



Last week Octavian Group held their most recent newcomer business information session. The sessions have been growing in interest with both the newcomer community and local business operators. This session had over sixty participants with representation from nine countries.

Presenters at this session included Lisa Wilcox and Rob MacBain from Scotia Private Equity Group. Ms. Wilcox is director of international wealth structuring with Scotia Group; she flew in from British Columbia to explain the intricacies of international trusts, wealth preservation and capital protection.

The benefit of establishing an international trust for newcomers arriving in Canada is to protect income and capital gains realized by assets in the trust, while enjoying a tax exemption on those assets for up to 60 months following arrival in Canada. The topic was well received by newcomers, many of whom could be employing a trust strategy within their personal affairs.

The next presentation was provided by Pamela Williams, a partner with law firm Cox and Palmer in Charlottetown. Ms Williams discussed various Canadian business structures, the benefits and challenges of business ownership and costs associated with establishing a business. Other topics covered included business compliance requirements, estate planning and wills.

The final presentation was delivered by Blake Doyle of Octavian Group who overviewed a number of local businesses which are seeking either business investment or to sell their businesses. "These information sessions have grown in popularity and really fill a void in critical business information as well as linkages between the local business community and recently arriving newcomer entrepreneurs"; states Blake Doyle.

Translation and interpreting was provided by Hans Wan, a successful professional trainer from Shanghai and recent newcomer to PEI. The next newcomer information session is scheduled for June.

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