award recipients and wish you every success in your further endeavors.

The Republic of Croatia is very proud of the large and successful Croatian community in Canada. For more than two decades the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce has been actively connecting successful entrepreneurs from Croatia and Canada, contributing to the promotion and expansion of our bilateral economic cooperation. Moreover, the Chamber has remained strongly committed to preserving close ties to the community, both within Canada and back in Croatia.

Nevertheless, there is still significant room for improvement and great potential for intensifying economic cooperation in a variety of sectors, using both bilateral channels and tools available to us through Croatia's EU membership, first and foremost the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement. I am fully confident that you will use your resourcefulness to continue contributing to the development and expansion of Croatia-Canadian economic relations, for the betterment of both societies.

In finishing, let me stress that over the past decades the Chamber has provided invaluable support to the Embassy of Croatia in Canada, and as such I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all its members. We are looking forward to continuing our friendship, partnership and cooperation.

I wish you great success in your future work!

Sincerely,



*Vice Skračić
Ambassador*



Generalni konzulat Republike Hrvatske u Mississaugi
Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia in Mississauga



Mississauga, March 8, 2022

Canadian Croatian Chamber of Commerce
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. Marion,
Dear members of the CCCC,
Dear ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia and my own I would like to use this opportunity to congratulate you on your dedicated work and success in establishing and developing ties between Croatia and Canada.

Years of tradition serve to illustrate your vision and perseverance in fulfilling your mission. Excelling in your work takes time, effort and dedication and your work shows that you spare none of it. Although on different continents, Croatia and Canada have found in you a strong link and a vessel of cooperation.

Your commitment in promoting and strengthening the cooperation between Croatia and Canada through different projects, awards and scholarships is something that should be valued and credited.

I wish you many more years of success in bringing Croatia and Canada together and in promoting economic ties between the two countries - a goal that we both share.

Sincerely,

Ante Jović
Consul General



Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone participating in the 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala hosted by the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

Congratulations to this year's award winners who are being recognized for their leadership, innovation and excellence within the Croatian-Canadian business community. Your dedication and hard work have earned you this honour.

The business community drives growth and innovation in Toronto, a city that is a destination for companies to develop and do a business. I congratulate everyone and thank all of you for your significant contributions and commitment to making a difference.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto



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Office of Mayor and Council
200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118
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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dobro došli. Welcome to everyone attending The Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's (CCCC) Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening on Friday, May 13, 2022.

On behalf of Kitchener City Council, I would like to congratulate all of this evening's nominees and winners. You have already set an example for your family, friends, colleagues, and the entire Croatian community, including everyone who has gathered this evening to celebrate your accomplishments. Your leadership, excellence and innovation has not gone unnoticed by those in the Croatian-Canadian business community.

I know that the last few years have been very hard for everyone, but our local businesses have had many extra challenges – be it lockdowns, staffing shortages, and supply-chain interruptions. And yet, you didn't let it stop you, you worked harder, found new ways to reach your customers, pivoted how you ran your business and, most importantly, didn't give up. We know that things won't just bounce back to the way that they used to be but, with organizations like the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce supporting the business community, things will get better.

Kroz zajedničku suradnju, naš narod i naša poduzeća mogu postignuti još više u budućnosti. Organizations such as the CCCC are vital to our communities, providing professional development support, fostering entrepreneurship, building cultural and educational ties in our communities, all the while reminding us that our diversity and inclusivity are an important part of what makes the quality of life in our communities so rich.

I trust in the coming years the CCCC will see many more successes and will continue to grow, supporting many new Canadian-Croatian professionals along the way.

Uz srdačan pozdrav /Sincerely,

Berry Vrbanovic
~Mayor~
City of Kitchener



Office of the Mayor

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Welcome to Burlington!

A wonderful evening is ahead of you, with the 18th annual Business Excellence Awards from the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

The Burlington Convention Centre is a perfect choice to host such a special occasion, and I want to welcome you all to our city as you celebrate leadership, innovation and excellence tonight.

As an immigrant to Canada myself, I take such pride in seeing the cultural diversity across our city, region, and country. I know we can all agree it is one of the best things about Canada!

If there is one thing the past two years highlighted for us all, it is how we find inspiration and strength from coming together as a broader community, how we find innovative ways to stay connected and meaningful new ways to continue to support local businesses and organizations.

I want to wish everyone an enjoyable evening as you celebrate the exceptional businesses and the individuals behind them who contribute to their communities through their leadership and hard work. The successes of these worthy award recipients create ripple effects beyond the borders of their own communities by giving back to the people around them and inspiring us all.

Congratulations to all the nominees and winners here tonight. I wish you all a memorable evening!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marianne Meed Ward'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
City of Burlington



2 Wellington St W
Brampton ON
L6Y4R2

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MAYOR PATRICK BROWN

May 13, 2022

Greetings from Mayor Patrick Brown

On behalf of the City of Brampton, I want to extend best wishes to the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce. It is great to be having in-person events and galas again. Unfortunately I am unable to attend tonight's celebration. It is very important to recognize the significant accomplishments of the Croatian business community.

I know it has been a challenging time for all Ontario residents and the business community. I also want to thank the Chamber for their advocacy and leadership. The Chamber is the leading business organization dedicated to the promotion, development and expansion of business, cultural, education, trade and investment opportunities between Canada and Croatia, as well as the development of relationship and networking opportunities within the Canadian-Croatian business community.

So enjoy tonight's celebration. Congratulations to all the award winners and nominees. Special thanks to all the sponsors and volunteers who have made tonight's event a success. Have a great time!!

Sincerely,

Patrick Brown
Mayor





May 13, 2022

Personal Message from Mayor Bonnie Crombie



Dear Friends,

As Mayor of the City of Mississauga, it gives me great pleasure to extend my best wishes to the organizers, nominees and award recipients of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's 18th Annual Business Excellence Awards.

This award ceremony celebrates the accomplishments of Canadian-Croatian entrepreneurs with the vision, knowledge, and determination to transform ideas into successful businesses. Their talents continue to make positive, important and lasting contributions to Mississauga's economy. Congratulations to all the winners being recognized this evening – you have all rightly earned your recognition.

Mississauga is thriving thanks to the contributions of Croatian-Canadian businesses that have played an essential role in building and shaping our City. Our local economy is strong and we remain one of the best run-cities in North America, committed to delivering exceptional programs and services for our residents while delivering value for money.

Thank you to members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce for their dedication to strengthening not only Canada's Croatian business community, but Mississauga's business community as well. I offer my sincerest best wishes for a successful event. May you continue to enjoy many more years of growth, success and opportunity in Mississauga and beyond.

Warmest Regards,

Bonnie Crombie, MBA, ICD.D
Mayor, City of Mississauga



The past two years we have experienced many challenges which have influenced our daily lives and how we perceive the world. The COVID 19 Pandemic has shown us all how vulnerable we are and how we must be prepared and ready at all times to react to difficult and unpredictable situations. In Croatia during this period we were also exposed to two earthquakes which required everyone to support and help those who lost their homes and or were unable to work. A very difficult period for many people who needed to keep their faith and hope for a better tomorrow. The CCBN more than ever recognised the importance to maintain communication and provide support to its' members, by developing new tools to connect while recognising the importance of maintaining personal contact and encouragement.

During this period the Croatian Government was very supportive, providing companies with financial subsidies and was proactive in finding ways to keep the economy open and people working. It focused on key sectors of the economy to insure they maintained employment, specifically in tourism working proactively to establish Croatia as a SAFE DESTINATION for travel. In 2020 and 2021 Croatia established itself as the most successful country for tourism in Europe, attracting people from around the world to come and visit. Companies and individuals all required to rethink how to deal with the everchanging economy, resulting in many new initiatives and developments. For many the last 2 years may represent for Croatia the most innovative period of development with many announcements of companies achieving record results and expanding into new markets. The CCBN assisted companies in these initiatives providing support where possible to connect and open new opportunities in Canada and elsewhere.

It is recognised that people and companies who are faced with challenges become stronger and more resilient as a result of challenges and difficulties they face. We are confident that this will be the case in Croatia and based on general feedback from members of the CCBN they are all confident they will be stronger in the future than before Covid 19 Pandemic started in March of 2020.

The CCBN hopes that the economy and political situation In Europe will stabilise in the near future and allow companies to further develop themselves and take advantage of the innovation and new opportunities the past two years have revealed. We will continue to support and facilitate these companies, working closely with the CCCC to stimulate and improve relations to maximise economic growth between Canada and Croatia.

Sincerely

Dennis Rukavina
President
Canadian Croatian Business Network
CCBN

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Founded in 1995, the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit network of Croatian-Canadian individuals, professionals, businesses and organizations that has emerged as the voice of Croatian-Canadian business in Canada.

The Chamber brings together a vibrant and dynamic group of individuals, professionals, businesses and organizations who have developed strategic relationships in both Canadian and Croatian economic, commercial, political, and cultural worlds and is able to draw on these relationships to the benefit of its members.

The Chamber's objectives include:

- Providing networking opportunities both in a social and business setting
- Sponsoring and promoting cultural events, educational lectures, seminars, exhibitions, and conferences on relevant and timely topics
- Acting as a source of information and counsel to government bodies and the public in matters affecting Canada-Croatia business and trade and the Croatian-Canadian community in Canada in general
- Promoting the development of bilateral business relations, trade, and investment opportunities between Canada and Croatia and working with the Canadian-Croatian Business Network, the Croatian Chamber of Economy and other organizations on opportunities that advance our common goals and interests

Beyond the wide variety of benefits that the Chamber offers to its members (including business connections, access to government, professional development), membership increases your business' visibility and exposure in the community.

Your investment represents a commitment to the future growth and development of our whole community.

Together, we make success!

The Chamber's achievements include:



Business Opportunities

- Providing networking opportunities through business, community and social events
- Connecting members with members to facilitate significant trade and commerce
- Organizing various educational and business related seminars including co-organizing (in affiliation with the Canadian-Croatian Business Network and the Croatian Chamber of Economy, both based in Croatia) Croatian trade missions to Canada hosted in Toronto

Youth Involvement

- Supporting our youth through a scholarship and bursary fund developed in conjunction with the Croatian-Canadian Library
- Establishing a mentorship program for Croatian-Canadian post-secondary students and recent graduates
- Placing co-op students with Chamber members

Community Involvement

- Working with and supporting local Croatian organizations and endeavours, including, among others, the Croatian-Canadian Library, various folklore groups, the Croatian Embassy (Ottawa) and the Croatian Consulate (Mississauga), to preserve our common heritage
- Promoting community events and news through our community web portal at www.croat.ca
- Recognizing excellence and leadership in the Croatian-Canadian community through the annual Business Excellence Awards Evening
- Supporting and promoting Croatian-Canadian artists and authors
- Financially contributing to Croatia's demining program and to capital projects in the Croatian community in Canada
- Co-organizing a fundraising campaign and dinner in support of the Vukovar Tower Restoration Project
- Forming the British Columbia Chapter of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce
- Supporting Victim Services Toronto through co-organization of the Toronto Police Chief Invitational Golf Tournament - Victim Services Toronto provides immediate crisis response, intervention and prevention services which are responsive to the needs of individuals, families and communities affected by crime and sudden tragedies

Advocacy and Lobbying

- Educating Canadians on our history in Canada through support of historical research and representation at relevant Canadian organizations
- Building ties with Croatia by receiving and hosting Croatian representatives visiting Canada, attending meetings with contacts in Croatia, and presenting at business seminars in Croatia

Agenda for the Evening

BEA ²⁰²²
gala

- 6:00 PM Cocktail Reception
Art Exhibit by Tatjana Hutinec
- 7:10 PM Welcome Address, Ivan Grbešić
National Anthems, Ponosni Hrvati
Dinner
- 7:30 PM Scholarship and Bursary Awards Presentation
- 8:00 PM Awards Ceremony
- 9:15 PM Keynote Presentation: AJ Piplica
Founder CEO, Hermeus Corporation
- 10:00 PM Raffle

Featured Performers

Ponosni Hrvati

Established in 2018, Ponosni Hrvati began as a tambura band out of Stoney Creek, Ontario in the Zvonar basement. Specializing in Croatian music, our experience came through tambura, song and dance at the Croatian National Home in Hamilton, Ontario. So, Tyler Staresinic, Joseph Vlastic, Marko Vlastic and Alex Zvonar began practicing as a group and learning as many songs as possible. After performing at various events, 2019 was the year Erik Zvonar was added to the group and an electric/acoustic combination was created. We now provide entertainment at weddings, baptisms, parties and banquets. If you need a tambura or an electric band to provide a lively, festive vibe, give us a call!

Alex: 289-707-2702
Marko: 289-456-7136

or phrvati@gmail.com

Sviramo za sve prigode, sviramo do zore!

Looking back at some activities since 2019



May 2019

Business Excellence Awards Gala
Katharine Anderson Groethe, Korta Katarina Winery



May 2019

Business Excellence Awards Gala
Tanya Golesic, President, CEO, Jimmy Choo America's



August 2019

4th Annual Croatian Heritage Night (TFC) with Zapresic Boys



September 2019

17th Annual Taste of Croatia Golf Tournament



October 2019

General Movie Tour of Canada with Klapa Samoana



November 2019

Jimmy Choo Fundraising Event



November 2019

Kanada Za Vukovar
Film Viewing "Glavu Dole, Ruke na Leda"



December 2019

Hrvatski Bozic – Croatian Christmas



January 2020

Student Networking Event



February 2020

NBA Croatian Heritage Night with Dario Saric



November 2020

Jimmy Choo Fundraising Event



September 2021

Webinar: Croatia 2.0 Work – Explore – Travel



September 2021

18th Annual Taste of Croatia Golf Tournament



December 2021

Hrvatski Bozic – Croatian Christmas

Keynote Speaker
AJ PIPLICA

BEA²⁰²²
gala



AJ Piplica is a founder and the CEO of Hermeus where he leads a team focused on radically accelerating air travel through development of hypersonic aircraft. Prior to founding Hermeus, AJ served as the CEO of Generation Orbit where he led the inception and development of the X-60A, an Air Force hypersonic X-plane. He has a strong background in aerospace systems design, including spacecraft, launch vehicles, and hypersonic aircraft. AJ holds both master's and bachelor's degrees in Aerospace Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, supplemented by a certificate in entrepreneurship.





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<https://www.badelšljivovica.hr>

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**“Zlatni ketač”
by Tatjana Hutinec**

The “Zlatni ketač” (The Golden Wheel) painting is inspired by the old fashion custom and craft of spinning the wool, as well as the folklore ornaments from traditional clothes, woven textiles and lace used in handcrafted folk garments in the region of Hrvatsko Zagorje and Zagreb where Tatjana was raised.

“Folklore ornaments are our ancestral messages capturing the essence of their cultural values and identity, preserving them for generations to come”, says Tatjana. “The golden wheel as a folklore ornament also represents the Sun and the cycle of life”, she reminds us of an old song from Zagorje, which always brings a smile:

“Srebrna zipka zlatni ketač,
vu njoj se zibal Jankec bez gač.
Dil dil dil dil dil dil dil”

Featured Artist

TATJANA HUTINEC



Tatjana Hutinec was born in Germany, but grew up and studied in Zagreb, Croatia.

She apprenticed with Ana Hutinec, a well-known Croatian sculptor and painter who served as a role model to Tatjana and a mentor in her work. Tatjana graduated from the School of Applied Arts (Skola Primijenjenih Umjetnosti) and after, interested in fashion Illustration and textile art, studied Clothing and Textile Design, at the University of Technology.

Since 1990, displaced due to the Homeland War in Croatia, Tatjana has been living and working in Toronto.

Tatjana is a painter, sculptor and wearable art designer, and exhibits and organizes solo and group exhibitions. She engages with communities, creates and coordinates artistic initiatives, as well as works on projects for film and theatre.

Public art commissions include sculptures for Luminato at Harbourfront and paintings for the City of Toronto's Street Art program.

Tatjana's work has been featured on TV (CBC, OMNI), in newspaper editorials (Toronto Star, Vecernji list-Zagreb) and books (Contemporary Ceramics in Croatia).

For more information and to enjoy her work, please visit:

www.tatjanahutinec.com

Tatjana Hutinec | 647 465-3040 | artist@tatjanahutinec.com



As Above so Below Art Exhibit - Artist Statement

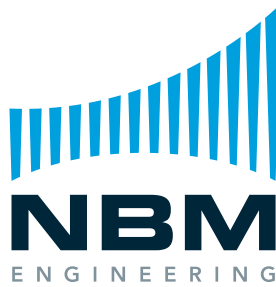
Titled "As Above So Below", this exhibition of paintings by Tatjana Hutinec is inspired by the expression which references that what goes on above - in Heaven, the mind - affects and influences what is below- the Earth. emotions, body. "I think that paintings of clouds are just what the world needs right now", says Tatjana, "My work speaks to the emotions, inviting viewers to re-examine familiar perceptions and beliefs with fresh eyes".

Tatjana observes what emerges from her exploration of the dynamics between nature, culture and ego and depicts it as water in its various forms above and below, around and within, a metaphorical expression for the need to shift perspective outside of one's microcosm and achieve deeper awareness of ourselves and how those dynamics affect us.

The artwork is displayed and available for purchase at the Gala Event on May 13, 2022, where you can also meet and talk to the artist.

A portion of the art sales will be donated to the Croatian Canadian Scholarship Fund to support the scholars and youth of the Croatian Canadian community.





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The Youth Mentoring Program was established to offer post-secondary students with an opportunity to communicate with professionals and entrepreneurs in order to discuss career aspirations, work initiatives, and other career related matters. The program has been extremely well received and has benefited both the students and the Mentor volunteers. Matches are established based on the students' career aspirations, interests, location, and other factors.

Mentors participating in the Youth Mentoring Program are carefully selected individuals who have proven themselves successful in their careers and/or businesses, and who support the endeavours of the program to provide a service of high standards and quality, and are prepared to make time available to assist our youth in making career related decisions.

Should you feel you fit the profile of a Mentor and you would like to get involved in the program, please e-mail the following details to contactus@croat.ca. (name and surname, telephone number, email address, business address, and area of expertise) and we will contact you in due course.



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Congratulations to the nominees and winners of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards

As entrepreneurs and leaders in the Croatian-Canadian community, we commend all of you for your hard work, courage, and passion. You are an inspiration to your community and all who do business with you.

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Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund: Scholarship and Bursary Award Recipients (2021/2022)

We are pleased to announce that the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund has awarded two (2) scholarships for the 2021/2022 school year. The funds have been awarded in order to help further the education of full-time post-secondary students in Canada.

Congratulations to each of the recipients!



Emma Kanceljak

\$2,000 Scholarship Award Recipient

Emma is a student at Queens University working towards her Bachelor of Commerce degree. Emma has always taken her skills and talents and put them to good use in helping her fellow students and colleagues. She has been actively participating in the community as a musician in Vatroslav Lisinski Tambura, played for Mississauga Croatia Soccer Club, gave her time to RAMA Gaming House as a volunteer and wrote inspirational letters for the charitable organization Sending Sunshine. Emma was presented with the University of Toronto Book Award.



Franka Subic

\$2,000 Scholarship Award Recipient

Franka is a student at McMaster University working towards her Kinesiology degree and plans to pursue her Master of Business Administration so she can combine her knowledge of science and business. Franka has immersed herself into a highly competitive and demanding sports regimen in the McMaster Women's Varsity Soccer Team. She has been awarded the McMaster Scholar Athlete, OUA Academic and U-SPORTS Academic. Franka also offers her limited free time to various organizations including the Varsity leadership committee, ENVIS-AGE program research assistant, coaching the Hamilton Sparta soccer team, volunteering for Aspiring Young Doctors and Holy Trinity Church banquets.

The Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund is a joint program developed and administered by the Croatian-Canadian Library and the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.



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Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund



The Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund is a joint program developed and administered by the Croatian-Canadian Library and the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

We take great pride in our ability and commitment to help further the education of full-time post-secondary students in Canada.

Scholarship and bursaries will be awarded to students enrolled in a full-time post-secondary program at a university or college in Canada.

For details about the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund,
please visit www.croat.ca

The application submission deadline for the 2022/2023 school year
is February 3, 2023.

Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund

DONOR RECOGNITION LEVELS



KING TOMISLAV (\$100,000+) - King Tomislav was a ruler of Croatia in the Middle Ages. He reigned from 910 until 928, first as Duke of Dalmatian Croatia from 910 until 925, and then he became the first King of the Croatian Kingdom in 925 and reigned until 928. He is celebrated as the founder of the first Croatian state, uniting the Croats of Dalmatia and the Slavs of Pannonia into a single Kingdom. He ruled over the territory of today's Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, rounding off his state from the Adriatic Sea to the Drava River, and from the Raša River in Istria to the Drina River.



QUEEN JELENA (\$50,000-\$99,999) - Jelena of Zadar was the queen consort of the Kingdom of Croatia, as the wife of King Michael Krešimir II, from 946 to 969, a period which was allegedly marked by "peace, order and expeditious growth". She became the queen of Croatia after her husband died and reigned until her death in 976. Also known as "mother of orphans and protectress of widows", she was revered by her subjects and most adored for her charity and known for bringing peace to the Kingdom.



KING PETAR KREŠIMIR IV (\$25,000-\$49,999) - Petar Krešimir IV was a notably energetic King of Croatia from 1059 until his death in 1075. He was the last great ruler of the Krešimirović branch of the House of Trpimirović. Under his rule the Croatian realm reached its peak territorially, expanding Croatia along the Adriatic coastland and in the mainland eastwards and bringing Slavonia into the Croatian fold. This expansion earned him the sobriquet "the Great".



KING DMITAR ZVONIMIR (\$10,000-\$24,999) - Dmtar Zvonimir was King of Croatia from 1076 until his death. He also ruled as Ban of Slavonia (1064 to 1074), and was named Duke of Croatia in around 1075. His native name was Zvonimir, while the name Dmtar was adopted at his coronation. He took a hard line against the Byzantine Empire. He was the last native king who exerted any real power over the entire Croatian state, which he inherited at its height and ruled it from the city of Knin.



PRINCE BRANIMIR (\$5000-\$9,999) - Branimir was a ruler of Dalmatian Croatia who reigned as Knez from 879 to 892. He was recognized by Pope John VIII as the Duke of the Croats. During his reign, Croatia retained its sovereignty from both Frankish and Byzantine rule, and became a fully recognized state.



NIKOLA ŠUBIĆ ZRINSKI (\$2500-\$4999) - Nikola Šubić Zrinski was a Croatian nobleman and general in service of the Habsburg Monarchy, Ban of Croatia from 1542 to 1556, and member of the Zrinski noble family. He was known across Europe for his involvement with the Battle of Szigetvár and is today seen as a hero by both Hungarians and Croatians.



VICEROY JOSIP JELAČIĆ (\$1,000-\$2499) - Viceroy Josip Jelačić of Bužim was the Ban of Croatia from 1848 to 1859. He was a member of the House of Jelačić and a noted army general, remembered for his military campaigns during the Revolutions of 1848 and for his abolition of serfdom in Croatia. On April 19, 1848, he proclaimed the union of Croatian provinces, and the separation from the Kingdom of Hungary.



MARKO MARULIĆ (\$500-\$999) - Marko Marulić (1450-1524) was a Croatian moral philosopher and poet and Christian humanist, known as the Crown of the Croatian Medieval Age and the father of the Croatian Renaissance. He is one of the most important figures in Croatian literature. He was also the first to use the term "psychology" in his Latin treatise, *Psichologia de ratione animae humanae*.

Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund

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Zenković, Brian and Tereza

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Bubrin, Vladimir and Marianne
Franković, Mario

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Kraljević, Michael and Rachael
Mlinarević, Jadran (Jad)

Anonymous

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO ADDING YOUR NAME TO THIS LIST!
PLEASE HELP SUPPORT OUR YOUTH.**

To contribute to the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund,
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The Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce, Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia in Mississauga and Croatian Sports and Community Centre of Hamilton invite all members of the Croatian community to join us to celebrate and share in the joyous Christmas season in the company of family and good friends.

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The Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund
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The In2ition Scholarship Award is an aggregate amount of up to \$40,000 CAD awarded to a student enrolled as a full-time undergraduate at a university in Canada for the 2021/2022 year.

Congratulations to the award recipients!

Borna Anic-Matic

Borna is enrolled at the University of Toronto majoring in Mathematics with a minor in Statistics. He aims to graduate with both bachelors and masters degrees and is considering a PhD in Mathematics.

Borna's record of achievement is outstanding and has distinguished him as an exceptional candidate. He has overcome many obstacles which could have stopped him from pursuing his goals, but Borna is dedicated to striving to achieve success, give back to his family and be an exemplary role model for his two sisters. Borna is actively involved in extra curricular activities which include, among others, participating in music festivals as an alto saxophone player.

An additional scholarship was awarded as a result of the quality of the applications received:

Angelina Vistica - \$5,000

Angelina is enrolled in Life Sciences at University of Toronto and is considering teaching, molecular biology, pharmaceutical field or environmental science.

Angelina maintained her Croatian roots since a young age through folklore dancing in Croatian Folklore Kolo Group Sljeme, performing Tamburica at various festivities, singing Croatian songs in the church youth choir, participating in Croatian weekend classes, and playing soccer in a Croatian rep league. Angelina also volunteered at church banquets/events as our community's Carassauga Croatian Pavilion.

The In2ition Scholarship Award is managed by the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund, which is a joint program developed and administered by the Croatian-Canadian Library and the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.



The Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund
is pleased to announce

The
in2ition
Scholarship Award

The In2ition Scholarship Award offers a scholarship in the aggregate amount of up to \$40,000 CAD to be awarded to one (1) high school student enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at a university in Canada for the 2023/2024 year.

This scholarship is awarded primarily on the basis of financial need as well as academic merit/scholastic achievement, previously demonstrated capacity for successful completion of studies, and a capacity for high achievement.

The application process will open on March 1, 2023

The deadline for submissions is May 31, 2023.

The scholarship recipient will be notified by June 14, 2023.

To apply, students must review and submit a completed application package to:

Attention: Scholarship and Bursary Committee
Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce
630 The East Mall
Toronto, ON M9B 4B1

To receive a copy of the application package or to obtain further details please visit us at www.croat.ca or email us at contactus@croat.ca.

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ONE CROATIA:

An allied effort for earthquake relief that has grown into a global initiative to unite Croatian associations worldwide

Within hours of the devastating earthquake that struck Croatia's Banovina region in December 2020, a number of Croatian associations from abroad came together to organize relief efforts. Over the following days, other Croatian associations joined the initiative and helped create "Global Croatia Earthquake Relief". The initiative – known as "ONE CROATIA" – includes some thirty associations of Croats from Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Slovakia, United Kingdom, United States, and Venezuela, as well as from Croatia – including the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

"The COVID19 pandemic forced all of us to start communicating via video conferencing. This created an opportunity to bring together Croats from all over the world since we all wanted to help with earthquake relief," said Ivan Grbešić, a member of the executive of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce and former president of the Advisory Council to the Government of the Republic of Croatia for Croats Living Abroad. "This is the first time that we witnessed Croats from around the world coming together in large numbers since the Croatian War for Independence in the 1990s," he added.

Dr. Steven Pavletić of the Association of Croatian American Professionals (ACAP) added that "as we all started to work together to raise funds, we quickly realized that help for Banovina would be needed in the long term and that together we could achieve a lot. This was the genesis of ONE CROATIA as an assembly of associations working collaboratively on initiatives of interest to Croats worldwide. Currently, this includes humanitarian relief, but in the future it will also include educational initiatives, business development, and knowledge exchange, to name a few."

Croatia Earthquake Relief Fund Campaign Update: Ambulance

Delivered to Banovina (April 2021) - At a ceremony held in Sisak, ONE CROATIA presented donations of an emergency ambulance vehicle for Petrinja, an anesthesia machine for the hospital in Sisak, as well as protective equipment for volunteer structural engineers, valued at \$225,000 USD (or approximately 1,500,000 Croatian Kuna). The ambulance is only the second vehicle in the county that has a four wheel drive capable of reaching villages and hamlets in mountainous areas. Financial support for this effort came from 33 different countries throughout the world.

While it would have been an honour to deliver these donations in person, many thanks to His Excellency Alan Bowman, Ambassador of Canada to Croatia and Kosovo, and to Synthia Dodig, Trade Commissioner (Embassy of Canada to Croatia and Kosovo) for attending the ceremony and representing Croatian-Canadians.



ONE CROATIA Collaborates with Zapešić Boys' New Music Hit (March 2022)

Members of ONE CROATIA participated over two months in the making of a new music video "One Homeland" by Croatian band - Zapešić Boys. Since this brand new song is dedicated to the Croatian diaspora, the ONE CROATIA initiative wanted to give back to the Zapešić Boys for their beautiful patriotic songs by agreeing to support them in their latest production. Not only were funds raised to cover the costs of the video but numerous members of the ONE CROATIA initiative also sent their short video messages to the Zapešić Boys – from Australia to USA and Canada, from Ecuador and Argentina to Macedonia and Japan. Hopefully this new song will contribute to bringing together Croats from all over the world, and show that – when united, we can do much more than when apart.



Message to Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Father Archbishop, Bishops, Provincials, Mother Provincials, Leaders of Croatian Political Parties, Religious Communities, Croatian Entrepreneurs, Croatian Cultural Institutions and all Croats in B&H

March 2, 2022

Dear Fellow Croats,

We send you our heartfelt greetings and wish to share with you our hopes and aspirations for a better future in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We find ourselves in challenging times, not only because of the demographic situation, but also because of the political situation in which Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina find themselves today.

We are monitoring developments in B&H as well as the work of the Croatian National Assembly (HNS) in B&H. By way of this letter, we wish to first provide support for the efforts undertaken by the HNS, and further, to support each of you who are able to engage in finding solutions which will ensure that the Croatian people remain on their soil, and that the constitutionally guaranteed rights of Croats in B&H are protected.

Regardless of differences and history, and regardless of conflicts and political contradictions, we call upon the representatives of the political parties and the international representatives in B&H partaking in negotiations to engage in sincere reflection and a detailed analysis of the situation. The legitimate representation of the Croatian people in the institutions of B&H is guaranteed by the Constitution of B&H.

Croatian representatives have our full support in implementing the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg and the decisions of the Constitutional Court of B&H. We support achieving legitimate representation of the constituent peoples in the Presidency of B&H and the House of the People of the Federation of B&H, the manner of choosing Croatian officials, and full equality of the Croatian people with the other two peoples in B&H.

Cognisant of the importance of the current moment in negotiations and the desire and obligation to provide support, we, the hundreds of thousands of Croats living in the diaspora, would like you to know that you are not alone and ask you to persevere in negotiations in order to successfully address the Croatian question, one which also concerns us Croats who have emigrated or whose roots originate from the homeland of Bosnia and Herzegovina, yet who continue to provide material and other forms of support to our families and to Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the hope of a speedy resolution, please accept our best wishes!

Open Letter of Support to Croats in B&H from Croats in Diaspora (March 2022) - In a unified resolve to support efforts which have been undertaken to finding solutions which will ensure that the Croatian people in B&H remain on their soil, and that the constitutionally guaranteed rights of Croats in B&H are protected, the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce along side 20 Croatian organizations from North America, South America, Europe and Australia, associated with the ONE CROATIA initiative, has written an open letter of support to Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

It is important for Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina to know that they are not alone or forgotten by Croats from the diaspora, and for Croats in Croatia and around to world to become more aware of the current hardships faced in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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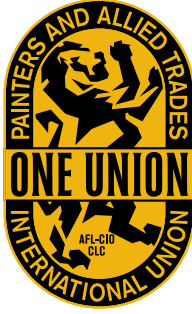
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(Restaurant Lati, a la carte restaurant Castle Mihanović, Element bar - Mexican cuisine, Infinity bar with an atrium, Terra lounge bar)



Bruno Mandic

Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Ontario Council

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Fri, Sep 30

7:30 PM



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Baka Gallery Cafe is a great place to relax, work or socialize, while enjoying a cup of Toronto's best coffee, specialty tea, or a glass of delicious Croatian wine.

Every aspect of our cafe highlights local Toronto culture - from the unique atmosphere, to the decor promoting local artists. Indulge in an elegant yet casual cafe environment, while enjoying freshly made ćevapi or a selection of homemade delights.

Baka Gallery Cafe is the ideal contemporary event space to entertain up to 60 guests in trendy Bloor West Village.

Featuring original artwork and a customizable catering menu, the Gallery is ready for your next big event. Located on the upper level of our cafe, the Gallery's sophisticated atmosphere and state-of-the-art AV equipment makes it the perfect venue for your next party, workshop or business meeting. Our friendly and dedicated staff will work with you to create the ultimate experience and an unforgettable event.

**EAT
RELAX
SAVOUR**

Baka Gallery Cafe
2256 Bloor Street West
416-766-2252

bakacafe.com

Membership in the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce translates into strong business relationships

Meet three members who's collaboration turned into success through connecting via the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

Architect-Engineer Collaboration

Mike Piskovic is an architect with Meo and Associates in the GTA who was in need of a mechanical/electrical engineer. Choosing to partner with a Canadian Croatian Engineer, Mike turned to the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce website in 2015 and found Adrian Abramovic of Trinity Engineering and Consulting. After an initial meet and greet over coffee the two have worked on over a dozen projects together. Ranging from building additions/renovations, office fit-ups, building condition reports and new builds. Last year's new build was a new clubhouse for Seven Lakes Golf Course in LaSalle Ontario. This duo also enjoys golfing together at the Annual Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament!



Multi Partner Success Lead by an Event Planner

Nicole Simunac is a leading events planner and principle of Events&Co, who has taken her skills to collaborating with Canadian-Croatian businesses.

Nicole defines community as a unified body of individuals with a common interest, characteristic or history. This is what the Chamber represents to Nicole - the opportunity to engage with fellow Canadian-Croatians to collaborate with each other and promote and celebrate one another for the overall common good, strength and advancement of our community.

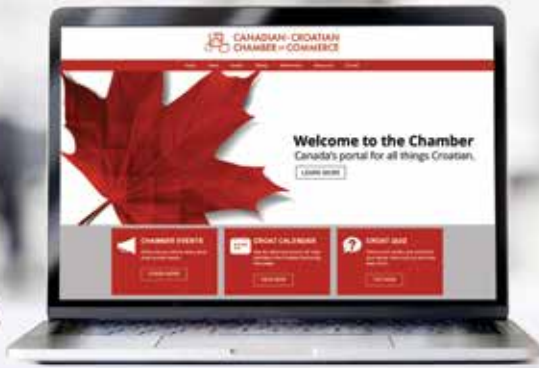
Nicole has truly lived up to her convictions by working with several Chamber members such as Re.Vityl, Croatia Unpacked, Studio Mikan, Little Piece Of Croatia and Girls Drink Wine Too, to name just a few. Where each individual has used their expertise, professional networks and commitment to our community to benefit and promote each other's businesses, good works and aspirations.



We would like to hear from you and your collaborative stories with fellow Canadian-Croatian Chamber members! Send your story with pictures to Wanita Kelava at wkelava@croat.ca.

Quoting Nicole: "The success of one of us really does represent success for us all and I'm proud to be a part of such an exceptional organization."

Go to croat.ca to join today!



Join the Chamber
**Your Croatian-Canadian
business and social
community**

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Take advantage of our member benefits, networking events, and advocacy. Become a member and increase exposure and recognition of your enterprise and gain access to many cost-effective marketing opportunities.

Networking

- Participate in business development opportunities, conferences, seminars and social events.
- Meet and connect with members to foster trade and increase business contacts.
- Connect with successful business owners, professional and skilled individuals at the Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening and the Annual Golf Tournament.

Professional Development

- Attend a variety of professional development and educational seminars.
- Build new relationships, discover, and discuss the relevant topics of the day.
- Meet with leading business, political, and public figures.

Access to Government

- Ensure that your voice is heard as part of the Chamber's advocacy efforts.

Member to Member Discounts Program

- Offering member to member privileged pricing, exclusive discounts and other value-added benefits fostering business relationships between fellow members.

Committee Participation

- A great opportunity to network and become actively involved with the Chamber's leading business and advocacy groups.
- Contribute to the development of issues of interest to businesses and help promote sustainable economic development in the community.

Website

- Include your business profile on croat.ca.
- Visit the Community and Business Events Calendar on croat.ca to stay connected to the Croatian-Canadian social and business community.

Timely Communications and Publications

- Get a better understanding of the community/business landscape through the Chamber's monthly eNewsletter, emails, and media releases.
- Include your business profile in our event books.

Reciprocal Chamber Membership

- Reciprocal use of your Chamber membership at the Canadian Croatian Business Network (Republic of Croatia).
- Employment Facilitation Connecting prospective employers with employees.



@croatchamber

Together, we make success!

croat.ca

Acknowledgments

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Roman Catholic Church of Croatian Martyrs

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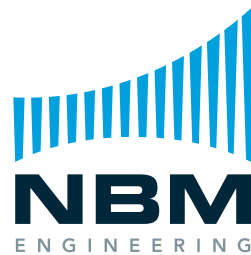
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