



Perth & District Chamber of Commerce “Bridges” January 2014 Newsletter

Volume 1 – 2014

“Building Bridges in Business”

Would You Like To Be A Vendor At The Festival of the Maples?

If you would like to participate as a vendor at the Festival on Saturday April 26, 2014 please let the office know? 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 the Chamber office (613 267-3200.)

Sponsorship Opportunities will be sent to you shortly as well.

Membership Renewals

Well, we are at the beginning of a new year and I would like to thank everyone for their support in 2013 and I look forward to working with all of you in 2014. Please note that your Membership Renewal Letter will be going out the first week of January. We have asked that you please make payment by **February 15, 2014** but in actuality the renewal begins on January 1, 2014. In order for there not to be a lapse in benefits we need to receive the payment by the 15th of February or sooner if possible. I thank you for your consideration. We would also ask you to let us know if the number of employees you have working for your has changed. If you should have any questions about your membership dues then please contact the office and we would be happy to answer any questions.

Nominations for Chamber Board of Directors

The Perth & District Chamber of Commerce is requesting **applications for its Board of Directors**. If you are a Chamber Member and are interested in sitting on the Chamber Board of Directors please contact Pauline at the office for more information. Our Annual General Meeting will be taking place in March at which time new directors will be elected to the Board. We look forward to hearing from you!

The Chamber also welcomes members to sit on one of our many committees. Please contact the Chamber Office for more information.

Upcoming Events - Mark your calendars for Chamber Events in January

Accessibility Works Workshop

When: Tuesday January 21, 2014

Where: Perth & District Union Public Library, 30 Herriott Str., Perth

Time: 5:30 – 7 pm.

Cost: \$5.00 for Chamber Members / \$10.00 for Non-members

Louie Di Palma of the OCC will do a presentation on the Ontario Accessibility Act and what businesses should already have set in place as well as give us insight as to what a business needs to be doing in the future.

RSVP: the Chamber Office by January 14, 2014



Accelerate Your Networking – Ultimate Networking Event 3

When: Wednesday January 29, 2014

Where: Carolina Retirement Suites, North Street & Alma Street, Perth

Time: 5:30 – 8:30 pm

Cost: Free to Chamber Members / \$10.00 for Non-Members

This structured event allows you 1 ½ minutes to let your partner know about your organization and then the table is turned and you have the opportunity to hear about another member. With this type of networking you are able to meet a lot of people in a short period of time. What a great way to highlight your business or organization!



Girls Night Out “After 5” Networking Event

(Men – Come if you Dare!)

When: Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Where: Lavender & Lace – 42 Gore Street East, Perth

Time: 5pm – 7:30pm

Cost: Free

RSVP: the Chamber Office by February 4, 2014

Invitation to Follow



Member Profile of the Month: Jeff Lally Renovations

(Submitted by Jeff Lally Renovations)



If you have a home improvement in mind for 2014 but are not sure where to find a trusted general contractor - one who will take care of every aspect of your important renovation project then please contact me for a consultation.

I specialize in "representing the home owner" and as such become "YOUR" advocate and a strong negotiator on your behalf with all trades. My commitment to you is to complete your project in a timely fashion, by competent professionals while maximizing all potential savings in material and labour expenses. Let me take the headaches and worry out of your hands for your next home improvement project and allow you to truly enjoy the beauty and increased the resale value of your home.

Here is a small list of how I can make your home more comfortable for years to come:

Painting, drywall, bathrooms, decks, hardwood, siding, window & doors, ceramic tile, in floor heat and mostly all general home renovation needs. Call to see when I can provide you with excellent home renovation service.

Contact: Jeff Lally

P. O. Box 156, Lanark, ON K0G 1K0

Phone: 613 552 6955 **Email:** jlally@storm.ca

www.jeff4tlc.com

We Welcome Our Newest Members

<p>Mel's Farm Animal Rescue & Sanctuary Melanie Young 30 Moren Rd. Lombardy, ON K0G 1L0 613-430-5297 Melanieyoung3000@yahoo.com www.melsfarm.ca</p>	<p>We are a "not for profit all animal rescue organization created by Melanie Young and a network of amazing and supportive friends. Together we rescue those that have no options left. Animals are accepted from Lanark County and surrounding areas regardless of age, health, or temperament. All creatures great and small deserve a chance at a life with love, respect, and a full belly at the end of the day.</p>
<p>Smiling Cat Inc. Tracy Noonan R.G.D. 26 Drummond Conc. 7 Perth, ON K7H 3C8 613-264-0815 info@smilingcatinc.com www.smilingcatinc.com</p>	<p>Celebrating 10 years in business!</p> <p>Graphic and web design. From rebranding(Finnegan Insurance Ltd.) to artistic endeavors (Stewart Park Festival program) to web design (CHEO Foundation).</p> <p>We specialize in making our clients look good!</p>
<p>Temple's Sugar Bush Kristina Bowes 1700 Ferguson Falls Rd. Lanark, ON K0G 1K0 613-253-7000 Temples_events@storm.ca www.templessurgarbush.ca</p>	<p>"Temple's Sugar Bush is a family owned restaurant and maple farm with nature trails and gift shop, in the heart of Lanark County. Our restaurant and banquet facility is a spectacular 240 seat timber frame building that hosts over 50 weddings a year. When we're not making maple syrup, we would welcome the opportunity to host your wedding, Christmas party, special celebration or corporate event/meeting."</p> <p>Check us out on facebook or pinterest</p>

Co-Op / High Skills Major Students may be what you are looking for:

Perth & District Collegiate Institute

PDCI has four SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major) programs in Arts & Culture, Business, Sports, and Transportation Technology. A SHSM is a specialized program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector in their senior high school years. Each SHSM student will receive specific industry-recognized certifications, develop essential skills, and participate in sector-related work experience (cooperative education). Cooperative education presents an opportunity for students to gain practical experience as well as credits towards their diploma at placements within our community.

For information on how you can find out more about these programs contact:
Perth & District Collegiate Institute
Paul Chapman, Cooperative Education Teacher
Phone (613) 267 - 3051 X1106

St. John Catholic High School

Consider taking on a Co-op student this year! High school Cooperative Education courses are taught at both local high schools. Generally open to grade 11 and 12 students, you gain an eager young learner while they gain valuable work experience. In most cases WSIB is paid by the school board and the student's schedule is determined through consultation with you, the employer.

Both St. John and P&DCI offer Specialist High Skills Majors in a variety of areas such as Health and Wellness. Students enrolled in these programs are required to complete a Co-op placement and they come with a strong background and a focused high school career. They make excellent workers in your business or organization! For more information contact:

St John Catholic High School
267-4724



A Message from the Canada Revenue Agency

Does your business have employees aged 60 to 70? Did you know?

Changes to the way you deduct Canada Pension Plan (CPP) contributions for your employees aged 60 to 70 came into effect in January 2012.

Employees working in Quebec and other workers not subject to the CPP are not affected by these changes.

CPP deductions for employees aged 60 to 70

- You have to deduct CPP contributions for all employees who are **60 to 65 years of age**—even if the employee is receiving a CPP or Quebec Pension Plan (QPP) retirement pension and did not contribute in the past.
- You must also deduct CPP contributions for all employees who are **65 to 70 years of age**, unless they choose not to contribute to the CPP by giving you a signed and completed copy of [Form CPT30, Election to Stop Contributing to the Canada Pension Plan, or Revocation of a Prior Election](#). They also have to send the original Form CPT30 to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).
- Workers who were at least 65 years of age in 2012, receiving a CPP or QPP retirement pension, and who had chosen to stop contributing to the CPP can start contributing again if they want to, but they have to wait until the next calendar year. They will be able to do so by giving their employer another signed CPT30 and sending the original to the CRA.
- After the month in which they turn 70 years of age, employees can no longer contribute to the CPP.

Consequences

If you, as the employer, do not deduct or remit CPP contributions to the CRA, you may have to pay your employee's share and your share of the CPP contributions. If you do not remit the contributions to

the CRA by the due date, you may also be charged penalties and interest. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/payroll and select "Penalties, interest, and other consequences."

More information

For more information about how the changes affect employers, go to www.cra.gc.ca/cppchanges-employers.

For tools and information explaining the CPP changes for individuals aged 60 to 70, go to www.servicecanada.gc.ca/cppchanges.



A Message from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce

The federal government invites small businesses and social enterprises to apply for funding through the *Enabling Accessibility Fund* for projects that will increase accessibility for Canadians with disabilities in workplaces across the country.

The *Enabling Accessibility Fund* call for proposals, which was launched at the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, gives eligible small businesses and social enterprises in all provinces and territories the opportunity to submit proposals until **January 20, 2014**.

Organizations can receive grants of up to \$50,000 per project. Projects must address the objective of removing barriers, improving accessibility and enabling Canadians with disabilities to participate in and contribute to their local economies. They must support employment opportunities for people with disabilities through construction and renovation activities that will improve accessibility in the workplace.

For more information and a link to this announcement, visit: <http://bit.ly/1hrpy0S>

Media Contact for this announcement:
Alexandra Fortier
Office of the Minister
819-994-2482

Interested in a Chamber Bike Ride for Heart & Stoke?



The Chamber has been asked if we would like to put a team together for the Heart & Stroke Big Bike Ride happening on Tuesday April 29, 2014. In order for the Chamber to participate we need to have between 18 – 29 riders willing to raise money. Each participant needs to commit to raising **\$50.00** for the ride. This could be a lot of fun and we would be participating as a group. We would all pedal the bike around Town for approximately 15-20 minutes. If you would like to wear T-Shirts with your Business Name on it that would be interesting as well.

If you are interested in participating please let the Chamber Office know by **Thursday January 9th**. I need to confirm by this date.

Remember to Re-Stock your Rack Cards at Both Barnabe's and the Chamber Office

I would ask that you consider re-stocking your rack cards at both Barnabe's and at the Chamber Office. It certainly helps us in promoting your business.

At The Chamber

We at the Chamber are looking forward to a great 2014! We had a very busy 2013 and 2014 will be the same. We are already planning seminars and networking events as well as our signature events.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the Christmas Social. We had a very full house and enjoyed a great time together. A special thank you to Paul Martin and Howard Allan for your rendition of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas". We all enjoyed joining in. A great way to start the Christmas Season!

January begins a busy year at the Chamber. We have already supplied BIA and Town maps as well as "Where to Eat in Perth & District" brochures and our Menu Binder (which shows the menus of our Chamber Restaurant Members) to the organizing committee of the Perth Sting Rays Mike Brown Swimming Meet that happened last weekend. We were sure to include the Perth & District Visitor Guides for the swim meet visitors to have a look at during their time at the Pool. The Where to Eat and the Where to Stay Brochures are always popular with visitors.

I would strongly recommend participating in the Accessibility Workshop on January 21, 2014 if you were not able to join us at the last one we held a couple of year ago. We want to make sure that existing businesses have adhered to the act and also to inform new businesses about the act. If you have any questions please give me a call at the office. Also, I hope to see you at one of our upcoming networking events. We enjoy connecting you with other business owners and organizations. "Building Bridges in Business" is a good thing!

Have a great month!
Pauline

Visit the Perth & District Chamber Website: www.perthchamber.com for links to Canadian Chamber Member Benefits.



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Let the Chamber keep you up to date on what's happening in Perth & District
