Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Beat

March 2009

Phone: (780) 594-4747 Fax: (780) 594-3711 www.coldlakechamber.ca

March 2009 Calendar of Events

1 -Jamboree 780-639-2172

5-6 Senior Bonspiel –Cold Lake Golf & Winter Club . Dale 780-639-4454

7 Affordable Housing Society Fundraising Banquet. 6:00 pm Lakeland Inn 780-639-2400

13-14 Business Bonspiel - Cold Lake Golf & Winter Club Dale 780-639-4544

18 Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Board Meeting Chamber Board Room 7:00 pm

TBA Feast of the Evergreens Cherry Grove, Dennis Ouelette 780-594-1828

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Director's Message

13th Annual Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce
Business of the Year Awards – A Great Success.
Ajaz Quraishi Chamber Director and Chair of the "Business of the Year Award" Committee.

It was wonderful turnout and record breaking crowd. This is the first time all the tickets sold out 10 days before the function.

Now, I would like to congratulate the Business of the Year Award winners and runners up.

Category 1(9 Employees and Under)
Winner: Images Studios Photographic Arts
Runners up: K-ROCK 95.3 FM and TNT Clothing

Category 2 (10 Employees and Over)
Winner: Flint Energy Services Ltd.
Runners up: CIBC Cold Lake and ATB Financial

Category 3 (New Business of the Year)
Winner: Hilary Weston Massage Therapy
Runner up: Cold Lake Husky Market

Now I would like to thank the following;

Specialty Sponsors: City of Cold Lake, Canadian Natural Resources, Encana, Osum, Fragrant Treasures Flowers & Gifts and Grand Centre Lions Club.
Table Sponsors: Accounting Plus Ltd., ATB Financial, Cold Lake Ford, Cold Lake Victim Services, Contain Enviro Services Ltd., Flint Field Services, Todd Drake Williams Findlater LLP, Images Studios, Original Joes, Star Helicopter Ltd., TNT Clothing, The Cold Lake Sun.
Media Sponsor: K-ROCK 95.3FM and The Cold Lake Sun.
Award Sponsors: Community Futures Lakeland, Lakeland Credit Union, Scotia Bank
Planning Committee : Ajaz Quraishi, Barb Anstruther *and*
Office Staff: Sherri Bohme, Samantha White, Trish Flathers.
Selection Committee: Mayor Craig Copeland, Chris Miller, Hubert Rodden, Joanne Burlingette, Ron Mattice

Finally I would like to thank Chris Gill and Cheryl Hunter for a tremendous job as the emcees for the evening.

FRAGRANT TREASURES Flowers & Gifts

Special Thanks to *Fragrant Treasures Flowers and Gifts* for the beautiful Décor at our 2008 Business of the Year Awards . As usual, Lanna and her staff did an amazing job. Thanks Again!

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Province Wide

Don't Miss the

Annual General Meeting
March 31/09

Additional details to follow by email.

Cold Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce Contact Information

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Fax: (780) 594-3711
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Alberta, T9M 1P1
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www.coldlakechamber.ca

Sherri Bohme
Executive Director

Trish Flathers
Administrative Assistant

Samantha White
Administrative Assistant

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- Photographs
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- Training opportunities
- Hours, pay, benefits
- Application process
- Contact information

To ensure your organization is included, contact: Emilie Lessard at 780-826-3252 or by e-mail at shaw@bonnyvillechamber.com

In partnership with:

Promote Your Business @ www.coldlakechamber.ca

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

The promotions page is FREE for all Chamber members and can be used to let the community know about special sales and services.

Look to the Chamber of Commerce website for information, resources, and updates on the business community.

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Canada Wide

Retail Council Of Canada Applauds Senator's Call For Investigation Of Credit And Debit Fees

Toronto, January 30 – Retail Council of Canada (RCC) applauds Senator Pierrette Ringuette for introducing a motion in the Senate this week to allow the Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce to investigate and report on the Canadian credit and debit card system. RCC encourages all Senators to support this motion and looks forward to participating in the inquiry if it is allowed to move forward.

"At a time when many Canadians are struggling and businesses are challenged to decrease costs while still providing value to their customers, the fees charged by credit card companies and the banks that issue their cards are increasing," says Diane J. Brisebois, President and CEO, Retail Council of Canada. "I am encouraged to see Senator Ringuette taking a leadership role by tabling this motion and urging an inquiry into a system that is failing many Canadians."

The fees charged to merchants for accepting credit and debit transactions represent an enormous cost for average Canadians and any organization that accepts payment by this method — small businesses and retailers, charities, schools, restaurants, hotels, government services and others. The average Canadian household pays hundreds of dollars a year in fees without even knowing it as they are a hidden portion of virtually every transaction they make.

Federal and provincial political leaders can help Canadians and the small businesses at the heart of their communities by taking action against skyrocketing credit and debit card fees. If swift action is not taken, many businesses and the jobs they provide could be at risk - in addition to the impact on ordinary Canadians' tightening budgets.

Merchants are not opposed to paying fees, but the costs need to reflect the services provided. A $1 transaction and a $100 transaction costs about the same to process, yet the fee is based on a percentage of the total price of the sale — why?

The fees retailers, restaurants, charities and others pay the big credit card companies and the banks issuing their cards are among the highest in the world, exceeding 2 per cent. That means that a $100 purchase costs small businesses two dollars or more, which goes directly to the card companies and their issuing banks. Compare that to a small business in Australia that is charged 45 cents on the same $100 transaction, or in the UK where they pay 79 cents — in these and other countries governments acted to curb high card costs. Source: http://www.retailcouncil.org/

Corporate Sponsors

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GOLD

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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
- White Pedestals
- Aisle Markers

Congratulations to TNT Clothing

On the Grand Opening of their second location
now open in The Cold Lake Energy Centre

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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 Home & Leisure Trade Show

April 18th & 19th at the Cold Lake Energy Centre

HURRY..... There are only a few booths left to purchase.

Please call the Chamber office 780-594-4747 for more details or see our ad in this issue of the Chamber Beat

2009 COMING EVENTS

March 31 Annual General Meeting.

April 18 & 19 Home & Leisure Trade Show

April 22– Operation Clean Sweep

August 1st & 2nd –2009 Cold Lake Air Show

August (tba) Annual Fish Fry

2009 Job Fair/Career Expo

Held for the first time at the Cold Lake Energy Centre , The Job Fair was again a huge success and all available booths were sold out.

Thanks to all the Exhibitors and Demonstrators . Without your support this would not have been possible.

Operation Clean Sweep

Mark April 22nd on your calendar. We're looking for volunteers to help clean up our business community.

Please call the Chamber office at 780-594-4747 for more details .

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

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2009 Home & Leisure

Trade Show

The **17th annual Home and Leisure Trade Show** is being held at the **Cold Lake Energy Centre April 18th and 19th, 2009.**

We invite you to participate in this incredible event. We offer a wide range of booths for exhibitors but spaces are running out quickly! We encourage you to buy your booth as early as possible to ensure you benefit from this opportunity to showcase your business.

Cold Lake hosts the largest home & leisure show in the Lakeland region. This year we will have over 100 exhibitors and anticipate the show attendance to reach over 5,000 people.

If you are not able to participate as an exhibitor this year, please consider a door prize sponsorship. It will give new customers the opportunity to experience your product or service first hand. Exhibitors are also encouraged to donate a door prize. The participants of the show love it, and you will benefit from additional advertising.

Please contact the Chamber office at (780) 594-4747 or email adminsupport@coldlakechamber.ca for more information.

ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF BOOTHS AVAILABLE!

CALL AND BOOK YOURS TODAY!

VISIT THE CHAMBER WEBSITE FOR A LIST OF AVAILABLE BOOTHS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

WWW.COLDLAKECHAMBER.CA

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As a Chamber member, your business…

- Is a part 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 when you offer discounts to local members in exchange for 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
2nd 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 2009 Board of Directors	
President	Rob Brassard, Lakeland Credit Union
Vice President	Greg Sylvestre, Ross Topylki & Sylvestre
Past President	David Forbes, ATCO Electric
Director	Bob Buckle, Husky Market, Original Joes, & Buckle Foods Ltd.
Director	Dave Piche, Quinn Contracting
Director	Ajaz Quraishi, Accounting Plus
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 Stolfa LLP
Director	VACANT

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

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