

Business Membership

Alliance Boots
 Andras House Limited
 AsItIs Consulting Ltd.
 Belfast International Airport
 Bombardier Aerospace
 BT NI
 Chambers Coach Hire
 Davidson and Cockcroft
 Enterprise Equity Fund
 HCL BPO Services
 Hilton NI
 NI – ICTU
 James Brown – Funeral Services NI
 Mallusk Enterprise Park
 MCE Public Relations
 Mivan Ltd.
 Moy Park Ltd.
 NIIRTA
 Norbrook Laboratories
 Northern Bank
 Rooney Fish
 Royal Mail
 Sandycove Holiday Homes
 Stratagem NI Ltd
 Wrightbus Ltd.



Diary Dates

Date	Event and Venue	Aimed At
Wednesday 5 November 2008	Becoming and remaining a global success — Norbrook Laboratories	Parliamentarians and their staff
Wednesday 10 December 2008	The work of a Parliamentarian — Parliament	The Business Sector and staff
Wednesday 10 December 2008	Annual General Meeting — Parliament Buildings	Parliamentarians and business sector members
February 2009 (tbc)	Speaker's Annual Dinner — Parliament Buildings	Parliamentarians and business sector members

Chairman's Thoughts

The Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust is continuing to flourish and has recently developed and produced some excellent programmes to



bring together the business sector and politicians with the aim to share business experience and knowledge on an educational level.

The current economic climate means that the work being carried out through the Trust is more relevant than ever with such study programmes ranging from large corporations and their relationships with SMEs in the supply chain to the global impact on the food industry in

Northern Ireland. This coupled with the educational introduction to the Northern Ireland Assembly for the business sector has proved valuable.

The contributions that all members make to these programmes are invaluable and I'd like to express my thanks to them on behalf of the Trustees.

The Fellowship programmes of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust have seen two MLAs take the opportunity to undertake a programme of study in business. It is a unique opportunity to spend up to 5 days within a company, or a number of companies over a period of 12 months, engaging in a series of activities arranged to suit both the Member's timetable and also the Member's individual needs and responsibilities. The Fellowship covers critical areas concerned with management and leadership and provides a real insight for the Member into how business strategy is formulated and implemented.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Fellowship programmes contact niabt@niassembly.gov.uk

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"To advance and encourage business understanding of the Assembly and the Assembly Members' understanding of business."

AUTUMN 2008

Fellowship Programmes – Off to a Flying Start!



Simon Hamilton MLA has spent two days at Belfast

International Airport as part of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust's Company Fellowship Programme.

The aim of the Fellowship programmes is to give Members an opportunity to spend a number of days and experience a unique insight of how major organisations are run.

Mr. Hamilton was able to experience a number of aspects of Belfast International Airport operations such as air traffic control, the fire and rescue stations, the security and the baggage handling system.

"With tourism set to be such a growth sector for Northern Ireland, Belfast International Airport will be one of the key players in achieving the visitor number and tourist spending targets" said Mr. Hamilton.

Around 5,000 people work on the BIA site making it the equivalent of a small town." Mr. Hamilton has expressed an interest in exploring other areas of tourism and will continue his programme with a leading hotel to see an other side to the tourist industry. Commenting on his overall experience "even though virtually everyone has used an airport at one time or another, it is easy to miss the fact

that it is a major business organisation where thousands of people are employed, contributing millions to the economy."



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Jonathan Craig MLA Gets Connected With BT



"I found the whole experience rewarding and worthwhile"

Jonathan Craig MLA was the second Member to take up a Fellowship programme, with British Telecom.

Mr. Craig undertook a 5 day intensive programme with BT which covered many aspects of this multinational company.

His programme included exploring BT's corporate social responsibilities, its customer services and he spent a day with an engineer.

The diversity of the programme meant Mr. Craig was able to gain

a greater appreciation of what a large company, which employs and services so many of his constituents, actually does. Mr. Craig stated "I was impressed with the different elements of the company and as an engineer, I was keen to see this aspect of the business."

Two New Directors To the Board of Trustees

The Trust is delighted to welcome two new members to the Board of Trustees— Jennifer McCann MLA and Gareth McGrath, Director of Engagement at the Northern Ireland Assembly



Ms. McCann replaces Paul Maskey to the Board and sits on the Committee of Finance and Personnel. She is also Deputy Chairperson of the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment.



Dr. McGrath, a research Chemist, started his career in the chemical industry before becoming a management consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers. He joined the civil service in 2003, moved to Deloitte as a management consultant before joining the NI Assembly in 2008.

Parliamentary and Business Study Programmes

The Supply Chain

The first visit for Business Trust members and staff was an education programme that had been designed by Bombardier Aerospace based on the work of Bombardier and its Supply Chain.



L-r: Robin Newton MLA, Peter Gregg, Head of External Liaison Unit; Owen McNulty NIABT; Leslie Cree MLA, (Front) Sean Neeson MLA, Chair of NIABT, Kate McCullough, NIABT

Global Influences

Members and constituency staff visited Moy Park in Craigavon for an education programme on the global supply influences impacting on Northern Ireland's Food Industry and the success of their learning and development training programme.



Attending the visit : John O'Dowd, MLA, Dawn Purvis MLA., Declan O'Loan MLA., Billy Armstrong MLA., Sheila McClelland, Head of Outreach, Ian McCrea MLA and Leslie Cree MLA

Introduction to the Northern Ireland Assembly

On 27th August the Trust held an education day aimed at local business people and constituency staff. The aim of the day was to provide attendees with a better understanding of the work of Northern Ireland Assembly.

Presentations were given from different operational areas of the Secretariat including the Bill Office, the Business Office, the Commission Office and other key Directorates and Offices.

Attendees were provided with the opportunity to learn more about the daily running of the Assembly, and following the event participants were evaluated on the success of the aims with 97% agreeing that it had been totally achieved.

Further programmes will be held and anyone wishing to attend please contact niabt@niassembly.gov.uk

Other Events Held

Introduction to the Legislative Process

Introduction to the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust — Business Sector Lunch

Introduction to the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust — Members' Lunch



International Association of Business and Parliaments

IABP Conference in Edinburgh

The International Association of Business and Parliaments held its annual conference in Edinburgh at the Scottish Parliament in June.

Together with the Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust, other Schemes attending included Moldova, the European Parliament, the Flemish, Scotland, Wales, Spain, Armenia, Westminster and Georgia. Oman attended the meeting as observers.

The conference asked the IABP to undertake research on behalf of its members on the issue of lobbying. There was a recognition that this would help to highlight the very distinct approach of the IABP schemes.

It was agreed that the next conference would focus on lobbying and the media and that for the first time outside practitioners and experts should be invited to contribute.

The Northern Ireland Assembly and Business Trust offered to hold next year's conference in Belfast.

