

IUGO Young Professionals Organization

In May 2007, the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce will launch a new, spin-off organization that will cater specifically to young professionals within the Greater Nashua region. The organization will be comprised entirely of young professionals who live and/or work in the Greater Nashua area. This new organization, which will be supported and facilitated by the Chamber, will be directed by a select Steering Committee of young professionals who are well placed within their respective careers and hold a collective influence within the community powerful enough to successfully steer this new organization.

The initiative is intended to serve two benefits:

- 1) The organization will provide a venue for young professionals between ages 22 and 40 to build their social and professional networks with each other. Allowing a venue for such networks will allow young professionals to forge strong and lasting networks of friends (this is important to retaining younger workers within the area) and will also allow young professionals to establish extensive networks of business leads and potential clients/partners (this is important to the older sub-group of young professionals who are already well established in the community and are looking to expand their professional career)
- 2) The organization will allow businesses within the Greater Nashua community, and the city of Nashua itself, to use the organization as a recruiting and/or retention tool for their employees under the age of 40. This organization will allow businesses to provide their employees with a unique outlet for establishing and extending their roots within the community, thereby providing a strong incentive for these employees to remain with their respective companies.

The Chamber intends to launch this new organization in May, 2007. The first several events, occurring through the summer of 2007, will be social events intended to create a good "buzz" about the organization. IUGO will launch the professional side of the organization with a series of professional development programs in September, 2007.

The name of the organization is IUGO, which is a Latin term for "connect." IUGO is a fitting name for the organization, since it will help **Connect** young professionals to each other within the community, it will help **Connect** young professionals to their employers in the community, and it will **Connect** the region's businesses and business owners to the young professional demographic within the region.

IUGO will be a dues-based organization, but the Chamber will not ask individual young professionals to pay their dues. Instead, the Chamber will encourage employers to pay the dues of their young employees, recognizing the benefit that this new organization brings to their company in terms of a recruiting and retention tool that no company could provide on its own. The dues structure is still being constructed, but will be significantly less expensive than Chamber dues for member businesses.

Mark your calendars now for the official launch of IUGO on Wednesday, May 23 at 5:30 pm – watch the Chamber website (www.nashuachamber.com) for more details, including the location of this exciting kick-off event!