



August 2011

1-13 Drama Workshop ~ Gideon Studios 780 815-0088

10 Cold Lake & District Geneology Club Monthly Meeting 780-639-2152

13-14 Prairie Endurance Challenge ~ Cold Lake Sailing Club

21- Cold Lake Show n Shine

22-24 Vocal Camp Ages 10-15 Gideon Studios 780-815-0088

25-27 Vocal Camp Ages 16+ Gideon Studios 780-815-0088

27 Community Registration Day JJ Parr 780-840-8000 ext 7823

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Happenings



Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Beat

AUGUST 2011

Phone: (780) 594-4747

Fax: (780) 594-3711

www.coldlakechamber.ca

Director's Message



Lisa Borowitz-Director

Well another Alberta summer is finally here, complete with severe storms and enough rain to replenish Cold Lake for many years to come!

On Wednesday, August 3rd, the Chamber held their annual Fish Fry. We hosted over 650 people to a meal of fried fish, salads, baked potatoes and ice cream. We had guests from as far away as Germany, as well as a few dignitaries attended, including Brian Storseth - Conservative Party MP for our area, Genia Leskiew - Conservative Party MLA for Cold Lake-Bonnyville, Doug Horner –running for Alberta Premier Leadership for the Conservative Party. Of course we also had our Mayor – Craig Copeland breadng all the fish. Our City Councillors were there to support the event, and many friends and neighbours enjoyed a summer evening out.

The word on the street is that it was our best Fish Fry ever, complete with live entertainment and of course the big tent on the street. If you have not attended for a few years, you should consider it for next year. The big tent has certainly brought a whole new dimension to the event!

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Respectfully,

Lisa Borowitz

ATB Branch Manager

Province Wide.....

Bill 16 - Distracted Driving Legislation

Distracted Driving Law in Effect September 1, 2011

Highlights:

- Restricts drivers from:
 - o using hand-held cell phones
 - o texting or e-mailing
 - o using electronic devices like laptop computers, video games, cameras, video entertainment displays and programming portable audio players (e.g., MP3 players)
 - o entering information on GPS units
 - o reading printed materials in the vehicle
 - o writing, printing or sketching, and
 - o personal grooming
- o Complements the current driving without due care and attention legislation
- o Applies to all vehicles as defined by the *Traffic Safety Act*, including bicycles
- o Applies to all roads in both urban and rural areas of the province

The fine for this new offence is \$172

The most frequently asked question regarding the new law is whether pets are specifically addressed by the law. Here's the answer! In situations where the driver becomes too involved with their pet, police could reasonably argue that the distraction is comparable to the specifically banned activities of reading, writing and grooming and lay a charge.

Also, existing legislation - *Traffic Safety Act* 115(2)(i) - allows police to charge a driver who permits anything, including a pet, to occupy the front seat of the vehicle such that it interferes with the driver's access to the vehicle controls and the safe operation of the vehicle. Further, *Traffic Safety Act* 115(2)(j) - allows police to charge a driver who permits anything, including a pet, to cause any obstruction to the driver's clear vision in any direction. We encourage the continued use of these existing provisions.

If a driver violates a new distracted driving provision and an existing provision in the *Traffic Safety Act* it would be up to the discretion of the officer as to if one or both charges would apply.

For the safety of both pets and road users, it is best if pets are secured in an appropriate pet carrier.

<http://transportation.alberta.ca/distracteddriving.htm>

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SCAFFOLDING • INSULATION

Let foreign workers stay, Alberta urges

Settlement through immigration will help ease labour shortage, Lukaszuk argues

EDMONTON — With another boom just around the corner, it's time to shift away from reliance on temporary foreign workers and concentrate on immigration, says Thomas Lukaszuk, Alberta's minister of immigration and employment.

Lukaszuk is ready to push the federal government to allow more immigrants from among the 30,000 temporary workers now in the province, offering them a chance to settle with their families.

Employers facing labour shortages would also be happy because they could keep workers they spent the last few years training, he said. Lukaszuk's first priority is to make sure Canadians in under-employed groups, such as First Nation and the disabled, are "fully engaged" in the workforce.

"But at the end of the day, even if we naively think we will get 100 per cent employment in those groups, we will still be short of workers," he said. Last year, Lukaszuk ordered a review of the temporary working program by parliamentary assistant Teresa Woo Paw. Her report, assessing the effectiveness of the program will be released in a month. The Calgary MLA spent a year hearing from employers and other interested parties on the issue.

Lukaszuk said he's ready to "raise the volume" on this issue with the federal government. He hopes to garner support from his provincial counterparts in preparation for a ministers' meeting this fall.

"The federal government took in 280,000 new immigrants this year, the highest number ever, and that's great," he said.

"But that record intake didn't make a dent in the 360,000 temporary workers in the country."

Since that number has been steady in recent years, it's clear the demand for workers isn't just short-term, he said.

At the height of the boom in 2006, Alberta had more than 60,000 temporary foreign workers — the highest per capita of any province. Many worked on oilsands projects but a lot of them left when the economic downturn hit in December 2008.

Recent federal government legislation has made the temporary foreign worker program less attractive Lukaszuk said.

Under the new rules, temporary foreign workers can spend a maximum of four years in Canada, and then must leave for four years before re-applying for another four year term. Previously, a permit issued for two years was renewable several times if the employer could prove the worker was needed.

The new four-year rule means well-trained workers will leave Alberta to go to other industrialized countries, not back home to the Philippines or Ukraine, Lukaszuk said.

Alberta got a wake up call a few weeks ago when Australian mining companies came to Edmonton to recruit all kinds of workers, including engineers and skilled tradesmen. Australian employers are offering immigration status to anyone who takes a job. That's a big advantage over Canada and Alberta, Lukaszuk said.

"When I go to Germany to recruit welders, I can tell them they can only come for four years," he said. The only way to currently offer permanent residency to temporary foreign workers is under the provincial nominee program.

But there is a 5,000 cap on that program in Alberta, and so far the federal government has declined to lift the lid, Lukaszuk said. Larry Staples of the Alberta Construction Association said his industry will need more immigrants and temporary foreign workers to meet demand for planned oilsands projects. At the height of the boom in 2006, the construction industry brought in about 7,000 skilled tradesmen, "but these days, that's down to almost zero," Staples said.

People from overseas and Eastern Canada left the province in droves, he said. "Now we're looking at ramping up again."

"We need to turn up the burner on immigration for the skills we need and make sure they come to Alberta and don't stay in Toronto or Montreal. We need to get more skilled immigration to the province."

Gil McGowan, president of the Alberta Federation of Labour, said he was pleased Lukaszuk wants to move away from temporary foreign workers. But he said it's not clear the federal government will listen.

Source: Edmonton Journal July 17, 2011

Chamber Happenings

Cold Lake Regional
Chamber of Commerce

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Sherri Bohme
Executive Director

Sharon Martin
Coalition Coordinator -
Hearts for Healthcare

Nicole Mansfield
Administrative Assistant



2011

COMING EVENTS

August 15, 2011

Community Guide Ad discount
ends

September

Business of the Year
Nominations forms are
distributed

October 11, 2011

Chamber Delegates Depart for
China

VALUE ADDED PROGRAM

Featured Program of the Month



Recite Conferencing is delighted to offer all Chamber of Commerce members Audio, Web and Video Conferencing and Web Casting services.

Members will receive a rate of 5.0 cents/ min. for Audio Conferencing, which is 45% below the industry average. Recite will also do a service audit to review your conferencing usage at no charge. They can recommend how to change the existing services you're using or provide you with many options from their extensive solution suite.

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Welcome New Members

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Kren's Business Lounge

780 623 3152

Lakeland Humane Society

780 594 1896

Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce
www.coldlakechamber.ca

2012 Cold Lake Community Guide

Put your ad in Cold Lake's most widely distributed Guide with 15,000 copies printed annually. Distribution includes local businesses and community groups as well as tourist information centers and conventions throughout Alberta.

ADVERTISEMENT SALE

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August 15, 2011



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Cold Lake Golf and Winter Club - Contact: 780-594-5341

Down Comfort - Contact: 780-594-2775

Furniture Galaxy - Contact: 780-594-3602

Kia Cold Lake/Budget Rent A Car - Contact: 780-594-6200

Marina Bowling Centre - Contact : 780-639-2950

Renegade Recreation - Contact: 306-236-3210

DID YOU

KNOW.....

The Chamber has several items that you can rent for your next function. Some of the items we currently have available include:

- 100 cup Coffee Pot
- 30 cup Coffee Pot
- Room Dividers
- Sandwich Board
- White Pedestals
- Aisle Markers
- Draw Barrels

Contact us for more details.....

NO SHOW/ PAYMENT POLICY

Remember:
When registering for a Chamber event, payment should be received at the time of registration unless prior arrangement has been made. Members who sign up for, but do not show up for an event, will be billed. Please give 48 hrs notice of cancellation as meals are often purchased according to the number of attendees.

As a Chamber member, your business...

- ◆ Is a part of an organization that represents over 300 local businesses and over 22, 000 provincially.
- ◆ Benefits from business referrals that non-members do not receive.
- ◆ Develops instant credibility through the Chamber Seal of Trust.
- ◆ Is positioned to access and communicate with all levels of government on issues that affect business
- ◆ Will learn about rising government issues that affect business and your voice is heard on these issues.
- ◆ Benefits from great networking opportunities.
- ◆ Receives a monthly copy of the Chamber Beat newsletter, keeping you informed.
- ◆ Gains access to information on workshops and seminars that will keep you on the cutting edge of business.
- ◆ Can be showcased at a Grand Opening event.
- ◆ Reduces costs through Chamber discounts on all activities and events.
- ◆ Receive substantial savings by taking advantage of the Alberta Chambers of Commerce and Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce's discounts available to you and your staff.
- ◆ Is eligible for Group Insurance - medical, dental, and disability.
- ◆ You can be a part of the Chamber member discount program when you offer discounts to local members in exchange for advertising.
- ◆ Can deduct membership fees on your income tax.

2011 Membership Investment

# of Employees	Membership Fee	GST	Total
1-5	\$165.00	\$8.25	\$173.25
6-15	\$275.00	\$13.75	\$288.75
16-50	\$400.00	\$20.00	\$420.00
Over 50	\$500.00	\$25.00	\$525.00
Non Profit	\$61.00	\$3.05	\$64.05
2 nd Business	\$30.00	\$1.50	\$31.50

Core Chamber Activities:

- ◆ Building a successful environment for a business
- ◆ Membership services
- ◆ Lobbying
- ◆ Economic development
- ◆ Member to member benefits
- ◆ Networking/Promotions
- ◆ Information services

Chamber of Commerce 2010 Board of Directors

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Get the Chamber Working for Your Business!!!

www.coldlakechamber.ca
Your online business portal.

FREE JOB POSTINGS

If you are in a labor crunch, email the position details to;

admin@coldlakechamber.ca

Make sure to include:

- ◆ business name & contact information
- ◆ position title/work description
- ◆ wage & deadline to apply