



December 2011 Calendar of Events

1~ Holiday Heroes Day
780-594-4747

1~ Chamber Business
Mixer

4~ Jamboree Kin Hall
780-639-0065

9~11 Crop Haven Scrap-
booking weekend MFRC
780-594-6006

9~ 27th Annual Christmas
Carol Festival
Ag. Society 594-0667

14~ Cold Lake & District
Genealogy Club Monthly
Meeting

25~ Christmas Day

26-Jan 2~ Chamber office
closed for holidays

Jan 3 ~ Chamber office
reopens

In This Issue

Page 2 Province Wide

Page 3 Canada Wide

Page 4 Chamber

Happenings



Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Beat

December 2011

Phone: (780) 594-4747

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www.coldlakechamber.ca

President's Message



Rob Brassard -President

2011 was yet another busy year not only for the chamber, but for the city, the region and the province. For the Chamber we saw another full year of events, kicking the year off with our business of the year banquet which congratulations go out to the winners, Evergreen Birch Lodge as new business of the year, Tangles as the business of the year for ten and under and Todd & Drake LLP for ten and over. Again congrats to the winners and those that were nominated. Our Hearts for Health Care Gala exceeded all expectations raising over \$200,000 in only its second year. Well done to all the organizers and big THANK YOU to the community for supporting this initiative.

The Chamber also held its other events through the year, with the Home and Leisure Trade show and the ever popular Fish Fry as the more notable events.

On economic front things were a bit slower as we saw the city's future in question, then Maple Flag was cancelled as our troops and those of our allies were called to duties around the world. So to our men and women in the military who not only were deployed but those that stayed back and maintained the operation tempo of the wing we thank you. On the city front our mayor and council continued to work with the province to find a resolution to the financial problems that were being faced. The Chamber took an active part in engaging our government official as well as the citizens of Cold Lake to voice their support of our mayor and council and to let the province know something needed to be done. After many closed door meeting and hours of work a deal was reached and on September 20, 2011 a deal was signed to see a significant flow of tax revenues from the air weapons range being transferred to Cold Lake, as well as to the MD of Bonnyville. Thank you to Mayor Copeland, our councilors, Col Dave Wheeler, Col Patrice Laroche and Genia Leskiw our MLA for their relentless efforts to bring this deal together.

As we exit 2011 a year with lots of bumps and hurdles, it also proved to be a year that will forever change the landscape of Cold Lake. With long term sustainability issues addressed, the city is poised now to take advantage of the many significant economic developments planned for the area some of which are the expansions at Cenovus and Imperial Oil, new developments such as Osum, KOCH and Devon to name a few, so the future for Cold Lake and the entire region looks bright and we look forward to what 2012 will bring.

To all a Merry Christmas and here is to a happy and prosperous new year.

R.R (Rob) Brassard
Branch Manager Lakeland Credit Union

Province Wide.....

Alberta honours veterans with new motorcycle plate

Calgary... Starting next spring, Albertans who served their country in the forces will be able to display veterans' licence plates on their motorcycles with the expansion of the provincial government's veterans' plate program.

"Albertans respect the sacrifice of the men and women in the Canadian Forces, and the veterans' licence plate is an instantly recognizable reminder of that sacrifice," said Service Alberta Minister Manmeet Bhullar. "We owe a lot to veterans for the freedoms and rights we enjoy today and the provincial government is happy to provide yet another way of showing our appreciation for all veterans have done."

Nearly 21,000 veterans' plates have been issued since the program began in February 2005. Plates are available to retired forces members who have been honourably discharged, as well as members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or other Canadian police departments who served under NATO or the United Nations.

Last year, the Alberta government, working with the Royal Canadian Legion Alberta-Northwest Territories Command, expanded eligibility to include currently serving Canadian Forces members with at least three years of service.

"Alberta veterans and current forces members are proud of their service to their country," said Darrel Jones, president of the Royal Canadian Legion Alberta-N.W.T. Command. "They appreciate the recognition from Albertans for their contribution and they will be proud to display the new motorcycle veterans' licence plate."

Alberta will be the third province to offer veterans' motorcycle plates when they become available in April 2012.

Editor's note: An electronic image of the veterans' motorcycle plate is available online at: www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/640.cfm

Media inquiries may be directed to:

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Service Canada is at the Cold Lake Library (South) every Thursday from 10:00am to 3:30pm.

They offer a variety of services that a regular office would offer such as Passports, Social Insurance Numbers, EI Claims.

For more information call the Cold Lake South Library

780-594-5101

or your local Service Canada Branch.

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A message from the Executive Director

With the holiday season fast approaching, our lives seem to get even more hectic than usual. A large part of this is the stress of finding those perfect gifts. Now we are faced with the decisions concerning specifically where we are going to make those purchases. Hopefully you've taken into consideration shopping right here in Cold Lake and have based that decision on the fact that you'd like to keep your dollars in our local community. After all, it's just as easy to spend that money somewhere else, right? Consider this, each dollar spent locally circulates between 6 and fifteen times, for example a dollar spent in a retail store could be used by the store owner to pay rent to a landlord, who then might use that dollar to buy gas. The gas station owner then uses the dollar to buy something at the hardware store, and the hardware store owner may use the dollar to buy something at the pharmacy and so on. Once that dollar is taken outside of our city, that multiplier effect dissolves. Local businesses are usually owned by fellow community members, friends and neighbors who also contribute to the community in tangible and intangible ways. For instance, they are usually the ones supporting the communities' latest fundraisers for hockey teams, dance and gymnastic groups or even the betterment of our healthcare through programs such as Hearts for Healthcare just to name a few. If we don't support local business, it is unlikely they could support community organizations.

Shopping locally creates a healthy retail sector and this is attractive to new industry. Without it, we don't stand much of a chance of attracting new businesses. Empty store fronts are a sign of a weak retail sector and not very attractive for economic growth. Communities with a healthy retail sector tend to attract new business and thereby offering more to its consumers. So as you take these thoughts into consideration please remember to support those who support you either directly or indirectly.

Sherri Bohme

Executive Director



Chamber Happenings



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Chamber of Commerce
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Sherri Bohme
Executive Director

Nicole Mansfield
Administrative Assistant

Kathy Dutrisac
Administrative Assistant



2011

COMING EVENTS

December 1, 2011

Holiday Hereos

December 1, 2011

Chamber Business Mixer

December 8, 2011

Maple Flag Meet & Greet

December 26 - January 2

Office Closed

Call the Chamber office for more details

VALUE ADDED PROGRAM

Featured Program of the Month



MONEX Group Program

MONEX Group is pleased to offer the Alberta Chamber of Commerce members our Preferred Pricing Program. Starting from 1.59% on Visa & Mastercard rates for retail sales, starting at 1.54% for grocery sales and starting from 1.39% for gas station sales. Debit card at \$0.06/transaction. Purchase or lease-to-own your own terminal with life time warrenty. Virtual terminals also available. Other programs are also available, Automated Teller/Bank Machine and Gift Card Programs.

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Welcome New Members

A.N.D Bobcat Services Ltd

Phone: 780-826-7033



Special thanks to

Brian Clark

and

Brandon Vik

for their service and dedication while serving as a board member on the chamber board.

Welcome to our newest board members

Patti Ouellette

and

Todd Munday

SHOW YOUR CARD AND SAVE.....MEMBER TO MEMBER BENEFITS

Action Plus Flooring - Contact: 780-594-0013

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.

Chamber Happenings

2012 Maple Flag Meet & Greet



This year's Maple Flag Meet & Greet was held on December 8th at the Officer's Mess at 4 Wing. It was a huge success thanks to the help of this year's sponsors; Humpty's Family Restaurant, Ramada Inn—Cold Lake, Husky Market, B&R Eckels, Casino Dene, Silverbirch/Ramada Hotel—Edmonton, Westcorp Properties, Budget Rent a Car, The City of Cold Lake. The event included food catered by Original Joes, drinks, and door prizes provided by members of our business community.

Many local businesses attended the event and took advantage of the opportunity to network with the Maple Flag planning delegates and promote their services. This event not only helps our local businesses but also provides a fun evening for our visitors to show them we appreciate the business they bring to our community during Maple Flag, scheduled from May 28th until June 22nd 2012.

Maple Flag Meet & Greet is an annual event organized by the Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce and is held each December. Any businesses interested in participating in next year's Meet & Greet can contact the chamber for more information.



Left: Chamber Director Bob Buckle welcomes the delegates and attendees



Right: Deputy Mayor Kelvin Plain brings greetings from the City of Cold Lake

Below: Delegates and attendees enjoy the evening



For more information on how to attend this event please call the Chamber office at 780-594-4747





2011 Business of the Year Nominations



Have you received exceptional service? Do you know a business deserving of recognition? **NOMINATE** a business today!

Our 2011 Business of the Year Awards evening is fast approaching. February 25, 2012 is the day we celebrate the accomplishments of our business community.



Visit www.coldlakechamber.ca for a nomination form or watch for it in your city utility bill in the next few weeks.



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

President	Rob Brassard, Lakeland Credit Union
Vice President	Greg Sylvestre, Ross & Sylvestre LLP
Director	Chris Emerson, Canada Brokerlink Inc
Director	Bob Buckle, Original Joes Restaurant & Bar
Director	Dave Piche, J.F.D. Contracting
Director	Ajaz Quraishi, Accounting Plus
Director	Carla Beaupre, K-Rock 95.3FM
Director	Eva Urlacher, Ketron Construction Ltd.
Director	Patti Ouellette, Remax 2000
Director	Lisa Borowitz, ATB Financial
Director	Todd Munday, Grey Munday Stolfa Wowk LLP

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