

# Newsletter

Issue 4 | 2017



## CANSEE

Kanadsko - Srpsko Poslovno Udruženje  
L'association D'affaires Canada - Serbe  
Canadian Serbian Business Association

CANSEE supported IT conference  
Voxxed Days Belgrade 2017

Transparency as a key to Success – Todd Romaine,  
VP CSR, Nevsun Resources



We are proud to announce:



**LEADER  
PROJEKAT  
SRBIJA 2018**

**LEADING CANADIAN  
ENTREPRENURIAL  
EDUCATION COMING  
TO SERBIA**

Belgrade  
from 8-19 of May 2018



## Introduction

Dear readers of CANSEE newsletter,



Mirjana Dončić-Beaton,  
Executive Director

It is my great pleasure to say that the year behind us has been very productive and successful for CANSEE and its members.

Honouring the important jubilee- 150th anniversary of Confederation of Canada, CANSEE has published two inserts in prominent magazine "Nedeljnik", in order to promote Canada and Canadian business operating in Serbia, as a way of raising the profile of Serbian and Canadian business relations. The first insert was also distributed to over 500 guests, among them the representatives of diplomatic corps, religious communities, guests from the political, business, cultural and public life, all that attended this year's 150th Canada Day celebration.

When it comes to educational field, in May, for a second year in a row, CANSEE hosted the LEADER Project, Canadian educational program for entrepreneurs from the Richard Ivey School of Business, one of the best-rated business schools globally. This project is the proof that there are many enthusiastic and creative young people in Serbia, who have excellent and achievable ideas. Education is one of key points of success in each part of the world, and it is our goal to, through LEADER Project and various other Canadian educational programs that we plan to introduce here, share the Canadian experience in this area in Serbia. Big thanks to Richard Ivey School of Business and 5 instructors who shared their valuable experience with us this year!

Talking about mining & exploration industry field- we were happy to see that Serbia is recognized and well ranked on

a world map when it comes to this industry, judging by the experiences shared during the 7th International Conference on Mineral Resources in Serbia. CANSEE, in cooperation with Canadian Embassy's Trade Sector secured the presence of expert speaker on topic of the responsible mining and best CSR practices in Canada. Mr. Brendan Marshall, Vice President of Mining Association of Canada, one of the key speakers of this year's conference, presented the Canadian experience on CSR, since Canada is definitely leading voice and great role model in corporate responsible business practice. Big thanks to organizers and all the participants of this valuable conference.

CANSEE and its members from ICT industry group supported this year's Voxxed Days Conference, the event that gathered lecturers from renowned global companies such as Google, Amazon, IBM, Microsoft and more than 700 developers, entrepreneurs, start-ups and technology enthusiasts from all around the world. This year, two guests of honour came from Canada- Mr. David Parnas, Canadian pioneer of software engineering and one of the creators of the object-oriented programming concept, and Mr. Bran Selić, who after years of work in IBM in Canada founded the consulting company Malina Software Corp. We are happy to say that the conference was a true success.

We can proudly conclude that CANSEE is growing bigger and stronger, with its 60 members from various industry fields, who are leaders in terms of CSR, giving its valuable contribution to the strengthening of economic relations between the two countries. We managed to build a reputation of very useful platform for sharing experience from Serbian and Canadian markets, and are looking forward to further fulfilling of our mission and goals.

At the end, I would like to use this opportunity to wish you all Happy Holidays, and a very successful year 2018!

Mirjana Dončić-Beaton

## Short about CANSEE

CANSEE Canadian Serbian Business Association is a non-profit organization, currently representing more than 50 corporate members, founded to encourage cooperation between organizations active in both Canada and Serbia, in order to foster mutually beneficial business and trade connections.

CANSEE was inaugurated at a formal reception at the Embassy of Canada in Belgrade on September 1st, 2014, and was honored by the attendance of the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, the Honorable John Baird, as well as the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia, Mr. Željko Sertić and the Ambassador of Canada in Belgrade, H.E. Roman Waschuk.

The concept of establishing CANSEE business association originated from the Embassy of Canada in Serbia, who has been a supportive and active member of the organization since its inception.

### CANSEE's mission is:

- To create platforms through which member companies can work together to enhance their business activities.
- To facilitate bi-lateral trade and investments through active participation between governmental bodies and CANSEE members.

The Association wishes to thank our founding members for their support, and for their active involvement as the association's current board of directors. Together with our executive team, they have supported and driven the direction of activities that we have been able to run to date.

### CANSEE Founders



Bryan Beaton

### Welcome to new CANSEE Members



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# CANSEE Timeline 2014-2017



## CANSEE Announcements

February – CANSEE general assembly meeting & Corporate Security Seminar  
 March – PDAC (Prospectors&Developers Association of Canada) Conference in Toronto & CANSEE business event in Toronto  
 March – St. Patrick's Day Party  
 April – Speed Business Meetings  
 May – LEADER Project 2018

# Celebration of 150 years of Canada



Ambassador of Canada to Serbia Philip Pinnington and his wife Erica hosted a reception at the Canadian embassy's residence in Belgrade on the occasion of Canada Day and marking the 150th anniversary of the country's existence.

- Today we create a vast and diverse country, surrounded by the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic oceans. A country whose population maintains personal and trade links with all four sides of the planet. For Canadians, this day is always especially exciting and joyful - said the ambassador in his address. He referred to the fact that diversity and inclusion are important topics related to Canada, primarily because it's inhabitants, who came from all around the world, including Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia, created Canada as it is today.

- Defining what it means to be a Canadian is a favorite game in our country, but there is no doubt that there is a fundamental definition that includes justice, modesty, kindness, apologies, democracy, human rights, the rule of law and the expectation that these values will be promoted by the government whose purpose is to serve the citizens, and not the other way around - said the ambassador and pointed out that Canada has always been active and will continue to play a constructive role on the world stage.

At the end of his address, the ambassador presented the young people from KUD "Oplenac". He proudly said



that they are young Canadians who prove that they can, at the same time, be Canadians and keep the tradition of their ancestors. He also thanked the members of the choir "Belgrade International Singers" who were intoning the anthem of the two countries. The program was enriched by the actors Jelena Vukicevic and Petar Kokinovic, who presented 150 facts about Canada in 150 seconds.

The reception was attended by representatives of the diplomatic corps, religious communities, guests from the political, business, cultural and public life.

In the year in which Canada celebrates 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, CANSEE Canadian Serbian Business Association decided to issue a special Canada 150 monograph to honor the big jubilee. Monographs were distributed to CANSEE members, partners and friends in order to present this beautiful country to Serbian public.







## Celebration of 6 years of Informal geological meetups and 150 years of Canada

On April 28, we have celebrated two great anniversaries – 6 years of Informal Geological meetups, as well as 150 years of Canada. The event was organized in cooperation with CANSEE valuable member – Jantar Grupa!

Guests had the opportunity to enjoy the good company, networking, exchanging ideas and experiences, beer and čevapčići, all in the beautiful setting of the restaurant "Moj prostor". Second CANSEE Lottery was organized: valuable CANSEE member, Hotel Holiday Inn Express Belgrade City, who earlier in April got the IHG award for the best hotel in Europe, donated a voucher for a free weekend in this beautiful hotel in Belgrade!



Many thanks to Mr. Olivier Si Tahar, general manager of Holiday Inn Express Belgrade- City, Mr. Dušan Simić, CEO of Jantar Grupa, our host Mr. Bryan Beaton, CANSEE BoD member, who provided the venue for the event and all our guests who made this night a huge success!

\* Informal Geological Meetups are organized by Jantar Grupa every last Friday of the month, with the aim of gathering not just the people from the geological profession, but everyone who likes networking, exchanging ideas and experiences. The information about the gatherings you may find at Facebook group Jantar grupa.



## LEADER project held in Serbia for the second time

The Canadian educational program for entrepreneurs, LEADER project Serbia 2017 from the Richard Ivey School of Business, one of the best-rated business schools globally, was held in Belgrade from May 8-19, for the second year in a row. The program was organized by CANSEE Canadian Serbian business association in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia and the Embassy of Canada to Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro.



The Canadian LEADER project is an international educational program which has been realized in eight countries worldwide since 1991. It has the form of MBA program-styled workshops, specially prepared according to the attendees' profile in order to enable them to develop their own business ideas.



Mirjana Dončić Beaton, Managing Director of CANSEE, said at the official opening that Richard Ivey is one of the most prestigious business schools in the world, that has been organizing this MBA project for young entrepreneurs for the past 26 years. The course is targeting people who want to start their own business and acquire necessary skills in finance, marketing, management and human resources.

– This is one of the ways in which we stimulate economic cooperation between Serbia and Canada, as well as competitiveness of young Serbian businessmen, as we believe that this is one of the foundations of a developed society. As a developed country, Canada has good educational methods and this project is one of the best in the world – said Dončić Beaton at the opening of the project.

Ambassador of Canada to Serbia, HE Philip Pinnington, reminded that CANSEE was organizing the LEADER project for the second year in a row with the aim of stimulating the development of entrepreneurship in Serbia. He emphasized that a larger number of participants applied for the program this year, and that the attendees will be introduced to the best global entrepreneurial practice over the 10-day training course with the help of five Canadian instructors of the Ivey Business School. He emphasized that the young people should use the opportunity to receive training and education, thereby acquiring new knowledge and perspectives to be used in their own business. The ambassador added that the business sector in Serbia, as well as in Canada, could always be enhanced with new ideas.

The 10-day course was attended by 40 participants, mostly young entrepreneurs from various industrial fields – IT,



food and pharmaceutical industry, design, mining and geology and others. During two weeks, the participants created, developed and presented their business plans.

During the project various activities were organized such as Gala reception at the Canadian Embassy's residence, visit to VIP mobile and ALUMNI night where this years'

"During two weeks, we had an incredible opportunity to gain new knowledge and experience and also establish great business connections and friendships. Our two-week work was crowned with the presentation of our business plans that we have developed during the course"

**Una Vidaković, winner of this year's LEADER project**



"CANSEE (Canadian Serbian Business Association) was our on-site partner for the 2017 Leader Project in Serbia. Although this was only the second year of Leader in Serbia, it has been quickly recognized to be amongst one of the most advanced sites – both in terms of the composition of the class, and the overall degree of professionalism displayed by CANSEE and their affiliated partners, including the Canadian Embassy."

**Masoum Mosmer, LP instructor**





participants had an opportunity to meet LEADER alumni students from last year and exchange experiences about the course.

At the very end of the two-week program, the participants, forming the selected forty best entrepreneurs from Serbia, simulated the discussion with the investment banks and funds, by presenting their business plans to an eight-mem-

ber jury. Four participants with the most outstanding business plans, ideas and analysis were announced: Ms. Sanja Milosavljević, Ms. Mirna Ivić, Mr. Srđan Marković and Mr. Sreten Komlenović, whereas the winner was Ms. Una Vidaković, whose idea of creating a web platform for connecting handicraft producers and buyers was announced as the best on the LEADER project Serbia 2017.

## Transparency as a key to Success

### *Todd Romaine, VP CSR, Nevsun Resources*

Rakita, a joint venture of Canadian company Nevsun Resources and American Freeport-McMoran Exploration, which owns exploration licenses for four locations in eastern Serbia, according to Todd Romaine, CSR Vice President Nevsun, pays attention to social corporate responsibility and investment projects in the local community. A number of studies on the project of Čukaru Peki near Bor have provided encouraging results. Romaine explains the challenges that company faces in the project, and the most important aspects of their business.



- We have found consistent sustained federal support for our business activities in Serbia. We are optimistic that both local and federal support will enable us to commence mineral production in 2021/22. Our future plan is to develop the Timok Project into a full scale mine, employing up to 600 people and undertaking numerous initiatives to build and enhance our social license to operate in Bor and in Serbia. The challenge is being a first mover in our industry in the country.

- Despite being four years away from production, the Company is cognizant that it is vitally important early-on to establish our social license to operate in the Bor region. This has included transparency to our evolving project and to the manner to which we plan to conduct ourselves with the public with respect to land access, land acquisition, and community consultations. During our open house sessions held in Bor and the nearby villages we had over 350 visitors that had opportunity to meet our staff and get informed about all the aspects of Čukaru Peki project. Our Information Centre in downtown Bor provides a centralized hub for interaction and enables local residents to physically submit their resumes for future employment opportunities with the Company. Employment and contracting opportunities are prioritized wherever possible for local people to ensure they are benefactors to our presence and intended development activities. We have also begun numerous community investment projects that align with skills training/education, supply chain/procurement, economic diversification, and local charitable needs. Some of

the examples include partnering with the Serbian Government on providing IT training for 100 citizens of the Bor area so that they can further diversify their skill sets and possibly stimulate economic growth for new services. We have also given support for unemployed women from the nearby rural areas by providing them handicraft training and a scheme for online sale with a goal to enforce women's entrepreneurship through production and market placement of their products. Support has been provided to the local apiary industry by providing lands and resources to assist in the regional honey making business.

-We are also cognizant that local people are naturally concerned about the environment. We have partnered with local organizations to organize a clean-up day of the Brestovačka River and also the Bor River and removing historic debris and garbage from these important water bodies. We have also undertaken an independent human rights impact assessment to ensure all stakeholder concerns are identified early on and to undertake effective risk mitigation approaches to ensure minimal impact to local residents. This will also include providing future training to our private security at the mine in the Voluntary Principles for Security & Human Rights. As a locally owned Serbian company, Rakita will undertake a leading-edge CSR program that reflects Serbian laws and evolving international best practices. Our social license to operate depends on our sustained responsible business behavior and our ongoing constructive dialogue with the nearby communities.



## CANSEE dedicated to the empowerment of the mining sector

On October 4, Belgrade hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mineral Resources in the Republic of Serbia on the topic of "The Movement for Economic Development". CANSEE association supported the conference for the third year in a row.

International companies - Nevsun Resources, Mundoro, Dundee Precious Metals, Eldorado Gold, Erin Ventures, Medgold Resources, ERM, which have so far made significant investments in the mining and geological exploration sector in Serbia, shared their experiences regarding their business operations in Serbia. Besides them, other member companies of the industry group for geological exploration and mining within the CANSEE association took part at the conference, including: Terragold, Jantar Group, Capital Drilling, Contango, Metalfer, Rakita, Drilexx International, Metso, S&V Drilling Mine Services, ALS Minerals, Teknoxgroup, Mining and metallurgy institute Bor.

A special segment of this year's conference was dedicated to the corporate social responsibility, for which the Canadian mining industry has been recognized as one of the leaders in the whole world.

Brian Ebel, Chargé d'affaires at the Embassy of Canada to Serbia said that the constant growth of the number of participants at this conference indicates the importance of the mining sector in the development of the Serbian industry. He emphasized that Canada has a very strong mining tradition and that there is a great potential for cooperation with Serbia in that field. The Government of Serbia has improved the business conditions for foreign investors, since they have adopted laws based on international standards, he added.

This is why CANSEE association and its members supported the initiative of the Canadian Embassy that the



prominent Canadian expert, Mr. Brendan Marshall, Vice President of the Mining Association of Canada, attends this year's conference. Marshall, who had previously been engaged in several important positions in the Federal Government of Canada and in the Mining Association of Canada deals with the issues of regulation and policy of this industry in northern Canada, spoke on the topic of responsible mining and the best examples of CSR in Canadian practice.

Canadian investments in the research sector in the Republic of Serbia are estimated at around \$250 million, while more than 100 million dollars have been invested in the research and mine building projects, while the value of all Canadian investments in Serbia reaches a figure of 1.5 billion euros.

The aim of the Conference is to link investors and experts in the field of mining with all relevant state, economic and social entities. Numerous speakers came from Canada to enhance the conference and exchange ideas and experiences to improve business practices in the field of mining in Serbia.





## Canadian commitment to the principles of social responsibility in Serbia

**Aleksandar Obrenović, President of CANSEE Board of Directors**



Attributes of Canadian business practices, such as the promotion of quality, knowledge, high work ethics and standards in the field of health and safety and social corporate responsibility, are certainly a good way to improve Serbia's competitiveness on the world map, making it a better place for business, says Aleksandar Obrenović, President of CANSEE Board of directors.

### How would you describe the existing relations between Serbia and Canada?

As a country with a good strategic position, good infrastructure and skilled workforce, Serbia is on the right path of further strengthening its investment climate and better positioning on the world economic map. The bilateral relations between Canada and Serbia are at a very high level, with positive indicators for the future.

In the last few years, Serbia has become a very popular destination for Canadian investors, especially when it comes to geological exploration and mining. After the discovery of gold and copper deposits in Čukaru Peki in the Timok region, the number of Canadian companies that are willing to explore and invest in that field has increased.

Canadian investments in the exploration sector in the Republic of Serbia have been estimated at about \$ 250 million, while hundreds of millions of dollars have been invested in the acquisition of exploration projects and work on the opening of the mines. We had the opportunity to see this at this year's PDAC conference in Toronto, where three CANSEE founding members presented their projects in Serbia

and the region. In the period from 2002 to 2017, more than 20 Canadian companies in the field of geological exploration and mining have operated or are still doing business in Serbia.

### What makes Canada's mining sector recognizable?

Key attributes of mining in Canada are legal efficiency, environmental protection and corporate social responsibility (CSR). The Geological Survey of Canada was established in 1842, 25 years before the establishment of the Confederation and the history of Canada shows that the extractive industry can significantly contribute to the construction of the state.

Today, the mining and processing sector in Canada employs 375,000 people, which immeasurably contribute to the economic development of not only Canada, but also countries where Canadian mining companies operate.

Canada produces more than 60 minerals and metals and is one of the world's five leading manufacturers of 14 different minerals and metals. Interestingly, in 2013, 31% of the world's global investment in the mining and exploration sector came from Canadian companies, while in 2014, 57% of all world mining companies were listed on the TSX stock exchange in Toronto. These 1500 companies have been operating in over 100 countries around the world, at over 8000 different locations, which is a truly impressive number.

### What is the situation with Canadian investments outside the mining industry?

Although investments are the largest in the mining sector, other Canadian companies such as Molson Coors/Apatin brewery, PharmaSwiss owned by Valeant, or Magna whose factory in Odzaci is today the largest in Europe in the Magna system, also operate in Serbia.

All these companies pay great attention to social corporate responsibility. Canadian approach and way of doing business is definitely something we can learn from, and the experience that Canadian companies, as investors, can share with Serbian partners is invaluable.

## CANSEE supported IT conference Voxxed Days 2017



The third technology conference Voxxed Days Belgrade organized by the HeapSpace community was held in Belexpocentar in Belgrade on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of October. CANSEE Canadian Serbian business association, together with its member-companies from ICT industry group, supported this important event for the first time.

Voxxed Days Belgrade, a part of a network of global Devovx conferences, has brought lecturers from renowned global companies such as Google, Amazon, IBM, Microsoft, PayPal, Pivotal, RedHat. The event brought together more than 700 developers, entrepreneurs, start-ups and technology enthusiasts from all around the world. The participants had the opportunity to hear and learn more about the most current trends in the world of technology, such as machine learning, artificial intelligence, computer architectures, and security in virtual reality.

Canadian pioneer of software engineering and one of the creators of the object-oriented programming concept, Mr. David Parnas, opened the conference with a presentation on the topic of "software aging". The second speaker from Canada, Mr. Bran Selić, who after years of work in IBM in Canada founded the consulting company Malina Software Corp., spoke at the conference about the engineering of software systems for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



CANSEE ICT industry group member-companies, Dominion Voting Systems, Schneider Electric, Division Visual Solutions and TNation, presented their products and services at their booths within the Canadian Corner. CANSEE association organized Happy Hour, during which conference visitors had the opportunity to enjoy the beer of Apatin



Brewery, owned by the Canadian company Molson Coors. On the first day of the conference, representatives from Canadian Embassy in Belgrade, Mr. Brian Ebel, Charge d'Affaires, and Ms. Đurđa Čeramilac, Trade commissioner visited the Canadian corner. They enabled visitors to, with the help of special 3D glasses, immerse themselves







into Canadian culture, visit Toronto, see and hear Niagara Falls, ski in Alberta, and attend the hockey game of the Canadian national team.

In the honor of two speakers from Canada at the Voxxed Days Belgrade 2017, Mr. David Parnas and Mr. Bran Sešlić, a reception was held on October 17 at the Canadian Embassy's residence. The reception was attended by the members of CANSEE ICT Industry Group, representatives of the HeapSpace community, sponsors of the conference, as well as representatives of Serbian universities.



## Keeping track of our members

### Magna Seating opened new facility in Odžaci



The Canadian-Czech company Magna Seating opened a new, 10,000-m<sup>2</sup> facility in Odžaci on May 18. This factory, which produces car seat covers, operates in 18 European countries, and has been present in Serbia since 2013, when the first, 4,300-m<sup>2</sup> factory in Odžaci was opened. Magna Odžaci employs 1,100 people for now, and according to the current contract, the number is to be increased to 1,650. The company took part in the dual education system and technical school students will start being trained regularly at the company's training center beginning with 2018.

### Delta Holding invested 1.64 million euros in socially responsible projects in 2017

Delta Holding has announced and presented the report on sustainable and responsible business for 2016 in Crowne



Plaza Hotel. In the past year, the company invested 1.64 million euros in socially responsible projects. As a result, 67,155 people received aid within 427 humanitarian actions. "Our obligation is to recognize the challenges that society is facing and launch actions to address them. That is why we have included the topics of sustainable development in our strategic plans", said Marija Desivojević Cvetković, senior vice president for strategy and development of Delta Holding.

### Schneider Electric celebrates 15 years of operations in Serbia



Schneider Electric, the global leader in energy management and automation, is celebrating 15 years of activities in the markets of Serbia and Montenegro. Ever since its foundation, the business model of Schneider Electric has been built using the principle of a partner network and hiring local companies, and the network now brings together over 70 companies and three license partners with production facilities in Serbia.

The company is celebrating its anniversary of activities by taking part in big projects, such as Hotel Hilton Belgrade,



Lidl facilities all over Serbia, GTC Fortytone, complexes Kumbor and Porto Novi and installing electric chargers in the reconstructed garage in the Obilicev Venac Street. At the same time, good news is coming from the Schneider Electric DMS NS center, where the engineers are working on entering the gas business sector, following their great success in the field of electricity distribution system software.

### Bilje Borča participated at food industry fair ANUGA 2017

The Development Agency of Serbia and the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia organized the presentation of Serbian businessmen at one of the two most important international food industry fairs in the world, ANUGA 2017, which took place in Cologne, Germany, from October 7 - 11. Twenty-one producers from Serbia presented themselves at the Cologne trade fair, among which was CANSEE member Bilje Borča.

ANUGA is one of the biggest international fairs in the field of food industry and is held biennially in Cologne. In 2015, there were more than 7,000 exhibitors from 108 countries at the fair, and it was visited by around 160,000 people from 192 countries.



## Business News

### Serbia takes first place in greenfield direct foreign investments globally - Financial Times

Serbia is the top country in the world looking by the performance index of greenfield direct foreign investments, as the regulatory reform, low labor costs and access to the EU market have more than made up for the country's disappointing economic performances, the Financial Times reported on August 3. The index shows that Serbia attracted 12 times more greenfield direct foreign investments in 2016 than was expected from an economy of that size.

### The Foreign Investors Council celebrated 15 years of successful operations



The Foreign Investors Council celebrated its anniversary – 15 years of doing business, in the presence of numerous guests from the economic, social and political life, at the event in the White Palace complex. On this occasion, FIC President Yana Mikhailova and Minister of Finance Dusan Vujovic addressed the esteemed audience. Retro-

spective on the FIC establishment was made by Christoph Greussing who was first General Secretary of the Foreign Investors Council. "FIC mission was and is today, to remain committed to the active promotion of a sustainable business environment in Serbia through open dialogue with the authorities and other relevant stakeholders", said Mikhailova.

### Macedonia2025 Summit held in Skopje

6th edition of Macedonia2025 Summit was held in Skopje on November 1 and 2. The Summit is a leading regional platform for sharing the latest global trends in business, investment, technological innovation and responsible leadership.

Among this year's speakers were Noah Gorsky, Client Partner in Facebook; Vuk Jeremić, Former Serbian Minister of Foreign Affairs; Aco Momčilović from the Croatian Rimac Automobili, makers of the world's fastest electric







cars; Ruben Vardanyan, an influential Russian entrepreneur, who through "Armenia2020" realized significant social investments in his native Armenia; Tjasa Ficko, Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana, who coordinated the project through which Ljubljana became the main "green" city of Europe and many others.

#### Serbia advances to 43<sup>rd</sup> spot on Doing Business list

In the World Bank's Doing Business list for 2018, Serbia ranks at 43 on the ease of doing business, compared to 47 in last year's report.

– If we look at Serbia and compare it with the perfect business environment, Serbia's score went from 72.87 in Doing Business 2017 to 73.13 in Doing Business 2018 – said Stephen Ndegwa, World Bank Manager for Serbia.

Doing Business finds that, by implementing substantive changes in the local regulatory framework in 2016/17, Serbia made starting a business easier by reducing the signature certification fee and increasing the efficiency of the registry, reducing the time for business registration.



## Culture news

#### Exhibition "The invisible thread" by Gordana Brelih in Novi Sad - July



Exhibition "The Invisible Thread" by Gordana Brelih, Canadian artist of Serbian origin, was held in Novi Sad from July 12-25, 2017. The exhibition was organized in cooperation between Cultural Centre of Novi Sad and the Embassy of Canada in Belgrade. "Fiber Art" is a young technique that has evolved over the last decade, and before that there was a traditional technique of the patchwork (joining triangles, squares, sticks and blankets). This technique, Gordana explained, connects different materials like fabric,

thread, metal and wood into one whole, or collage. Her works originate from three types of inspiration - personal feelings, emotions related to the mother of the artist and from nostalgia for her own country.

#### Scholarships in Canada presented at University of Belgrade Scholarship Fair - September

On September 28, Embassy of Canada presented the scholarships in Canada during the University of Belgrade Scholarship fair in the Rectorate Building.



#### 2 Canadian movies at Cinema City Festival in Novi Sad - September

Canadian movies Fluffy and Cleo were screened at Cinema city festival in Novi Sad in the beginning of September. Soon after that, Canadian-Serbian film Fluffy was awarded Best Short by the Golden Globe's Hollywood Foreign Press Association at the recent TIFF 2017 - Toronto International Film Festival. Fluffy is a funny and poignant chronicle of a Serbian family's last hours at home as it prepares to move to Canada, a hectic day marked by laughter, tears and the startling appearance of an oversized teddy bear.

#### Canadian writer David Homel @62nd Belgrade Book Fair - October

The Serbian translation of the book The Travelling Circus by Canadian writer David Homel was launched at Belgrade Book Fair on October 24. The speakers were Mr. David Homel, Mr. Gojko Božović, Director, Arhipelag, Mr. Vesna Roganović, translator of the book and Mr. Brian Ebel, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Canada to Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro.

The book tells an amazing story about Charlie and his family who are about to embark on another trip, to another out-of-the-way place off the beaten path.





# CANSEE Membership

CANSEE has opted to move to a tiered system of membership benefits in order to better serve our members. The three tiers of membership are Platinum, Gold & Silver levels.

Our Platinum Level Members receive the following benefits as part of their CANSEE package:

- Invitation to all CANSEE Networking events (maximum of 5 company representatives, or as space permits).
- Participation in Annual Business Forum and free attendance for company representatives.
- Free attendance for all CANSEE events.
- Open Invitation participation in regional business partner events through the CANSEE network.
- First choice for free participation in the Ivey LEADER Project (limited to 1 employee, based on seats available).
- Free Participation in CANSEE organized Promotional and Educational workshops.
- Invitation to special events with high profile business contacts.
- Membership of chosen CANSEE Industry Working Group and right to be elected as Industry Group President.
- Executive Office Services
- Free advertising within CANSEE media incl. website and promotional materials.
- Member logo on CANSEE website.
- Brief presentation at CANSEE events.
- Complimentary promotion of Member company events and news on CANSEE website.
- Connections to exclusive media coverage and discount with CANSEE rates.

## CANSEE Members

