

## Northern European Business Association (NEBA) Background

The Northern European Business Association (NEBA) was registered on June 28th, 2022.

NEBA was formed by the Board of Directors of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Latvia (CanCham) in recognition of the fact that most of its members are locals located in Latvia, but their business networks extend throughout the Northern European region, and indeed, the European Union. We hope to invite our regional partners to take part in NEBA thereby promoting the region as a whole and making it more interesting not only for Canadians, but also for the international community at large, to do business in Northern Europe, and hence with us in Latvia. The overall intent is to provide our members more business networking opportunities.

NEBA will be officially launched at its first Annual Meeting on January 23rd, 2023. In the meantime, it will develop a comprehensive networking strategy by consulting with experts in the field, and developing a wide ranging international network.

The original goals of NEBA were:

- to promote business opportunities for its members in Northern Europe (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom);
- to develop and establish business contacts and cooperation between members and commercial institutions internationally;
- work with embassies and other organizations to identify business opportunities and expand business links internationally;
- to represent the professional interests of members and to be an information center for entrepreneurs;
- to promote the Association and its Partners;
- to organize informative events, presentations, meetings, seminars, conferences, and other events related to the goals of the Association, as well as to participate in similar events.

NEBA will be administered by a Managing Director (Ed Kalvins) and managed by an Governing Council made up of country representatives and business sector leaders. In the first year of operation, the Governing Council members will be appointed by the CanCham Board, after which Advisory Board members will be elected by the membership. In the first year of operation, CanCham members in good standing will have the option of becoming members of NEBA without applicable fees.

Ed Kalvins, NEBA Managing Director CanCham Vice-President and Business Development Director