



# PRE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

## 2010 AGM & CONVENTION

**Friday, April 9, 2010**  
**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

### **WHERE HAVE ALL THE BUFFALO GONE?**

The giant palm trees of Easter Island are no more, the great buffalo herds have disappeared and the abundant Coho runs of Cowichan Bay are only a memory. 'They' didn't pay attention then, maybe we should now?

Today our world is challenged with two great issues that are inherently related and coming at us with catastrophic proportions far greater than any tsunami or earthquake will bring.

Climate change we have heard much about, Peak oil we would rather ignore. The world economy of today is based on cheap oil. What happens if there is no longer cheap oil? Are there things we can do today that would help to build a resilient Island economy regardless of the price of oil?

Perhaps and it may very well be that Island rail will be more important tomorrow than it ever was yesterday if we are to attempt to build a resilient Island economy.

Graham Bruce, Executive Director of the Island Corridor Foundation, will provide an overview of the various activities and initiatives being pursued under the auspices of the Foundation including the following key areas:

- the Nanaimo train station restoration project;
- the new passenger service plan;
- the excursion train plan;
- tourist feature train;
- coal train;
- aggregate train;
- the Annacis Island rail barge terminal;
- the Ministry of Transportation study;
- the trails program; and
- land-use forums.

**11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

### **ELECTIONS TASK FORCE UPDATE**

The format and content for this session has not been determined. Check back at [www.AVICC.ca](http://www.AVICC.ca) for more information as it becomes available.



### **ABOUT THE SPEAKER**



Graham Bruce was appointed Minister of Skills Development and Labour on June 5, 2001 and on December 15, 2004 was appointed as Government

House Leader. Mr. Bruce previously served as Minister of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture in 1991. He was first elected in 1986 to represent the riding of Cowichan-Malahat. He was elected to represent Cowichan-Ladysmith in 2001. Prior to that he served on North Cowichan Municipal Council for 11 years, eight of them as mayor.

Mr. Bruce was instrumental in the rejuvenation of Chemainus and is a past director of the Chemainus and District Credit Union. He was made an honorary member of the Canadian Institute of Forestry for his work on Vancouver Island's Strategy for Survival forestry program. Mr. Bruce is currently the Executive Director of the Island Corridor Foundation. Graham and Anneke Bruce live in Crofton and have four children and seven grandchildren.