



The London Region Manufacturing Council (LRMC) is an industry-driven Council that fosters the growth and prosperity of the manufacturing industry in the London Region.

# LRMC FOCUS

[www.manufacturinglondon.com](http://www.manufacturinglondon.com)

## did you know?

### EMC: Integrated Benefits Strategy Seminar - Monday, May 16

This seminar is structured to give quantifiable tools to help reduce costs associated with health plan benefits.

[smcneilsmith@excellence-in-manufacturing.org](mailto:smcneilsmith@excellence-in-manufacturing.org)

### International Workshop on Advanced Manufacturing - Monday, May 16 - 18

Annual three-day international workshop.  
To register call 519-430-7020

### A to Z FMEA Workshop - Tuesday, May 17

This workshop is a high impact workshop to teach a proactive Lean Quality tool which will help reduce or eliminate frequency & severity of critical failure modes in system, product design and processes.

To register call 519-376-0470

### EMC: Machine Guarding - Wednesday, May 18

This hard hitting seminar is designed for managers, supervisors, workers and JHISC members enabling them to ensure their work environment is healthy and safe.

To register call 519-376-0470

*get the full story....*

<http://www.manufacturinglondon.com>

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## MANUFACTURERS BREAKFAST

On March 1st, over 125 members of London's manufacturing sector came together at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn to have breakfast, network and hear a great speaker.



This first LRMC manufacturers' breakfast featured guest speaker, Benjamin Tal, Senior Economist at CIBC World Markets. Tal talked about economic issues and trends in both Canada and the United States that are important to manufacturers: the dollar, interest rates, GDP, tax rates, outsourcing, income growth, energy costs, and debt.

In order to increase the value of attending, this event featured "peer-to-peer" seating. This arrangement allowed manufacturers to meet and network with other manufacturers in the same occupation.

We are pleased with the very positive response to this event and look forward to planning another manufacturers' breakfast. Thanks to all who participated!

## MANUFACTURING 20/20

LRMC will be partnering with the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) this autumn to bring you another high profile and useful London Manufacturing Day experience.

CME has been working diligently with manufacturers over the past year to look at the current state of manufacturing in Canada and to look forward to where we need to be in 2020.

Their excellent work included two separate roundtable events in London to gather information from manufacturers and supporters of manufacturing. The London results, together with information gathered from all over the country can be found on the CME website ([www.cme-mec.ca](http://www.cme-mec.ca)).

LRMC and CME will partner in September, 2005 to further the local results as part of our annual London Manufacturing Day. More details will follow over the coming weeks.

## BILL 144 - LRMC SENDS LETTER TO MINISTER

On April 29, 2005, Denis Crane forwarded a letter to the Ontario Labour Minister, The Hon. Chris Bentley, MPP London West, expressing LRMC's concerns on behalf of London manufacturers regarding proposed changes to the Labour Relations Act, Bill 144. Details of the changes can be found at [www.bill144.ca](http://www.bill144.ca).

The Hon. Chris Bentley  
 Minister of Labour  
 MPP London West  
 Reference: Bill 144

Dear Minister Bentley

The London Region Manufacturing Council (LRMC) is an industry-driven council that fosters the growth and prosperity of the manufacturing sector in the London region.

We endeavor to represent the London region's approximately 500 manufacturers on policy issues important to the future success of our sector.

We are writing today to highlight our grave concerns with respect to the proposed changes described in Bill 144. In short, we believe that these changes will unnecessarily disrupt labour relations in Ontario and negatively impact our ability to compete with other jurisdictions for investment capital.

Our concerns are accurately reflected by the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Independent Business, and other business organizations in the Coalition for Democratic Labour Relations.

We respectfully request that your Ministry work with the Coalition to ensure that the offending provisions of Bill 144 are amended to more accurately reflect the difficulties of operating in this globally competitive business environment.

Sincerely,  
 Denis Crane,  
 President, County Heritage Forest Products,  
 Chair, London Region Manufacturing Council

## KIT SILCOX - NAMED EMC FIELD SERVICE ADVISOR!

The London Chapter of the Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium (EMC) has named a new Field Service Advisor. Dr. Kit Silcox, a consultant to manufacturers in the London region for many years, will be providing services to manufacturers in the London Chapter.



Says Silcox, "Our members access a broad range of services that help them become more competitive in today's world marketplace."

EMC offers its members a variety of services including:

**Strategic Interest Groups (SIGs)** are monthly meetings where manufacturers learn best practices and benchmark what others do in production, quality and human resources.

**Member Needs Help** is an on-line access to help from any of the 550 members across Canada. Others who have addressed a problem will share how they dealt with the problem.

**Canada's Most Comprehensive Lean Program:** Access the 'A to Z Lean' program to identify ways to reduce waste throughout your organization. Opportunity to join in reduced cost workshops on lean principles

**Access to Comprehensive Range of Training:** Skills development programs, presented by pre-qualified trainers, deliver member-requested training & learning activities in your community.

**EMC-WSIB Safety Group:** Opportunity to participate in our safety group and share techniques to enhance safety for your people and share in substantial premium rebates. EMC members have shared in over \$1,000,000 in rebates.

In addition, Kit indicates that "EMC members have access to the broader EMC network and can attend meetings in other Chapters in order to expand their networks."

Kit Silcox can be contacted at 519-318-4099