

CARLETON PLACE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER CHATTER



Welcome our newest members!!!!

Faucet Fix

We specialize in service and installation. This year Faucet Fix will repair or replace almost 6,000 residential plumbing fixtures. This opportunity provides us with a storehouse of knowledge. It's the source of our skills and expertise.

We know how residential fixtures operate and how they perform over time. We know when it makes sense to repair fixtures and when it makes sense to replace them.

Faucet Fix can advise you on the features and benefits of all major brands. We can show you how to lower your water bills and water consumption. We can protect your home and valuables from leaks and damage. We can help make your kitchen, bathroom and laundry areas safer.

Ron Ryan

253-7179

Message from the President

My daughter has created a monster. My youngest daughter is in Kingston at teacher's college. This means she incurs long distance charges on her cell even when she is home because her number is in the Kingston calling area. Texts are free, so she often communicates with me that way. I, on the other hand, have not used this feature much, and I have a more basic phone without an alphabetical keypad. My struggles in sending the shortest of messages have apparently been quite comical to those around me. Over the holidays, Dayna took the time to set up my phone with an option called T9W. I now key things in on the numerical keypad and my phone is intelligent enough to identify the word I am looking for the vast majority of the time. I of course now text her far more often than in the past, and I'm not sure that was an outcome she was expecting.

The upside is that I've embraced a bit of technology that has positively impacted my personal and business life. I am the first to admit that any new requirements to learn tend to make me roll my eyes, if only for a moment. The reality is that I have rarely embraced new knowledge without it benefiting me or those around me. I work in an increasingly changing industry and the commitments of my job require that I not only attain specific credentials, but that I on an annual basis pass exams to confirm that I've retained and updated my knowledge base. I know that to keep my clients happy, I must move forward with the "times". Tried and true methods should be celebrated, but not at the expense of improvement. There are so many avenues open to all of us to grow our horizons both at home and in our careers.

In spite of my challenges in keeping up with the world around me, I get deep satisfaction from succeeding in these areas and I'm even more gratified when I meet someone who is willing and able to share their expertise with me. The Carleton Place Chamber board and office manager Jackie Kavanagh are continually working toward change that will make us more efficient, accessible and useful to our members. We will continue to identify resources that can help you on your road to success. When we do it well, let us know! When we've missed the mark, we want to know that too.

I am living proof that you CAN teach an old dog new tricks, come join me!!

Cindy Hobbs



Office Update

January is the time of year I like to get a pen and paper out and start to plan. Here at the Chamber of Commerce office we are starting to plan events for the year that will help you make your business more successful and provide you with valuable information.

Mark March 25th on your calendar for our annual AGM. This year we are pulling out all the stops and will be holding a Casino Night Event. We are currently in the planning stages for this event and I will keep you posted.

Also in the next few days and weeks we will be sending out the nomination form for the Business Person of the Year Award which will be presented on March 25th at the AGM. This gives you our members the opportunity to nominate a business or individual in our community that is setting an ex-

ample and making an impact. Get your thinking caps on!!

Our First annual 'Showcase Carleton Place' is scheduled to run on the weekend of May15/16. This Trade Show will be open to the public and will allow business owners to showcase their businesses locally and expand their customer base. Vendor registration forms will be available soon.

Finally keep me up to date on your business and what you are doing! I would love to include your company information in one of our newsletters. I can include information on events you are holding, promotions you are having or member to member benefits that you are willing to provide. I am here to support you and answer any questions that you might have. Give me a call at 257-1976.

Jackie

There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs.

Author Unknown



Tourism Update: 52 Things to Do and See in Carleton Place

The 2010 Community Guide will be rolling off the presses the week of March 15th for distribution. Please let me know if you would like to have copies available at your place of business. In the meantime, here are some great ideas to keep you busy.

Week 1: take the kids swimming at the Carleton Place Pool then out for ice cream at The Cheddar Stop

Week 2: go cross country skiing or hiking along the Trans Canada Trail, then stop into Ballygibblins for a warm drink and something sweet

Week 3: dinner and a movie; take in a movie at the CP Cinemas then follow up with snacks or dinner at the Thirsty Moose Restaurant & Pub

Week 4: rent an ice shack from Baitcaster's and go Ice Fishing on the Mississippi River, take along a picnic lunch from the Olde Towne Bakery



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more details and to pre-register



Upcoming Events:

January: Carleton Place Glass is offering 15% off all glass products, not including Labour for all local businesses and their employees in the month of January.

January—Logo Central is offering 80% off selected Wearable's—winter and summer. (not co branded) Contact John Larose at 884-1040 or 521-3328 – for more details.

January 20th: Grand opening!!! New Owners, New Name, New Menu: all menu items just \$3.99 meet us at "The Barge"...on the Miss (formerly The Ale House).

January 21st: Carleton Heritage Inn, "Meet the Sommelier", 5 Course Dinner & Wine Pairing, Live Entertainment. Starts at 6pm. Tickets just \$69.00 call 257-2525 to reserve.

January 31st: Wedding & Event Open House—plan your special event 11-4pm, Beckwith Soccer Dome. Visit www.rentalvillage.com for more details.

February 3rd: Lanark Lips presents the Slam Series 2010 "Just Spit it Out". Show starts at 6:30pm, tickets are \$5 at the door. CP Cinemas, 17 Albert St. Check out lanarklips@hotmail.com for information.

February 8th—The Labour Marketing Group of Renfrew & Lanark: Retail and Service Sector will be holding a workplace planning meeting 9am, Carleton Heritage Inn. If you are interested in attending this event please RSVP at 613-735-4292 or renfrewlanark@gmail.ca

February 13/14th: Carleton Heritage Inn, "A Valentine's Special Dinner". Reservations Required. 257-2525

Carleton Place Canoe Club moves forward with Renovation Projects:

The Carleton Place Canoe Club is entering a very exciting time in its history. Some Grant Monies have been received that are allowing the club to undertake some must needed renovations projects to their building and get it up to code.

The building sub-committee has been working hard with the Town to move things forward as quickly as possible. Time is of the essence with these grants! The priorities as they move this project forward are : an elevator for persons with disabilities, a third floor secondary fire exit, ground floor fire doors, as well as exterior walkway and front entrance stairs, and new heating and air conditioning systems.

They are hoping that they can complete all of the work that has been approved within the financial constraints of the grant. The more volunteer work and materials that can be obtained at reduced costs, the more work they will be able to complete. To this end the Board is looking for volunteers who can help out in a variety of different ways and at different stages. If you can volunteer time or materials please contact members@cpcanooclub.com

Notes from Town Council by Councillor Gerald Kirby:

Ottawa Valley Railway Line: At our first meeting of the New Year, Council was provided with an update on the Ottawa Valley Railway Line. That's the line that runs from Chalk River to Smiths Falls. The bad news was that CPR provided notification that the Ottawa Valley Railway has terminated its lease of the CPR's Chalk River Subdivision rail line. Therefore, CPR has been granted an exemption from weekly testing of crossing warning signals until such time as the CPR determines to restore train services on the line.

Staff met with CPR officials on January 5, 2010 to discuss the various issues. Council was left with the understanding that CPR is ready to lift the tracks on this important rail line. Council is of the opinion that this could happen as soon as early 2011.

At this time, Council sees numerous advantages to maintaining the Ottawa Valley Railway line. The advantages include, but are not limited to a north-south Rail link between Pembroke and Smiths Falls and on to Kingston.

So what has Council suggested and asked staff to follow-up on? We have asked staff to write letters to all the municipalities attended by the Ottawa Valley Railway Line, asking them to attend a meeting to discuss the potential uses of the railway line. Similarly, it was agreed that we would contact the Eastern Ontario Development Corporation to get their input on the potential uses of the Railway line.

Bridge Street Reconstruction: We are only talking here of Bridge Street North, that is, Bridge Street from the Bridge to the Town line Road.

After reviewing several alternatives it was decided that the wiring for the Street Lighting would be placed underground. Consequently, says the Director of Public Works, Dave Young, "This will require the existing home services that are currently fed by the Hydro distribution wiring on the streetlight poles, to be replaced to the meters." Therefore the overhead wiring from the Bridge to the Town line road would be eliminated. It is expected that the present overhead street lighting will be replaced with lights similar to that on the south side of the Bridge.

Dave explained that while there have been concerns regarding the illumination provided by the present lighting fixtures on Bridge Street South, the number of locations and trees in the downtown core are not present in Bridge Street North.

Finally, consideration is being given to placing the new lights on the inside of the sidewalks to allow for easier clearing of sidewalks in winter, therefore more convenient use of sidewalks by Town pedestrians.





RETAIL & SERVICE SECTOR Workforce Planning Meeting

As a result of the current economic downturn, the Labour Market Group of Renfrew & Lanark is meeting with employers from retail and service sectors to determine what workforce challenges they are experiencing. The more employer feedback we are able to gather, the more effective our planning strategy will be. Any information or suggestions you wish to share would be greatly appreciated.

When: 9 am on February 8, 2010

Where: The Carleton Heritage Inn, Carleton Place

To RSVP for the group consultation please contact our office at 613-735-4292

Fax: 613-735-5761

MAKING YOUR WORKPLACE SAFE

Did You Know?

That all employers are required to meet specific safety guidelines in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Whether you have 1 employee on a shift or 200 employees on a shift you need to ensure you meet these requirements or you can be fined.

Did You know?

That businesses with 4 or less employees on a shift need to ensure that 1 person on site holds a current Emergency First Aid certificate. Businesses with 5 or more employees on a shift need to ensure that 1 person on site holds a current Standard First Aid certificate.

Did You Know?

A work vehicle is considered a workplace and needs to meet the same requirements.

Did You know?

Full details on these requirements can be found at: http://www.ofm.gov.on.ca/english/publications/Guidelines/emergency_guide.htm