Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER BEAT

Phone: 780-594-4747 ■ Fax :780-594-3711 ■ clrcc@incentre.net ■ www.coldlakechamber.ca

January 2009 Calendar of Events

4	Jamboree 1:00 pm 780-594-2172
17	Malanka 5:00pm Glendon For more info call Shery 780- 635-4941
22-26	Regional Basketball Tournament JJ Parr Rec. Centre Call Jerry Ingham - 840-8000 ext:8195
31	Festival of Words Free Family event to celebrate family literacy with prizes to be won. Have fun while celebrating learning! Kin Hall. For more info call Debbie - 780-639-3134

In This Issue

Provincial News	2-3
Chamber News	4-5
2009 Maple Flag Meet & Greet Review	6
2009 Home & Leisure Trade Show	7
Membership	8

Director's Message

Maureen Sander Board of Director Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Growing Your Talent at Work

With the Christmas season behind us and things slowing down a little bit, this is the perfect time to grow the talent of your staff. To do this, focus on the skills and abilities that you would like to see develop in your workplace. Though the skills necessary to perform the tasks at work are important, I would like to encourage you to consider the "Transferable" or "Soft" skills of your staff. These skills include the communication, problem solving, and conflict resolution abilities that are behind the successful performance of all tasks in your workplace.

Too often we can get caught up in getting the job done, but many times how that job gets done can be at the expense of our coworkers or customers. Good communication skills are the key to success in getting the appropriate message across. Take this time to share information with your staff about the products and services in "all" areas of your company, not just their department. Encourage them to ask questions, listen to their concerns and clarify for understanding. If you can demonstrate this with your staff, they will demonstrate these same skills with their co workers and your customers, increasing productivity and sales in the upcoming busy summer season ahead.

As managers, if there is a problem to be solved, the best people to involve in this are the people on the front line. Ask your staff for feedback on your operation, find out how they see their jobs improving, encourage them to brainstorm solutions to the problem, and allow them to implement the decisions. People have a greater sense of pride in a job well done when they have ownership in the implementation of the initiative.

When you develop the communication and problem solving skills of your staff you will find less conflict in your workplace. However when it does arise mentor your staff in the fine art of the appropriate giving and receiving of feedback. Many conflicts happen as a result of misunderstanding. Through proper communication, clarification of the issues at hand, and creative solutions to problems that arise, the conflicts will be resolved quickly and with optimum results.

Once these skills are developed in your staff, they will be able to use them throughout your organization. So if things have slowed down for your company in January now would be a good time to cross train people and allow them to utilize these transferable skills in other departments. If you employ the youngest generation in our workforce today, this is an optimum way to make sure you retain them. They are efficient multi-taskers and enjoy doing a variety of tasks in the workplace. And consider asking staff who are considering retirement because of age or disability to stay on and mentor new staff part-time. Don't let that valuable experience walk out your door. By looking at job carving, job sharing, part time or contract positions, these older, experienced workers will continue to contribute to a lucrative bottom line. So here's to a prosperous 2009!

Welcome New Members

Volunteer Society Of Cold Lake

The Cleaner
- Cleaning Service

Tan Up
- Tanning Salon

Muscle Automotive
- Auto Repair

Downrite Construction
- Bobcat Service
- Landscaping
- Snow Removal

Cash Central Financial
- Cheque Cashing
- Pre-paid MasterCard

Andrea's Nails
- Gel/Acrylic Nails
- Nail Art
- Technique Classes

Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce Contact Information

Phone: (780) 594-4747
Fax: (780) 594-3711
4910 - 50th Avenue, 109
Box 454, Cold Lake,
Alberta, T9M 1P1
Email: clrcc@incentre.net
www.coldlakechamber.ca

Sherri Bohme
Executive Director

Samantha White
Administrative Assistant

Trish Flathers
Administrative Assistant

Province Wide

Premier Stelmach sets out Alberta's priorities for federal budget

Prime Minister urged to focus on long-term prosperity of Canadians

Edmonton… In advance of next month's First Ministers' meeting, Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach has written a letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper outlining Alberta's priorities for the federal budget. Topping the province's priorities is a seat at the table during North American climate change talks, and the federal government matching Alberta's commitment to carbon capture and storage.

In the letter, Premier Stelmach calls for an internal free trade agreement - based on the TILMA agreement between Alberta and British Columbia - that would reduce consumer costs and make Canada more competitive internationally. He also asks the Prime Minister to take action in the federal budget to streamline federal-provincial infrastructure approvals.

The letter calls upon the prime minister to set a budget that will ensure the long-term prosperity of the Canadian economy. "In addition to mitigating the impact of this downturn, our focus must be on measures that will support a sustained recovery and the long-term prosperity of Canadians," Premier Stelmach says in the letter. "Canada's return to economic health cannot be funded entirely by government deficits. We need economic growth and jobs for the future, and to do that we need to support an economy that is more productive and competitive."

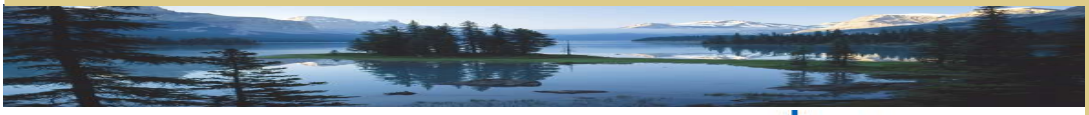
Source: http://alberta.ca/home/

Promote Your Business @ www.coldlakechamber.ca

The Chamber website is a marketing tool that can make the difference for you business.

The promotions page is FREE for all Chamber members and can be used to let the community know about special services, sales, and new products your business is offering.

Look to the Chamber website for information resources and updates on the business community!.



Temporary Foreign Workers in Rural Alberta

Alberta has been described as the most prosperous province in Canada. Everywhere you look you can see evidence of our thriving economy, from new construction to "We're Hiring" signs in windows.

Over the past 20 years, Alberta's economy has grown at an average annual rate of 3.7 per cent. Alberta's unemployment rate was 3.7 per cent in October 2008, down from 3.8 per cent in September 2008. The province continues to have the lowest unemployment rates in Canada.

Prosperity comes with its own set of challenges. Finding skilled employees is one of the top employment issues that Alberta has struggled with for several years. For job seekers this is a great time to explore the abundant opportunities available, and for employers this is a great time to be innovative and creative in finding employees.

Utilizing immigrants and temporary foreign workers is one way that employers can help ease the labour shortage in Alberta. New Canadians can help build our province and they continue to make valuable contributions to Alberta's economic, social and cultural vibrancy.

Under Government of Canada guidelines, there are key differences between immigrants and temporary foreign workers. Immigrants have been granted permanent residency in Canada and are legally entitled to stay and work in Canada. They have also met all the requirements necessary to apply for Canadian citizenship and can spend the rest of their lives in Canada, should they choose.

Temporary foreign workers are granted approval by the government to work in Canada for a specific period of time. They are given this status through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program by the Government of Canada. This program allows employers to hire workers from other countries on a temporary basis to assist with labour shortages. All temporary foreign workers must obtain work permits from Citizenship and Immigration Canada before they travel to Canada for employment.

If employers are interested in hiring temporary foreign workers, research is key to success. It is very important that employers do their research when looking at what programs might fit their needs. Being innovative and hiring temporary foreign workers can help your business succeed in the coming years as labour shortages continue to be tight. Not only can you help keep your business successful, you can also contribute to the enrichment and diversification of the culture in Alberta.

If you are looking to hire temporary foreign workers to help your business there are many resources available to assist you and your workers. Alberta is striving to support both employers and employees, to assist in maintaining a thriving economy. Whatever strategy you may choose to assist you with your recruitment and retention needs, you will need to be creative and think outside the box to become an employer of choice in your community.

A great place for employers to start on the path to employing temporary foreign workers is Alberta's Immigration web portal section for employers: www.albertacanada.com/immigration/employers/index.html. This website can provide you with publications, forms, and information on the process of hiring employees from around the world.

There are many useful publications that employers can obtain from their local Labour Market Information Centre or career centre, including publications on *Working in Alberta and How to Hire Foreign Workers.*

Employers can also call the Alberta Foreign Worker Hotline, toll-free at 1-877-427-6419.

Source: Alberta Employment & Immigration Labour Market News Publication.

Corporate Sponsors

Platinum

Esso Imperial Oil

Strength in Unity Cold Lake

EnCana

Cold Lake Ford

Gold

M.D. Bonnyville 87

Lakeland Credit Union

Silver

Ross Topylki Sylvestre LLP Chartered Accountants

Lake City GM Motor Products • Cold Lake

Contain Enviro Services Ltd. Specialists in Secondary Containment

Flint Field Services Ltd. Integrated. Integral.

Chamber News

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 sign frames

White Pedestals

Aisle Markers

Please contact the Chamber office @ 780-594-4747 for additional information.

A friendly reminder.....

When registering for Chamber Events please keep in mind our "No Show Policy"

Payments to be received at the time of registration for events or programs unless prior arrangements have been made or prior notice has been given.

For members who sign up, do not pay, and then do not show for events, they will be billed. The reason is that where meals and materials are involved meal counts and materials have to be prepared ahead of time based on the number who have reserved. A 48-hour notice would be required for refunds.

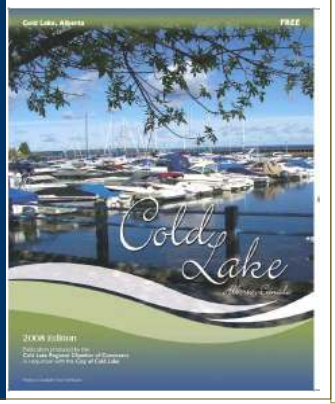
We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

A Huge "*Thank You*"

to the Cold Lake Sun for the continued support of our local business community.

2009 COLD LAKE VISITOR'S GUIDE

Watch for the new 2009 Edition of the Cold Lake Community Guide Available Soon



Call Today
Bryon Pearman
Telephone:
780-594-3202
Toll-free:
888-594-3202

AT WORK FOR SMALL BUSINESS SINCE 1970
Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan®

Email: bryon@lockhartpearman.ab.ca

Web: www.chamberplan.ca
www.lockhartpearman.ab.ca

#1 CANADA'S LEADING PLAN in
Health & Dental Benefits For Businesses
Prescription Drugs / Dental / Prescription Glasses/
Travel Coverage / Chiropractor / Message Therapy/
Life & Disability / Critical Illness
Plus many more coverage options to choose from.
No Business Is to Small
GET A FREE QUOTE TODAY!
Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan®
Go Online Or Contact Your Marketing Agent Today!
1.877.277.0677
www.chamberplan.ca
Join Over 24,000 Business Owners Today!

Holiday Hero's Charity Luncheon

A special thanks to our sponsors who helped make this event a huge success!

"GARDNER'S JUNCTION GREENHOUSE"

Paster Jeff Manwarren from the Harbour Light Alliance Church joined us and together we raised over $2000.00 towards the Cold Lake Hamper Project. Thanks to everyone who attended the event. We look forward to another successful luncheon in 2009.

Chamber Happenings

Vacant Board Position

We currently have a position vacant on our board.

If you're interested, please contact the chamber office for details.

780-594-4747

2009 Membership

Membership Renewals went out in the mail late Dec. Please contact the office if you haven't received yours, you don't want to miss out on your 2009 membership benefits.

Renew Today

2009 Home & Leisure Trade Show

Book your booth today!

For more details, turn to page 7 of this newsletter or call the chamber office.

2009 COMING EVENTS

Job Fair ~ Feb. 18/09

Business of the Year Awards ~ Feb. 28/09

Home & Leisure Trade Show ~ April 18 & 19/09

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER FOR ANY OF THESE EVENTS PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE CHAMBER AT 780-594-4747 OR INFO@COLDLAKECHAMBER.CA

2009 Maple Flag Meet & Greet

Dec 03/08~Officer's Mess 4 Wing Cold Lake

Thank you to all of the Sponsors and Hosting Business for this great evening. Once again the event was held at the Officer's Mess 4 Wing Cold Lake. Joining us for the evening were several businesses from the community as well as some from out of town. During the evening our sponsors and hosts had the opportunity to network with the participants from the Maple Flag Planning Committee while enjoying food, beverages and door prize draws.

With over 100 attendees, this evening proves to be a great networking opportunity to promote your business. If you would like to be contacted for the 2010 Maple Flag Meet & Greet in December 2009 please contact our office to leave your name and we will contact you when planning begins.

EVENT SPONSORS &

Hosting Businesses for the evening

ORIGINAL JOE'S RESTAURANT & BAR

Coast Hotels & Resorts

B & R - ECKEL'S TRANSPORT LTD.

Radisson HOTEL EDMONTON SOUTH

Centre Suite Inns

ATCO Electric

North 54 Bar & Grill

KIA Cold Lake/Budget Rent-A-Car

Airways Motel

Acklands/Grainger

Hamilton House Bed & Breakfast

TanUp

2009 Home & Leisure

Trade Show

Dates & Hours

Saturday, April 18th 9:00am to 9:00pm

Sunday, April 19th 9:00am to 6:00pm

Location

Cold Lake Energy Centre

Presented by

Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce

Box 454, 4910-50th Ave.

Bay 109, Business Centre Mall

Cold Lake, Alberta T9M 1P1

www.coldlakechamber.ca

Contact

Email: adminsupport@coldlakechamber.ca

Phone: (780) 594-4747

EXHIBIT SPACE BOOTH RENTALS (+ GST)

Non-Member Price		Member Price	
10 x 10 - Tent	$ 395.00	**10 x 10 - Tent**	$ 295.00
10 x 10 – Arena or Booth # 85 in Entrance	$ 445.00	**10 x 10 – Arena or Booth # 85 in Entrance**	$ 345.00
Entrance (125-127 sq. ft.)	$ 550.00	**Entrance (125-127 sq. ft.)**	$ 500.00
Corner (157 sq. ft.)	$ 600.00	**Corner (157 sq. ft.)**	$ 550.00
Bulk Areas (Booths 1 & 2)	$1300.00	**Bulk Areas (Booths 1 & 2)**	$1100.00
4 or More (10x10)	$3.30/sq. ft.	**4 or More (10x10)**	$2.75/sq. ft.

NOTE: Also available are (10) 2nd Floor Level Booths. If you would like to request a booth in this area, please contact the Chamber office.

As a Chamber member, your business……

- ⇒ is apart of an organization that represents over 250 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 and when you offer discounts to local members in exchange for free advertising.
- ⇒ can deduct membership fees on your income tax .

2009 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
Second Business	$30.00	$1.50	$31.50

Core Chamber Activities:

Building an Environment for Successful Business

- ⇒ Membership Services
- ⇒ Lobbying
- ⇒ Economic Development
- ⇒ Member to Member
- ⇒ Networking / Promotion
- ⇒ Information Services

Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors 2009

President	Rob Brassard, Lakeland Credit Union
Vice President	Greg Sylvestre, Ross Topylki & Sylvestre LLP Chartered Acct.
Past President	David Forbes, ATCO Electric
Director	Vacant
Director	Bob Buckle, Husky Market & Buckle Foods. Ltd.
Director	Dave Piche , Quinn Contracting
Director	Ajaz Quraishi, Accounting Plus Ltd.
Director	Troy Schmeichel, Digital Connections
Director	Eva Urlacher, Ketron Construction Ltd.
Director	Jazz Logan, Design Depot
Director	Maureen Sander, EmployAbilities
Director	Todd Munday, Grey Munday LLP

Get the Chamber Working for Your Business

www.coldlakechamber.ca

your online business portal

FREE JOB POSTINGS

If you are in a labour crunch, email the position details to clrcc@incentre.net.

Make sure to include:

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

You can also post a PDF document.