



Commerce Connection

Business Is Good

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April 2019

Workforce & Talent Summit **Keynote Speaker: Brooks Harper**

Don't miss the Vermont Chamber's statewide Workforce & Talent Summit focused on success stories and creative solutions for workforce training, recruitment and retention. This May 30 event will be packed with information for business owners, training providers, HR professionals and education professionals, with great keynote speakers and 20 seminars to choose from in five tracks.

Partners for this event include the Statewide Workforce Development Board, the Vermont Department of Labor, Advance Vermont, and the Vermont Futures Project.



[Purchase Tickets](#)

Workforce Development Progress Made



Both the House and the Senate are working on legislation to address Vermont's workforce challenges. The House of Representatives has passed [H.533](#), a proposal with many elements, including:

- addressing recruiting and relocation of workers
- expanding training for weatherization coordinators
- designating training funds to small businesses
- creating a refugee employment task force
- studying adult career and technical education
- recruiting workers from military bases
- developing a support system for ex-offenders to enter the workforce

H.533 also appropriates funding for worker recruitment marketing, a priority of the Vermont Chamber.

The Senate bill, [S.162](#), proposes to:

- amend the remote worker incentive to have a cap of \$7,500 and apply to Vermont remote workers, and defines qualifying expenses
- appropriate \$2 million for relocating workers and providing incentives
- adds enhanced incentives to the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive program for start-ups, small businesses, mission-based companies and environmental technology companies.

The Vermont Chamber supports the direction of these bills and efforts to close the workforce supply gap by training more Vermonters, moving those not in the workforce into jobs and recruiting people outside of Vermont to live and work here. The Vermont Chamber is committed to supporting the goal of attracting a highly trained workforce, while increasing local workforce development opportunities in new and expanding industries.

Nominate Your Favorites for Top 10 Winter Events 2019-2020

The Vermont Chamber features the state's best activities for each season. It's now time to nominate your favorite winter activities as Vermont Top 10 Events. The Top 10 Events are published in the Vermont Chamber's [Winter Vacation Guide](#), the official tourism pieces for the state of Vermont. Often the list is leveraged to answer media inquiries and by Vermont Chamber partners to identify the hottest events around the state. Click [here](#) for the application and more details. Any questions contact [Karen Foote](#).



Announcing Top 10 Summer and Fall Events 2019

Each year, a panel of independent judges selects Vermont's blue ribbon activities. Chosen for their creativity, diversity and appeal, this year's [Top 10 Summer and Top 10 Fall Events](#) feature honored traditions as well as contemporary experiences.



Congratulations to the 2019 Vermont Chamber of Commerce Hospitality Award Winners

The Vermont Chamber will proudly announce the winners of its Hospitality Awards at the 36th Annual Vermont Tourism Summit, April 4 and 5, 2019. Four Vermonters will be recognized for their exceptional dedication and commitment to high standards in Vermont's tourism industry.

2019 Restaurateur of the Year, Brian and Karen Zecchinelli of the [Wayside](#)

[Restaurant, Bakery & Creamery](#) in Montpelier. This award honors restaurant who continue to demonstrate excellence in restaurant operations and management.

2019 Borden E. Avery Innkeeper of the Year is Peter MacLaren of the [West Hill House B&B in Warren](#). This award is designed specifically for individuals who continue to demonstrate excellence in the operation and management of a Vermont bed and breakfast, inn, hotel or resort, and a commitment to the growth of the local community.

2019 Chef of the Year is Chef-Owner Sarah Natvig of [The Black Krim Tavern in Randolph](#). This award recognizes an individual with a proven history of supporting Vermont's agricultural economy using local food and products.

2019 Tourism Partner of the Year is Paula Maynard of [Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home](#). This award is for an individual who is a leader in supporting and promoting the hospitality industry in Vermont.



Vermont Chamber Teams with Vermont Panurgy to Bridge the Skills Gap

To help address the workforce skills gap and advance entry-level employees into mid and

upper level positions, [Vermont Panurgy](#), a leader in IT and training services, is teaming with the Vermont Chamber to provide members with a 20% savings on courses for: PC Applications, Graphic Design, Web Technologies, and Talent and Leadership Development. Contact Vermont Panurgy.

ServSafe® Certification Class + Exam

ServSafe® is a food and beverage safety training and certificate program administered by the National Restaurant Association.



Who should attend: Managers, Cooks, Chefs, Waitstaff, Bartenders, Supervisors, Owners, Culinary Teachers, Dietary Aides, Caterers and anyone who prepares, handles, or serves food to the public. [Registration information](#) is available for upcoming classes.

Welcome New Chamber Members

[Beta Technologies](#)
[Accu-Rite Tool & Manufacturing Co., Inc.](#)
[Hygrade Precision Technologies](#)
[Proud Flower](#)
[Lawson's Finest Liquids](#)



Member Spotlight

[Business Research Lab](#)

Business Research Lab focuses on market and consumer research, employee and customer satisfaction surveys. They do not delegate project management. Your project will be managed by a seasoned professional researcher. This ensures that you receive the personal attention needed to make your project a success. [Contact](#) them today for your next project need.

Vermont Chamber member since 1998.

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

#LetsGrowVT

[Davis & Hodgdon Wins Vermont Business Magazine's Best of Business Award for Best Accounting Firm](#)

[BioTek Receives 2019 Governor's Excellence in Worksite Wellness Award- GOLD Level](#)

[Scott joins GlobalFoundries and Vermont Tech to Announce Workforce Expansion Program](#)

This section features news about growing Vermont companies. Add news@vtchamber.com to your distribution list.

In Other News:

[Burned, Vermont Country Store Warehouse Won't be Rebuilt, Expansion Instead](#)

[14th Star Brewer Wins National Business Honor](#)

[Making it Vermont: Darn Tough Doubles Down on Northfield Facilities](#)

[Northern Vermont Company Wins Lockheed Martin Contract](#)

Save the Date:

[Applications Now Open for Comcast NBCUniversal Lift Labs Accelerator - Apply Now](#)

[Manufacturing Summit - September 26, 2019](#)

[WorkReady Skills to Succeed at Customer Service - April & May 2019](#)

[NRRA Offers Free Regional Workshops on Composting & Battery Safety May 10, 2019](#)

Want great exposure for your business? Sponsoring the statewide Chamber newsletter is an affordable and effective way to reach your target customers. Email [Megan Bullard](#) for pricing and more information.

