North Sound BUSINESS NETWORK

Welcome!

We appreciate your interest in the North Sound Business Network. We are a group of business people who meet regularly to share ideas, offer each other business leads, network and socialize. Our meetings are currently held every Thursday morning from 7:30 to 8:30 at Mitzel's. We are a close knit group where both business and personal friendships and camaraderie thrive. We look out for and support each other professionally and personally; and as a networking organization, wield a strong influence in our community. As a new member you will be easily and warmly welcomed into the group.

It is appropriate for you to consider your membership carefully and in order to assist you in that; here are some details about how we function:

- ***We have a non-compete agreement within the organization.*** This means that only one person from each business category may be a member at a given time, for example, one Realtor, one accountant, etc. To ensure fairness to all and help us understand your business, we may ask for a brief explanation of your business at one of your first meetings. Your membership may be declined if an active member of the group already offers the same product/service that you offer.
- ***We require a minimum of 75% attendance at meetings.*** You will be expected to attend at least 3 meetings out of 4 on a regular basis. Exceptions are made for out-of-town business and vacation trips. Members who do not attend regularly are dropped from the roll with no further notification, to vacate the business category and allow a new member to join. Membership rosters are updated quarterly.
- As a matter of courtesy to other members, we are expected to arrive at meetings on time and turn off pagers and cell phones during the meeting.
- In addition to the weekly 30-second business "commercials" that we each give, members are scheduled on a rotating basis to give 10-15 minute presentations. We are expected to make these presentations a priority and speak when we are scheduled. If you are unable to speak when scheduled, it is your responsibility to arrange a trade with another scheduled speaker and notify the Speaker Coordinator of the change.
- Ownership and responsibility for the success of the organization are spread widely among the members. This means that we all take our turn at serving as an officer or in some other organizational capacity. We all have jobs already, so duties are kept light, and time spent outside the meetings is minimal to non-existent.

We consider ourselves privileged to be part of this networking group, and feel honored that you are considering membership. However, networking is a process that takes time to develop, and the group is only as strong as each individual member, so we ask that you consider your membership carefully. To further assist you in this, we ask that you ***submit your application and attend at least 3 of 4 consecutive meetings.*** Your application will be considered at the end of the 4th meeting. If you do not feel that you can commit the time and energy necessary to become an active member, please do not apply.

We hope this process will help you to evaluate the group and your membership in it. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have, please feel free to ask any officer or current member. Again, thank you for your interest in the North Sound Business Network. We look forward to getting to know you.

Local businesses networking together to generate more business for each other.

The North Sound Business Network is an equal opportunity organization.