

Dear Finnish Trade Guild Member,

The 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Finnish Trade Guild (FTG) took place on January 24th at the Finnish Embassy in Warsaw. Guild's 2018 activity report and finances were approved as well as the 2019 activity plan. AGM elected the 2019 FTG Board members, including new chairman and nominated the FTG representatives for the Board of the Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce (SPCC). The meeting was followed by a presentation by Mr. Jukka Halkilahti on upcoming Embassy activities and events.

FTG Board for 2019 is:

- Tuomas Asunmaa Spondeo, tuomas@spondeo.fi - Chairman
- Marcin Bruszewski, Fortum, marcin.bruszewski@fortum.com - Vice Chairman
- Markku Ekholm, Suomen Unipol, markku.ekholm@unipol.fi
- Tomasz Konarski, YIT, tomasz.konarski@yit.pl
- Kirsi-Maarit Poljatschenko, Business Finland, kirsi-maarit.poljatschenko@businessfinland.fi
- Esa Tuomi, Nordea Bank, Esa.Tuomi@nordea.com
- Piotr Prus, Ecovis, Piotr.prus@ecovis.com
- Mikko Tähtinen, Van Cargo, m.tahtinen@vancargo.com
- Jan Grönqvist, Leinonen, jan.gronqvist@leinonen.pl

FTG representatives at SPCC board are Tuomas Asunmaa and Marcin Bruszewski. Markku Ekholm serves as Deputy Member.

Activity plan for 2019

FTG's three main events are Summer Picnic, Crayfish party and Finnish Independence Day party. In addition, the board aims to organize company visits, business breakfasts together with the Embassy and other social & business events.

Dates for upcoming events are:

- Finnish Summer Picnic: June 8th at Wilanow Golf, Warsaw
- Crayfish Party: 14th September (Saturday).
- Independence Day party on Friday 6th December.

During the spring season we also plan to organize:

- Company visit at KONE headquarters in early May
- Ice Hockey World Championship's game evening on 10th May (FIN vs. CAN)
- Business breakfast together with the Embassy of Finland

We continue to look for more opportunities to promote our members business interests in Poland by active participation in SPCC Board and other networks – as well as enhancing the cooperation with Finnish Embassy and Business Finland.

Currently FTG has 70 corporate members and 6 honorary members, and the board's aim for this year is to put growing activity to attract new members. We have estimated that roughly 300 Finnish companies are doing business in Poland – we have room for growth and provide stronger voice over Finnish businesses in Poland. During 2019 we have got already 3 new members and we want to be the fastest growing section of SPCC this year.

FTG operates based on incomes allocated from SPCC budget and sponsorship income. We highly appreciate our sponsors – your contribution is crucial in order to complete the activity plan. Currently 80% of 2019 sponsorship budget is filled, meaning we are looking for 1 or 2 sponsors for autumn's events. Furthermore, with additional sponsors' support we could arrange more attractive business program for our members.

Membership information and benefits

Take a minute and half to look at SPCC's 2018 summary: <https://www.spcc.pl/en/node/22856>
We encourage to have a look on membership section on spcc.pl portal: <https://www.spcc.pl/en/node/224> where you can find accurate information on membership benefits (promotion, events, networking, member database etc.) as well as “Member gets member” -program where you can enjoy even 45% discount on annual membership fee.

It is also worth to remind that SPCC organizes roughly 100 events per year all around Poland. Please take advantage of these offers and remember that via [event section](#) you can always check the list of participants prior to event for potential networking.

If you are not yet following SPCC LinkedIn and Facebook profile – it is time to click the links:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/scandinavian-polish-chamber-of-commerce/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Scandinavian-Polish-Chamber-of-Commerce-160900494444388/>

The board's knowledge and network are always at your reach! Please let us know if you have any questions, requests, need for further info or connections. Also don't hesitate to come back to us in areas of improvements and new ideas. We are here to support your business!

We hope to hear and see you soon!

On behalf FTG board,
Tuomas Asunmaa
Chairman
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