

# Perth and District Chamber of Commerce March 2011 Newsletter

## 2011 Annual General Meeting

Thursday, March 24, 2011

at

**Stone Cellar Restaurant, Upstairs**

Registration 11:30, lunch served at Noon,

Meeting 12:30 – 2:30

**\$25.00 + HST (\$28.25)**

**Registration is mandatory (as you have a choice of lunch) & prepayment preferred**

### AGENDA

- Election of 2011 Board of Directors
  - Chamber Committee Reports
    - 2010 Financial Report
  - Demonstration of new Interactive Tourism Kiosk
- Motion to amend bylaw: Board of Directors voting eligibility

**Please register and preorder your meal by Thursday, March 17th, 2011**

**Tel: (613) 267-3200, 1 888 319-3204**

**Email: [welcome@perthchamber.com](mailto:welcome@perthchamber.com)**

### Chamber Retirees

Are you, or is someone you know retiring this year?

The Perth & District Chamber of Commerce likes to use the AGM as an opportunity to recognize those who have retired during the past year. If you are retiring this year, or know of a chamber member who has retired since last spring, please contact the Chamber so that we can make mention at this year's AGM.

Contact the chamber at (613) 267-3200 or [welcome@perthchamber.com](mailto:welcome@perthchamber.com)

### The Chamber Was Busy In February Hosting Two Successful Events

**On February 9<sup>th</sup>**, the Chamber along with Shelley Montreuil, hosted a Social Media Seminar. From what we have been hearing from the SOLD OUT crowd, the evening was fantastic!

**On February 24<sup>th</sup>**, Catherine Ball, owner of Perth Physiotherapy opened her doors for the Chamber's first AFTER 5 event. Catherine offered an array of cheeses, wine and beer. Thanks Catherine for a great evening of meeting, greeting and networking! The next AFTER 5 is in May!

**We will keep you posted on the upcoming details.**



## **IMPORTANT BREAKFAST SEMINAR!**

### **HELPING BUSINESSES BREAKDOWN ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS SEMINAR**

**MARCH 31, 2011**

As a result of popular demand, **The Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) and the Perth and District Chamber of Commerce** will be hosting a workshop to help Ontario businesses comply with Ontario's new customer service standard in regards to **ACCESSIBILITY** in your place of business.

**When: March 31, 2011**  
**Time: 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**  
**Where: The Royal Canadian Legion**  
**Cost: \$15 (+ hst) for members**  
**\$20 (+hst) for potential members**  
**\*\*\* Breakfast Included \*\*\***

“Breaking down barriers for people with disabilities, begins by breaking down barriers for organizations that want to better serve them,” says Len Crispino, President & CEO of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. “Compliance requires knowledge and access to the right tools. The OCC and our chamber network are determined to help businesses throughout Ontario get both so that they can better serve the growing population of people with all types of disabilities.”

**We strongly suggest you register early as this workshop may sell out very quickly!!**

**We will keep you posted as we continue to plan the event.**

Please contact Madeline at the Chamber office to book a spot  
613 267-3200 or email at: [welcome@perthchamber.com](mailto:welcome@perthchamber.com)



## **This Year's Festival Is Extra Sweet!!!!**

For many years the Perth and District Chamber of Commerce and its Festival of the Maples committee have been wishing to enhance this already successful event. The Chamber's Event Coordinator, Jordan Kennie has spearheaded the following weekend package, enticing those visiting Perth during the Festival of the Maples to see what Perth and the entire district has to offer.....

### **“Sweet and Sticky” Weekend in Perth**

**We are so excited to announce that Nevis Estate and Drummond House in Perth, and The Rothwell Stone Cottage and The Roberts House in Westport, along with the Stone Cellar Restaurant are coming together to provide a fabulous weekend package for those coming in from out of town!** Thousands of people come to Perth for this one day event. We would love to see them stay a little longer, and experience the delicious food and the warm hospitality that Perth and district has to offer, as well as get a chance to check out some of our local merchants in a more relaxed atmosphere the next day.

#### **Sweet and Sticky/Festival Dinner at the Stone Cellar**

**5 Course Maple Themed Dinner with Wine Pairings**

**\$75 per person**

The dinner at the Stone Cellar is being offered as part of our Sweet and Sticky package, but is also open to anyone in Perth and District who wants to savour the deliciousness of Lanark's finest Maple Syrup ... keep your eyes open for more information on this yummy way to cap off maple syrup season! Information on tickets and menu will be coming soon.

#### **Want To Help With The Sweet and Sticky Weekend?**

We are going to be providing welcome packages to all who book at one of the B&Bs ... if you think you have something that would be perfect in the **Welcome Package**, let us know, we'd love to include it! 613 267-3200 or email us at: [welcome@perthchamber.com](mailto:welcome@perthchamber.com).

#### **Thank you to those who have already donated to our Welcome Packages**

- **Mill Store, Perth Inc.**
- **Ground Waves**
- **The Beach House Massage and Body Works**
- **Classic Theatre Festival**

# The Chamber/Festival Of The Maples Is Hitting The Road!

## Perth & District Chamber Of Commerce & Festival of the Maples Is At the Ottawa Travel and Vacation Show

**April 2 & 3, 2011  
Lansdowne Park**

The Perth & District Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce that we will have a booth at the Annual Ottawa Travel & Vacation Show.

This is a fabulous opportunity to promote Perth & District as well as the Festival of the Maples. **We are offering the opportunity to our members to advertise with a display of brochures or business cards at our booth at a cost of \$50 for individuals/businesses. We are also offering the chance for companies such as real estate offices to submit as an office for \$300 (up to 20 individuals). Please call Jordan at the Perth & District Chamber of Commerce at (613) 267-3200**

**Thank You to those who have already so generously become sponsors**

- **Marie Shaw, Century 21 Explorer Realty**
  - **Elysium Fashion Boutique**
  - **Myriad Centre for the Arts**
  - **Classic Theatre Festival**

## **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of the Maples Sponsorship Opportunities**

This year marks the **35<sup>th</sup> Annual**, and the committee is hoping to make it the best Festival of the Maples yet!

### **Sponsorship Packages:**

This year, we are looking at finding new ways to provide our generous sponsors with even more value for their sponsorship dollars. **Every level of sponsorship helps!**

Our new sponsorship categories are:

**Grade A -- \$500 + hst**

**Grade B -- \$300 + hst**

**Grade C -- \$200 + hst**

**Increasing our sponsorship dollars means that we are more able to promote our local businesses as well as our fabulous location to a broader audience, and it also allows us to make a great festival even better!**

All sponsorship levels will include your logo and/or business name in local print media as well as in the entertainment flyer distributed throughout the Ottawa valley, stage announcements throughout the day, and signage depending on sponsorship level at the Festival itself.

**If you are interested in becoming a sponsor don't wait for us to call you! Call Jordan at the Perth & District Chamber of Commerce (613)267-3200. We hope to hear from many of you before the sap starts to run!**

## We Thank All Those Who Have Already So Generously Become Sponsors Of This Year's Festival

EMC Performance Printing	Scotiabank	Perth Courier/Metroland Media
A & B Ford Sales Limited	Mike Fair Chevrolet Buick GMC Cadillac Ltd	Rivington Rally Honda
Town and Country Chrysler	Crain's Construction Limited	3M Canada Inc
Perth Portable Toilet Rental	Crain & Schooley Insurance Brokers Ltd. & Financial Corporation	Lake 88.1
Cogeco Cable	Tackaberry Sand & Stone Ltd	Finnegan Insurance Brokers Ltd/ Aviva Insurance Company
Ryan Communications	Lanark Leeds Homebuilder's Association	Jade Transportation Services
Rideau Heights Inn		

### Would You Like To Be A Vendor At The Festival?

If you would like to participate as a vendor at the Festival, there is still plenty of space available. You can display and sell your product on the main street of Perth! With thousands of people attending this Festival, it is a great opportunity to get your name out there. For complete details on being a vendor at the Festival, please contact Madeline at 613 267-3200.

### Volunteers Needed for Festival of the Maples on April 30<sup>th</sup>

With the Perth Festival of the Maples quickly approaching, the organization of the event is well underway and details are starting to fall into place. In its 35th year, The Festival of the Maples would not be as successful as it is without the assistance of **VOLUNTEERS**. Each year, the Festival committee is appreciative of anyone who is interested in helping on the day of the event. You don't need to give up your entire day; only a couple of hours to help make this year's Festival as fantastic as years past. This year the Festival is on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Greg Hallam is organizing the volunteers for the Festival this year and would be grateful to anyone offering a couple of hours of his/her day. Please give Greg a call at 613-267-7029 or email Greg at [greg@summitsecurity.ca](mailto:greg@summitsecurity.ca)

### Visitor Guide is IN!!!

The 2011 Visitor Guide is in and ready to be picked up. Drop by the Chamber office, Monday – Friday between 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to pick up a couple of bundles for your place of business. We suggest you give a quick call ahead to ensure we are in the office and not out at a meeting. 613 267-3200.

### THE BIGGEST KILT RUN In The World!!!!

Congratulations to Mary and Terry Stewart, (owners of the Running Goat), all the participants of the 2010 Perth Kilt Run and the organizing committee for making it into the Guinness World Records! Well done! If you are interested in participating in this year's Kilt Run, contact 613 264-8904 or email: [info@perthkiltrun.ca](mailto:info@perthkiltrun.ca).

## **Chamber Web Site Soon To Be “At Your Finger Tips”**

A Through Glass Touch Screen Window Unit, which will allow visitors and local residents to our downtown core the ability to browse the Chamber's web site business and tourism directory, should be up and running soon. **Ed Fortin, Fortin Consulting** who has been contracted out to install and maintain the unit is currently working on the final details.

The unit, which will be located in the front window of **Shadowfax** located at 67 Foster Street, Perth, will enable the public to simply touch the outside of the window and browse the Chamber's web site to access. Only our members will be on the site and therefore the public will be able to link to our member's site as well. We hope that this will bring an added value to the visitors coming to the area as well as our membership.

Attendees at our AGM on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at The Stone Cellar will have the opportunity to view a touch screen unit. Thank you to Kirk Lidbetter of Lidbetter Solutions for graciously providing this touch screen monitor at the AGM!

## **Chamber Is Looking For Quotes To Erect A New Display At Barnabe's Your Independent Grocer**

As most of you are aware, the rack cards at Barnabes, Your Independent Grocer have been removed from the entrance of the store due to the fact the display rack is unavoidably obscured by shopping carts and other items. Over the past 5 months, the Chamber has received many calls from its members inquiring as to when the rack cards can once again be displayed.

As promised, we are keeping you posted on the progress of erecting a new display in a different location.

Matthew Barnabe has offered a different location for a display to be erected in the store; it would be inside the store, on the front windows as customers depart the store, (across from the wall of thank you cards. Subsequently, the Chamber is requesting quotes from anyone interested in building the new display rack.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**March 11, 2011:** please contact the Chamber office if you are interested in building the new display.

**March 31, 2011** (12:00 noon): Quotes need to be submitted to the Chamber office.

**April 30, 2011:** To prepare for the upcoming tourist season, it is essential the project is completed by this date.

**For further information, please contact Madeline at 613 267-3200**

## **GST/HST Seminar With The CRA**

Thursday March 24th, 2011 from 9:30 am -12:30 pm (FREE)

Please contact the Enterprise Centre to register for any of these three sessions at 613-283-7002 ext. 108/109 or via email at [cjames@LNLEC.ca](mailto:cjames@LNLEC.ca) or [smallbusiness@LNLEC.ca](mailto:smallbusiness@LNLEC.ca).

# Business Of The Month

## Cat's Cove Writing Services

**Cathy James**

613-326-0338

[cathyjames@live.ca](mailto:cathyjames@live.ca)

[catscovewriting.com](http://catscovewriting.com)

(written and submitted by Cathy James)

When you want to promote your business, convey a clear message or tell a good story, tell us exactly what you want and what kind of impact you'd like to make.

You'll be happy you did.

Operated by Cathy James, Cat's Cove Writing Services will write, edit and deliver your company's message in a way that speaks to your clients, ensuring your message is clear, concise and conversational.

A Perth native, Cathy has been a writer in the Perth and Smiths Falls area for more than six years working for weekly newspapers, businesses and non-profit organizations. She is also an experienced professional in social media, website and blog writing, and other communications, including press releases and newsletters. Cat's Cove Writing Services will produce quality communications for your company, and your message will be heard.

**For more information, visit [catscovewriting.com](http://catscovewriting.com).**

## The Studio Theatre Is A Busy Place

### **The Paranormal Show** March 5

A Spectacular assortment of experiments in Unexplainable Phenomena and a bizarre twist on Sideshow Feats that will make you question everything you thought you understood about REALITY. Created by **Scott McClelland** the brain-child behind Canada's Premiere Sideshow '**Carnival Diablo**', The Paranormal Show takes the Strange and Bizarre to new heights. Loaded with audience participation and laughs galore, this show is a unique experience for everyone. Mind-boggling mysteries abound... you may have paid for an entire seat... but you'll just be using the edge of it during the Show! Check out [www.theparanormalshow.net](http://www.theparanormalshow.net) for more exclusive info!

### **Open House - World Premiere of the Opera**, March 10, 11, 12 and 13

An entirely original work, Open House presents 12 singers and dancers and an orchestra of 10 instruments in 2 hours of music and action in true operatic style, without interruption by spoken dialogue. The stage setting is a house at the end of a road, where a mother, recently widowed, lives with her two children and learns she must sell the house to a developer.

### **Songs From The Valley Series-Steve Piticco**, March 25

In the second concert of the series, it's multiple C.C.M.A. "Guitar Player of the Year" award winner Steve Piticco in concert. The mere mention of Steve and his Telecaster guitar draws comments from industry peers like "He's from another planet!" and "It should be against the law to play like that!" This is a concert that fans of great guitar simply can't miss. A unique opportunity to see Steve and friends in a concert setting. Watch for Neville Wells and Bytown Bluegrass coming May 20.

### **You Say Tomatoes By Bernard Slade** March 31, April 1, 2, 8, 9 April 3, 10

A hilarious and poignant comedy that looks at the differences in British and American attitudes. An unlikely romantic relationship develops between a middle-aged New York film producer and the curmudgeonly British writer whose works she hopes to use as the springboard to revive her fading career.

For more details, please see our website: [www.studiotheatreperth.com](http://www.studiotheatreperth.com)

## **The Chamber Donates To Algonquin College-Perth Campus**

The Chamber of Commerce is excited to be contributing to the success of the **Perth Campus Renewal Project** by donating \$10,000.00 (\$2,000.00/year over the next 5 years) to the “**Build Our College, Our Community, Our Future**” fundraising effort.

Here are some of the reasons the Chamber feels it is important to contribute to the Algonquin College project:

- The college provides a pool of employees to local businesses. A survey of 290 employers who had hired graduates of Perth campus programs between 2003 and 2008 indicates that 111 distinct local employers benefitted from the training provided in our community.
- The college provides corporate training – with a range of expertise to draw on from the Ottawa campus, the college responds to in-service/upgrading needs of local businesses.
- Students in the programs, through their field placements, perform about \$186,000 worth of work annually (assuming pay at the rate of minimum wage).
- Each year, masonry students complete about \$20,000 worth of work for local government/not for profit institutions.
- Professors in the trades programs provide about \$5,000 worth of heritage and construction advice to local property owners.
- In an average year, 50 landlords collect between \$300 and \$700 per month from college students.
- The campus cafeteria operation generates about \$36,000 annually for the independent operator.
- The college purchases approximately \$105,000 in supplies and contracts annually from local businesses and rents premises from a local landlord for Employment Services operations.
- A typical student living in Perth spends an average of \$8,000 on books, supplies, accommodation, transportation and entertainment. Commuting students often purchase groceries, fuel and other supplies in town before driving home at the end of the day.
- A proportion of those who move to Perth to study stay in Lanark County, contributing their spending and tax dollars to the local economy; studies demonstrate that college graduates have lower absenteeism from work and collect fewer dollars in social assistance than those who have not completed secondary education. According to the Association of Canadian Community Colleges, graduates of one-year college certificate programs earn 12% more than those with only a high school diploma; those with two-year diplomas earn 39% more than those with only a high school diploma. Graduates will therefore contribute to the economic prosperity of the region.
- The Perth Campus employs 24 full time staff and up to 30 part time staff (depending on the term.) All but 2 of the full time staff live in Lanark County and spend their housing, food, maintenance, etc. dollars locally. The staffing budget is approximately \$2million annually. With the campus expansion into new programs, the college is projecting hiring 5 more full-time professors over the next 5 years.
- Finally, there is significant research to show that students from small towns drop out of college at higher rates than urban students when they travel to study in a major urban centre. 75% of our students say they chose their program because it is offered close to home. The college can ensure a higher level of education for our community – and better trained workers – by providing training locally.

**Anyone interested in making a donation to the “Build Our College, Our Community, Our Future” fundraising effort should contact:**

**Graham Thompson**, Manager of Planned Giving and Major Gifts, 613 727 4723, ext 5496,  
or email to: [Graham.Thompson@algonquincollege.com](mailto:Graham.Thompson@algonquincollege.com)

# Members' Corner

*(Please note: This is a paid advertisement. This space is available to any member wishing to place an advertisement. Please contact Chamber office for details.)*

## Legacy Art Show

at

**Gallery Perth**

at

**Code's Mill**

53 Herriott Street, Perth

with

**Vernissage**

**Sunday May 1st**

2pm to 5pm

The show runs from April 22nd to May 30th

**Legacy Art: A Retrospective of Significant Paintings by Canadian Watercolorist Garnet Hazard and Important New Works by Contemporary Artists - Bryce Bell, Larry Bracegirdle, Marc Brzustowski and Gordon Harrison.**

Gallery Perth at Code's Mill will stage "Legacy Art" on May 1<sup>st</sup> - a retrospective of Garnet Hazard and new works by Bryce Bell, Gordon Harrison, Larry Bracegirdle and Marc Brzustowski. Masterly paintings from the past juxtapose with impressive new creations in a show inspired by the awareness of artistic merit. In small towns such as Perth, changing economic values have awakened creative resources, a trend that is being recognized and championed. Supporting artists and investing in art reaps rewards for us now and creates a legacy for the future.

## Summer Company Is Open For Business!

Summer Company is an Ontario Government Program that is in place to motivate and educate young people to possibly choose entrepreneurship as a career; equip them with the tools necessary to succeed and provide hands-on business training/mentoring. The program provides awards to help students start and operate their business in the summer months. Successful students will receive:

- Awards up to \$1,500 for business start-up costs and up to \$1,500 upon returning to school in the fall
- Approximately 12 hours of business training; and
- An opportunity to meet with mentors for support and advice on operating their business.

Go online at [www.ontario.ca/summercompany](http://www.ontario.ca/summercompany) to get program details and to start the application process. Write a business plan for your idea. The Summer Company website has a template that provides a guideline for the format and information you should include in your plan. The LNLEC staff is available to answer any questions as you develop your plan. Upload your business plan and complete your start up budget.

Contact the Lanark-North Leeds Enterprise Centre anytime to obtain help. The 2011 deadline is May 9, 2011, or until this program is fully subscribed to. For more information about the program call Shannon at the LNLEC at 613-283-7002 ext. 109 or by email [smallbusiness@LNLEC.ca](mailto:smallbusiness@LNLEC.ca).

## **We Welcome Our Newest Members**

### **The Beach House Massage and Bodywork**

123 Arnold Drive  
Perth, Ontario  
Contact: Chrystine Moreau  
613 466-0205

Massage Therapy/Thai Massage/ Reflexology/  
Wraps/Indian Head Massage/Hot Stone Massage  
Coming this summer; Pedicures & Facials

### **Perth & District Union Public Library**

30 Herriott Street  
Perth, Ontario  
Contact: Elizabeth Goldman  
613 267-1224

Library, information, knowledge, computers, literacy,  
culture

### **Temple's Sugar Camp**

1700 Ferguson Falls Road, County Road 15,  
Ferguson Falls, Ontario  
Contact: Charles Temple  
613 253-7000

Maple syrup, sugar camp, restaurant, weddings

**See You Soon!**

**Carol, Jordan, Madeline**