



Press Release
Tuesday 17th January 2023

Major Cross-Border Trade Conference Launches

A major FREE Cross-Border Trade Conference, jointly hosted by Newry and Dundalk Chambers and with sponsors including InterTradeIreland has been launched for 2023.

It will be held on Wednesday 8th March 2023 from 9am to 1pm at the Carrickdale Hotel and will focus on future business opportunities in the Cross-Border Economy.

Case studies will demonstrate how businesses, both North and South, have overcome significant challenges, using the supports available to navigate the changes in trade flows and identify opportunities for growth. Public Sector bodies from both sides of the border will set out their priorities for the region.

Julie Gibbons, President of Newry Chamber said:

“The continued growth in cross-border trade, demonstrates the strong collaboration between business in NI and RoI. For businesses interested in trading cross-border, this is a must attend conference.”

“It is an exciting time for the Newry/Dundalk regions particularly, as we are set to benefit from hundreds of millions of pounds’ worth of investment through a number of initiatives including the Belfast Region City Deal, Peace Plus Funding and Shared Island Fund Projects.”

Una McGoey, President Dundalk Chamber said;

This is our 7th conference post Brexit. The stability of the Northern Ireland protocol has allowed businesses on both sides of the border to continue to expand trade between both parts of the island, as is demonstrated by the statistics. We are determined to build on this by supporting all cross-border organisations and to encourage east west trade with Great Britain as well

Paddy Malone, Public Relations Officer of Dundalk Chamber said:

“Our objective is to demonstrate the strength of cooperation that exists within the border economy. Businesses need to plan ahead. The conference programme includes a number of key specialists who will provide practical advice and support for border businesses. This region is well set to develop given the priority afforded to it from the 2040 Plan, www.M1Corridor.ie and the Shared Island Fund initiatives of the Government.”

Kevin Meenan, Cllr. Kevin Meenan, Cathaoirleach of Dundalk Municipal said

This conference is coming at a good time for the area where businesses on both sides of the border have weathered the economic shocks of Brexit and the Covid 19.

‘It is heartening to see the burgeoning co-operation that exists North and South between businesses and the continued increase in cross border trade.



Cllr Michael Savage, Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council said:

"Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is delighted to be one of the principal sponsors of this conference along with key local and cross-border partners working across the area."

"Being located at the centre of the Belfast-Dublin economic corridor, cross-border trade and co-operation is as vital in both human terms, as it is in economic terms, to communities on both sides of the border."

"This conference offers a vital opportunity to learn more about areas of growing importance for cross-border trade, as well as an overview of the opportunities and supports available to your business."

Margaret Hearty, CEO of InterTradeIreland said:

"InterTradeIreland is delighted to continue to sponsor the Newry and Dundalk Chambers' annual cross-border conference. This year's event which focuses on future opportunities in the cross-border economy will provide valuable insights, advice and guidance to businesses who are keen to grow."

"Against a backdrop of local and global uncertainty, at InterTradeIreland we're supporting businesses to accelerate their export growth potential through our dedicated suite of trade and innovation programmes."

"This includes connecting them to an island wide network of partners and academics to broaden and deepen their enterprise innovation and capability, as well as tapping into opportunities available in emerging areas such as the circular economy, advanced manufacturing and transitioning to a low carbon economy."

The conference is also supported by Louth County Council, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, Louth Local Enterprise Office and Dundalk Chamber Skillnet.

Confirmed speakers include representatives from DKIT, Enterprise Ireland, AIB, Trinity College Dublin, DELI-LITES Ireland and Kaseya.

MC for the conference will be Broadcaster & Journalist, Mark Simpson.

The conference is FREE to attend but please register in advance at www.newrychamber.com. OR at www.dundalk.ie/events

ENDS

PHOTO CAPTION:

Launching the Cross-Border Trade Conference (L-R) Paddy Malone, PRO, Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, Deirdre Maguire, Manager, Brexit Advisory Service, InterTradeIreland, Sarah Mallon, Project Officer, Louth Enterprise Office at Louth County



Council, Una McGoey, President, Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, Edwina Flynn, Vice President, Newry Chamber of Commerce, Colin McCabrey, Director of Trade, InterTradeIreland and Tony McKeown, CEO, Newry Chamber of Commerce.

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