Regional News Canada VI

Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce (Western Canada)

PINTS N' PITCHES (PNP) - Cheers to a great start!

Since the launch of PINTS N' PITCHES (PNP) in August 2019, eight main events have been successfully carried out in four cities in two countries: Vancouver and Abbotsford in Canada, and Sion and Martigny in Switzerland. The Swiss Canadian Chamber of Commerce (SCCC) has been co-hosting the event series in Vancouver where over 30 innovative and open-minded people have been attending to brew their ideas.

During a pub night in August 2019, some friends were discussing the importance of spreading and developing great ideas in order to transform them into services, products, or projects. PNP was born that night, as a platform to provide a safe space to pitch ideas and get feedback prior to jumping into things head first. A place to help entrepreneurs and future entrepreneurs share, articulate, and clarify their business ideas.

We talked to Johann Roduit, SCCC Director and PNP founder:

Johann, how have you experienced the PNP journey so far?

I love the ongoing process of exploring potential business ideas. We never had a "grand vision" for it, we started it and wanted to see where things were going. It's still very flexible and evolutive. I'm also thrilled to have seen great support from the community in Vancouver and other places. I think that bringing innovators and like-minded people together around a table, with a beer, is a great formula to open a lot of new opportunities.

What makes PNP different from other pitch events?

A journalist wrote about our event lately, saying that PNP is "kind of like Dragon's Den, but without the pressure and plenty of beer". I think that really captures and summarizes the spirit of our initiative. The relaxed atmosphere makes a huge difference. There are a lot of incredible ideas out there that need a specific platform to be shared. That's what we're trying to offer. In addition, we're at the ideation process; that makes us unique, because a lot of pitch events are more formal and would come after the ideation process. In short, "cool ideas + beers + innovative minds = Pints n' Pitches" - a winning formula!



What's planned for 2020?

We've scheduled events in Abbotsford and Vancouver, Canada, and in Sierre, Switzerland, where we've partnered with business students from the Team Academy of the Applied Science University. It's a young and energetic team studying for a bachelor's degree in business. We're also in discussion with sponsors and partners to have some events in front of a jury (with prize money), once the pitches have been perfected. If you know key stakeholders that might be interested in your area, don't hesitate to contact us!

PNP is growing, and you can be part of this story:

- Check out our next events: www.pintsnpitches.com/events
- Pitch your ideas: <u>www.pintsnpitches.com/speaker-application</u>
- Bring PNP to your community: <u>www.pintsnpitches.com/member-ship.</u>

SWISS CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (WESTERN CANADA)





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