

Chamber Update

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2008 Board of Directors

President: Doug Lamb
Servus Credit Union ~ 614-6419 x7815

1st Vice-President: Ron Belzil
Trailer Canada ~ 645-6998

2nd Vice-President: Clare Gauvreau
St Paul Journal ~ 645-3342

Treasurer: Richard Kelley
St Paul Sobeys ~ 645-3558

Past President: Bill Lawrence ~ 645-5202
Lamoureux Lawrence Culham LLP

Director: A.J. Abbas ~ 645-6777
Director: Dan Bojarski ~ 726-2965
Director: Maxine Fodness ~ 645-4778

PASSPORT TO CHRISTMAS



The 'Passport to Christmas' Shop Local promotion is now in the books. I would like to thank the 24 businesses for participating and for their patience while I got the logistics ironed out in this first year. I would especially like to sincerely thank the St Paul Journal for donating the promotional posters and to CHLW for the ads, your contribution is appreciated. Congratulations to our 3 winners:

- 1st prize - \$1000 bucks ~ Mary Ann Wozniak
- 2nd prize - \$300 bucks ~ Sheila Poitras
- 3rd prize - \$200 bucks ~ Mary Ann Suvak

Plans are already in the works to repeat this promotion next Christmas.

Building on the energy of this promotion, I would like to see another 'Shop Local' promotion this spring/summer similar to the passport concept, where shoppers would be rewarded for shopping local. I have an idea but I am looking to form a 'Promotions Committee' to assist in putting the program together. I have one member already interested and am looking for a few more. If this is something that would interest you, please advise me asap as this committee should be meeting soon, if the promotion is to run in the next couple of months. Call me at 780-645-5820 or email admin@stpaulchamber.ca and leave me your name.

Your Chamber colleagues thank you, I'm sure.

MANAGER'S REPORT

By Rhea Labrie

It's been a couple of months since my last newsletter as things got a little busy around the office with the Passport to Christmas promotion and then the Christmas holidays, but I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and a prosperous 2009.

Upcoming AGM

You will find in this newsletter, the Convocation Notice for the 2009 Annual General Meeting. In conjunction with the AGM, we are also hosting a Minister's Dinner with the **Hon. Ray Danyluk**, Minister of Municipal Affairs. Mark your calendars for **Thurs, Feb 19, 2009** as we celebrate '80 years of Commerce, 100 years of History' in the Town of St Paul. I am seeking help with decorations, and we'll need a few volunteers for the night of the event. Call if you can lend a hand.

Election Survey

You should have all received, by fax, a letter from the Chamber with 2 survey questions. Please take a moment to complete it and fax it back, **it's 2 questions**, quick & easy. We are asking for your input as the Board will develop a position on your behalf, this is your opportunity to have a say in the direction of the town and the province. Please fax back by **February 3, 2009**.

Board Position

At the AGM, there will be a board position available that needs to be filled. If you would be interested in serving your Chamber of Commerce in a more active role, please let me know and I will get your name into the nominating committee.

Past-Presidents

Last fall, sadly, the Chamber lost two of its Past-Presidents:

~ **Paul Langevin** ~ November 11, 2008

Paul served as President in 1985 & 1986 before further pursuing his political career as Town Councillor, Mayor and finally MLA.

~ **Hon. Roger Belzil** ~ December 2, 2008

Roger served as President in 1951 & 1952 while practicing law in St Paul. After his move to Edmonton, Roger was appointed judge in 1969, became a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench in 1982 and later appointed Justice of the Court of Appeal until his retirement in 1986.

Membership Renewals

Check your mailbox as Membership Renewals have been sent out. Thank you for renewing your trust in your local Chamber of Commerce.

Centennial Sale-attration

Any ideas on how the Chamber could get involved with St Paul's Centennial Celebrations? This could be a great activity for the Promotions Committee?

Days Away

Please note that I will be away from the office the week of Feb 9.



The Alberta Chamber of Commerce (ACC) and VersaPay Corporation are proud to announce **special preferential rates** on processing payments such as Visa®, MasterCard® and Interac® Direct Debit! There is **no need to change bank accounts and your funds are deposited the next business day**.

The following rates are offered to members of the ACC:
Visa & Mastercard ~ 1.69% + .15¢ per transaction
Interac Transactions ~ .07¢ per transaction

Read all about or apply online at

<http://www.versapay.com/partners/abchamber/>

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MEMBER CONVOCAATION NOTICE

80th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, February 19, 2009

7:30 pm

St Paul Recreation Centre

80 Years of Commerce, 100 Years of History

MINISTER'S DINNER

Hon. Ray Danyluk

Minister of Municipal Affairs



Cocktails 5:30 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

AGM 7:30 pm

Minister's Address to follow

St Paul Recreation Centre

Business Casual

Tickets:

\$30/person
\$225/table of 8

Available at

-Chamber of Commerce Office (4802-50 ave)
or Community Futures office
-Lac La Biche-St Paul Constituency Office
-St Paul Journal

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Deadline Friday, February 13, 2009.
Cash or cheques only.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call
St Paul & District Chamber of Commerce
780-645-5820

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"Talk of the Town"

As you may know, the Town of St Paul has been working on a Municipal Development Plan to guide the future development of our community.

Focus Corporation has been working alongside the Town to assist in the development of this document. A proposed Plan has now been drafted and it is time to make it available for public review and consultation. Therefore, you are all invited and encouraged to attend a:

Public Open House
Tuesday, Feb 24, 2009
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Multi-purpose room, Rec Centre



ONE SIMPLE ACT

Are you an Alberta business, large or small, that deserves to be recognized for initiatives you have taken to reduce waste?

Alberta Environment's One Simple Act program is encouraging Alberta based businesses to celebrate their achievements in waste reduction by participating in the One Simple Act *Businesses Taking Action on Waste* contest.

The *Businesses Taking Action on Waste* is a province-wide contest which recognizes Alberta based businesses that are taking action to reduce their waste. Participants may be recognized on the One Simple Act website and will have the chance to win one of six \$500 prizes to support community environmental projects. Deadline for submissions is **March 31, 2009** and the contest winners will be announced on Earth Day, April 22, 2009.

One Simple Act is a program dedicated to informing and engaging individuals, organizations and communities to make smart decisions about how to reduce waste, conserve water and reduce energy consumption. You can find out more information at www.onesimpleact.alberta.ca.

1st annual Mind, Body & Spirit Expo

You're invited to attend the 1st annual Mind, Body & Spirit Expo. As the population ages, the proportion of multiple chronic illnesses will also increase, with consequent demand for services from alternative health practitioners. With this being said, you can find out what's available by way of holistic health techniques in the area, as exhibitors are coming from across the northeast, as far away as Saskatchewan.

Friday, February 27 ~ 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Saturday, February 28 ~ 9:30 am – 5:30 pm
St Paul Recreation Centre
Admission: \$2/person

Throughout the 2-day event, there will be presentations from a variety of practitioners on a range of topics.

Keynote Speaker:

Tara Roggensack, Angel Practitioner
Saturday, Feb 28, 2009

7:00 pm, Rec Centre

Tickets: \$30/person

Only 150 tickets available

Reserve yours today by calling 780-227-2240

41 tables have been reserved. If you would also like to be an exhibitor, tables are still available for \$100 ea. Call 780-227-2240 to reserve yours today. You must promote a wellness modality, a wellness product, modality tools, stones or jewelry that fall under the category of Holistic or Alternative.

For all the information, schedule of events, bios, etc, go to: www.thekattseye.com/expo.

INFOMALL.CA

The InfoMall community portal was started in 1996 as an outgrowth of the St Paul Community Directory, providing on-line access to business and organizations. Chamber members are requested to check the portal and ensure that their information is up-to-date. If your business is not there, please add it www.infomall.ca.

InfoMall recently updated its Trading Post section to allow commercial advertising. The Trading Post receives over 2000 visits a day so your \$20/week investment gives you an ad with photo so it can be an extremely cost-effective use of your advertising dollar.

Your Chamber of Commerce has updated its information and will attempt to maintain its calendar of events there. As a Chamber member, you can subscribe to that page to receive notices of new postings. If you know of an event that should be posted, please contact me and I will have it included in the calendar. This is one more benefit of your membership in the Chamber of Commerce.

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Educational Corner

(Every month I receive information on various business-related workshops, courses, etc being offered through different training schools. This column will attempt to share with you these learning opportunities.)

Brown Bag Presentations – 12 noon – ELC ~ Free

- Feb 2** – Transform you Business processes for results;
3 – Importing Documentation & Procedures;
5 – Web Design that Works;
10 – Business Matters, Brain Matters;
12 – Effective Meetings: The power to get things done;
17 – Breaking into the Music Industry;
19 – Researching Global Markets;
24 – Evaluating and Developmng your Ideas;
26 – Fertilizer Alternatives;

Small Business Seminars - 1 pm-4 pm – ELC

- Feb 4** – Starting Your Business ~ \$35.00;
11 – Podcasting, Blogging & Online Syndication ~\$35.00
18 – Income Tax Basics for Sole Proprietors & Partnerships ~ Free
25 – International Trade Finance\$35.00;

Small Business Seminars ~ 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

- Feb 5** – Income Tax Basics for Incorp. Business ~ Free;
12 – Preparing a Business Plan ~ \$35.00
19 – Selling a Business ~ \$35.00;
26 – Market Positioning ~ \$35.00;

(Brown Bag & Small Business Seminars must be reserved at 780-645-5782)

Word Processing 1 Using Microsoft Word ~ \$200

Thurs, Feb 26 & Mar 5: 9:00 am – 4 pm
St Paul Community Learning Assoc – 780-645-4099

Dates to Remember in February

- 2 Groundhog Day;
9 Town Council Meeting;
10-12 Office Closed;
14 Valentine's Day;
15 ACFA Cabane à sucre;
16 Alberta Family Day;
19 **AGM Dinner with Minister Ray Danyluk**;
23 Town Council Meeting;
24 'Talk of the Town' Public Open House;
27-28 Mind, Body & Spirit Expo;

WELCOME to our 2009
NEW MEMBERS

C & N Maintenance Ltd
Precision Power Products
Michael A Hopper Prof. Corp.
Richardson's Jewellery
InfoMall.ca



10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CHAMBER GROUP INSURANCE PLAN

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Rate Stability

Claims are averaged over more than 25,000 companies just like yours.
Higher than usual claims one year?
You won't be singled out for a price increase.

Unlike other group insurance providers, Chambers Plan uses a 'pooling' system to determine renewal premiums. By using an average of claims across all Plan participants, you company will never be singled out for an increase. This unique system allows business owners to enjoy customized coverage without counting claims. Plus, Chambers Plan offers more stable renewal prices than most of its competitors and helps to deter a surge in renewal premiums following a year of unusually high claims. *Check out the new website or request a quote at www.buychambers.ca.*

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

For more information on any of these items, call the Chamber office at 780-645-5820 or admin@stpaulchamber.ca