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Grant Thornton consultancy splits off job units
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GT Hiring Solutions is leaving Grant Thornton LLP, but won't be leaving the building.

In a move purported to allow both the human resources business and Grant Thornton to focus on their core strengths, GT Hiring which operated the Destinations and HardHats employment programs through 29 offices in B.C. will carry on as a separate entity.

The move means Frank Bourree, Christine Stoneman and Charles Shier will be leaving Grant Thornton, though will continue to work within the building at least until the end of August.

"That's our intended focus (to concentrate on core strengths)," said Grant Thornton managing partner Susan Mehinagic. "Basically we will be focusing on our advisory business, our tax business and accounting solutions for our clients. It also allows Frank and his group to focus on their core business."

Bourree, a partner at Grant Thornton for the last 12 years, made a name for himself as a tourism industry consultant and in so doing brought a lot of that industry's business to the accounting firm.

He said the two companies intend to work closely together, but as a separate entity GT Hiring Solutions would have more freedom and be able to thrive. "A lot of what we do is HR and Grant Thornton is really not in the HR business," said Bourree. "What this does for us is enable us to go after aboriginal programs, immigration programs and, with 2010 coming and the labour shortage, we can do a lot more without the constraints of policy around a big accounting firm."

Bourree said they would continue to do some contract work with Grant Thornton to deal with some tourism industry clients. He also intends to work with the accounting firm to publish monthly tourism statistics.