

CHAMBER CHATTER



The Chamber would like to welcome our newest members:

- * Mosaic Art
- * Rogers
- * WSI—We Simplify the Internet



Message from the President

We are at the end of era. We need to turn the page. What a rush it has been for the last 24 months!

As I prepare to pass my gavel for the Presidency of The Carleton Place and District Chamber of Commerce, I am pausing for reflection on the accomplishments of this dynamic group.

How fortunate I consider myself to have had the opportunity to work with Tracy Lamb from Mopani Communications and Terry Perkins from Carleton Uniforms, as part of the Chamber Executive! To have had the opportunity to lead the Board of Directors, people with tremendous talent and commitment, has been a highlight of my professional career.

The Chamber has changed since I came into office in 2007. Some of our successes include:

Finding the Chamber's independence

The acquisition of several staff which has allowed the Chamber to grow to over 200 members

We have hosted several high-profile speakers such as Derek Nighbour of the Retail Council, Michael Hughes, the Networking Guru, Fred Blackstein at last year's AGM, Scott Reid, and soon Perrin Beatty, President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

We have raised almost \$10 000 for our local hospital in just these two years!

Provided opportunities for our members and other local businesses to profile themselves at our first ever Business Expo in 2008 and again at our upcoming 2009 2nd Annual Expo on March 26

Our tourism guide has been taken to new elevated levels!

I am so proud! I am so proud of the effectiveness and perseverance of every member of the Board. I have had the privilege of working with some of our community's finest who selflessly found time in their busy schedules to be a part of the Chamber movement. Thank-you to each of you:

- Robin Mulloy- Past President – Tomahawk Technologies
- Linda Pond – Cusomer Connects
- Cindy Hobbs – RBC
- Carolyn Arnottt – Staples
- Sharon Holtzberger – Mississippi School of Arts
- Ina Jackson – Arts Carleton Place
- Marc Poitras – StarBucks
- Mike Cimilyan – Tomahawk Technologies
- Roger Holmes – Carleton Refrigeration, Heating & Air Conditioning
- Jeff Bogaerts – Trailing Edge Computers
- Gerald Kirby – Town of Carleton Place

I would be remiss if I didn't also acknowledge our capable and sensational office staff. Nothing would have been possible over the last two year without you. Thank-you to Sharyl-Ann Andrews, Office Manager, Marion Taylor, Grant Writer, Christine Lafrance, Grant Researcher, Julie Argue, Events Co-ordinator, and Jim Riva, Tourism Co-ordinator.

Please join me on March 26th at our Annual Business Expo and AGM to wish our new President good fortune and continued success.

Donna O'Donohue



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Chamber Office Report

I would like to begin this month's report by saluting all our members! Our membership is truly a force to be reckoned with. Many of our members are not only very capable business people but caring volunteers as well. Thank You for finding the time to contribute to the various organizations that make the fabric of this community!

March not only marks the beginning of spring but also our new year in the Chamber. Many memberships are due to be renewed this month. I will be in touch notifying members who are due to renew. For those members who subscribe to the Group Insurance Plan—remember membership is a criteria of those benefits.

I would also like to remind everyone that if you change contact information such as email addresses, please notify our office directly so that we

can update our systems to ensure we can reach you accordingly. Failure to do so can result in miscommunications and loss of business as what we have in our system is what is listed in the business directory.

I would like to personally express my appreciation of all our members who have donated items / services to this year's Business Expo! This year's AGM / Business Expo Committee is terrific! Angela Beazley, Lesley Musker, Linda Pond, Carolyn Arnott, Cindy Hobbs, Rebecca Plane, and Julie Argue together they have worked countless hours to make this year's event the envy of the County! We look forward to seeing everyone on March 26th!

Any questions or concerns please contact me at our office at 257-1976 or by email sharyl@cpchamber.com.



Happy St. Patrick's Day

“Change your thoughts and you change your world”

Norman Vincent Peale

Tourism & Branding Update

Ottawa Home and Garden Show – March 26 – 29

Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers – the call of the month!

Carleton Place will have a booth at this year's Ottawa Home & Garden Show...and yes, we still require volunteers. We are looking for no more than a half-day from any individual. You will not be alone at our booth. In fact, you may want to coordinate your time with another active Chamber member to share in the fun. Give Jim a call as soon as possible !

Branding Initiative has rounded third base and heading for home

On March 3, the Tourism Team took its branding recommendations to Town Council. Council has endorsed the Meet Me on the Mississippi Brand. Stay tuned for details for the official launch! The Tourism Team is working on the Branding Guide and will be having a workshop to provide businesses with an opportunity to see how they too can incorporate the new brand into their business.

Did you see your CP Downtown on CBC's *Living in Ottawa*?

To a packed house at the Carleton Place Cinema on February 9, Maureen Welch, host of CBC Television's "Living in Ottawa" and her friends, showed us two days of programming that took place in Carleton Place. As late as 22nd, the "Good Food Company" was featured on a segment of the show. The crew had so much fun here, they said they would like to come back for more! Congratulations to those businesses that have been featured. You make us proud. Go CP Go!

Carleton Place 2009—Community Guide

Thank You to everyone who has purchased advertising in this year's guide. The finishing touches are currently being done and will soon go to print. The guide will feature the town's new brand.

If you are interested in participating on the Tourism Team, please contact me at jim@cpchamber.com

Jim Riva

CARLETON PLACE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

175 Bridge St.
Carleton Place ON K7C 2V8
Phone: 613-257-1976
Fax: 613-257-8170
Email: manager@cpchamber.com



We are on the web!
www.cpchamber.com

Upcoming Events:

March 26th - 2nd Annual Business Expo and AGM. This year our guest speaker is the exceptional Perrin Beatty, President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. We also announce Business Person of the Year and More! This year's event is like no other!

March 26th to March 29th—Ottawa Home & Garden Show, if you are interested in representing Carleton Place at our booth and would like to volunteer some time, please contact our office!

Every Saturday Night—St. James Gate Live Music by Local Performers. March 7th features The Night Crawlers. March 14th features the Traditional Irish Trio.

April—Carleton Place 2009 (Community Guide) will be released

The Angels Roost for a Boost!

If you're looking for an affordable way to break out of the mid-winter blahs, a trip to the Angel's Roost makes for a lovely, leisurely staycation! Located 15 minutes from Perth or Carleton Place, the drive is just long enough to wind down and get into a relaxed frame of mind for some luxurious pampering.

Eight years ago owner Kathy Blair purchased the renovated church, circa 1895, and began providing esthetic services in a tiny room off her main living area. Today, after several renovations and expansions the space is entirely dedicated to the spa—and the renovations continue. From small beginnings, the Angels Roost has blossomed into a full-service, first-class refuge for the mind, body and soul.

A self-confessed gadget-girl, Kathy frequently invests in state-of-the-art equipment to expand the range and quality of spa services she offers. Passionate about ergonomics, she loves the fact that her "gadgets" adjust to the physical needs of the client, rather than the reverse. From pedicure chairs that turn and lower for easy seating to height-adjustable heated

treatment lounges covered with Egyptian cotton duvets, client comfort is always a prime consideration.

Other newly acquired toys include an IPL (intense pulsed light) machine and the "Spa Oceana". The IPL is used for permanent hair removal and for photo rejuvenation of the facial skin or treatment of spider veins with no recovery time required. The Spa Oceana is a 53 gallon hydrosupa tub that provides a blend of "radiant heat, steam, colour, vibration, scent and sound along with multiple showers and jet massage" to restore your balance.

Outdoors, a screened gazebo and fountain await warmer weather so you can sip a glass of wine and gaze out at the field and woods beyond while enjoying your pedicure. Indoors, the massage room will soon overlook the same vista while the store will move to the former church sanctuary. Here, the difference in colour of the wood stain outlines where the church pews once attached to the wall.

One of the biggest trends Kathy has noted in the past year is the move towards natural and organic product lines. Her store offers a range of these,

and holds exclusive distribution rights for the Eminence line hand-made in Hungary. She's about to introduce Jane, a mineral-based cosmetic brand as well. Other favoured—and not so easily found—product lines offered at the Angels Roost include Yonka, Warm Buddy and Beau Tea.

From a small home-business to a full-service spa boasting ten employees, a complete hair salon and a complement of beauty and wellness services so extensive they can't all be listed on a brochure, the Angels Roost has experienced remarkable growth in its eight year existence. In no small part, this phenomenal success is the direct result of Kathy Blair's vision.

During our brief interview, it became clear that Kathy's business is her passion—and that fuels her quest to always improve, excel, add another service, buy another piece of equipment or make it better in some way. Her business is almost always uppermost in her mind, even on vacation. If you're in need of a day away or simply an hour's peace, the Angels Roost is just around the corner...and down the road a ways. For more information, call 613-257-1977 or visit

www.angelsrooststudioandspa.com.

Business Expo/AGM—and the Honourable Perrin Beatty



Get ready..... 40 Businesses will EXPOSE themselves at this year's Business Expo!

After a successful inaugural year, the 2nd Annual Business Expo promises to enhance and expose some of the great businesses serving Carleton Place and area yet again!

The event this year takes place **Thursday March 26** in the upper hall of the Neelin Street Community Centre (the arena) where doors open at **4pm** for the Expo and will close around 9pm at the completion of the Annual General Meeting. 2009 has doubled the number of exhibitors and has attracted a wider variety of business markets and sectors.

As a member of the Chamber, please attend; visit with fellow businesses from the area and cast your vote for the 2009 Executive. The award for **Business Person of the Year** will be handed out, if you have yet to nominate a colleague, please do so soon! Visit us on line at cpchamber.com to fill out your nomination form! One highlight of the evening promises to be an inspirational talk from the **Canadian Chamber of Commerce President, Perrin Beatty**.



This year snacks and samplings will be offered from area food providers and caterers showcasing their culinary talents, specialties and services. Insurance providers and financial institutions will be on hand to answer questions and offer business savvy advice to those in attendance. New and innovative businesses have also signed up for the opportunity to enhance visibility, market products and meet other business people in our growing Chamber community. There will be so many people to see, such a diverse number of exhibitors and services, and let's not forget a cash bar- **why not make a night of it all!**

To purchase tickets (\$20 each) in advance please e-mail julie@cpchamber.com or get them at the door!

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