

Prince Edward County Chamber of Tourism & Commerce Newsletter

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Serving Prince Edward County Since 1905

Fall 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

From the Desk of Dave Ashton

We hope all our members have had a successful summer. Your Chamber provides excellent opportunities for its members and we are pleased to present the following information sessions to help your business:

PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR BUSINESS

A representative of the Bank of Canada has offered our members a free training session so you can protect yourselves from receiving counterfeit currency and credit card fraud.

The training session lasts approximately an hour and is a hands-on event. They will provide genuine and counterfeit currency so attendees can see and feel for themselves the effectiveness of the security features on Canadian currency.

LEARN MORE ON HST/PST/GST

The Prince Edward/Lennox & Addington Community Futures Development Corporation will host an information session on HST/PST/GST. Have questions? This is your opportunity to learn more.

If you are interested in attending one or both of these information sessions please contact PECCTAC at 613.476.2421.

Date and time will be determined upon interest in these information sessions.

A strong membership makes strong
Chamber members. Dave

Dear Members:

All our newsletters are posted on our website at www.pecchamber.com. If you do not want to receive a printed copy of the newsletter please call and let Jan know and we will take you off the mailing list.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Automated Business Concepts
Black Pig Gallery & Suite
Cherry Valley House
Cottage Advisors Canada
Dixie Lee Chicken & Seafood & Kemp's
Country Farm Market
Fair Trade Quinte (10,000 Villages)
Industrial Perk Café
Lift Haus Winery
Prince Edward County Arts Council
Ramlih Cottage
Sleepy Hallowell Bed & Breakfast
Sign*A*Rama
Saraswati Wellness Spa & Bed & Breakfast
The Milford Bed & Breakfast
Wood Dragon Bed & Breakfast

Thank you for your support!

TILLIUM FUNDING ANNOUNCED!

The Prince Edward County Chamber of Tourism & Commerce (PECCTAC) has received \$15,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to provide wheelchair access to the Visitors Information Centre located at 116 Main Street, Picton.



L to R

Brian Munro, PECCTAC Vice President; Lawrie Ackerman, PECCTAC General Manager; Leona Dombrowsky, MPP Prince Edward Hastings; Kay Mandeville, Trillium Foundation; Scott Wentworth, Scott Wentworth Landscape Design

“Chamber Members can feel proud that wheelchair accessibility will be addressed as our Visitor’s Centre is located in a very prominent building in our community, states Lawrie Ackerman, General Manager.” “Our organization is very cognisant of the needs of our visitor’s as more and more senior’s and person’s with limited mobility are visiting our area. We want everyone to be welcomed and have a positive experience.”

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the government of Ontario. “Accessibility is an important feature for all visitors to Prince Edward County’s Visitor Centre,” said Leona Dombrowsky MPP, Prince Edward Hastings.

“Trillium grants \$125 million per year to worthwhile projects all over Ontario”, states Kay Manderville, Ontario Trillium Foundation. “We are pleased to be able to help the Chamber of Commerce expand their services to the people of Prince Edward County and beyond.”

Scott Wentworth of The Scott Wentworth Landscape Group LTD will begin construction in October. Scott was instrumental in revitalizing the Cenotaph Park and his landscaping plans for the Visitor’s Information centre reflect the parks design.

Message from Ministry of Community and Social Services

The Final Proposed Accessible Information and Communications Standard, as part of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*, has now been posted on the Ministry of Community and Social Services’ website.

The Initial Proposed Accessible Information and Communications Standard was developed by an external Accessible Information and Communications Standards Development Committee (SDC). This external committee included representatives from the disability community as well as the public and private sectors.

The initial proposed standard was released for its mandatory public review period from November 17, 2008 to February 6, 2009. The committee then revised the initial proposed standard to reflect the public’s input resulting in the Final Proposed Accessible Information and Communications Standard.

The final proposed standard has now been submitted to the Minister of Community and Social Services for consideration.

Those interested in reading the SDC's final proposed standard can find more information on the Ministry of Community and Social Services' website at :

English:

<http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/mcsc/english/pillars/accessibilityOntario/accesson/business/information/>

French:

<http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/mcsc/french/pillars/accessibilityOntario/accesson/business/information/index>

**DON'T MISS OUT!
OUR NEXT MEET & GREET**

October 20th : Loyalist Lofts, Picton

December 8th : Brown's Manor, Picton

If you want to host a Meet & Greet next year please let us know. It is a great way to showcase your business.

GET READY!

Congratulations to the following members on their nomination for the 2009 Quinte Business Achievement Award.

Business of the Year:

Angelo's Restaurant

Batawa Ski hill

Blumen Garden bistro

Browns Manor B&B

Copper Kettle Chocolate Company

Dixie Lee Chicken & Seafood Restaurant &

Kemps Country Farm Market

Duck & Loon Bed & Breakfast

Fifth Town Artisan Cheese Company

Hilden Homes

Indulgence Spa & Salon

Isaiah Tubbs Resort

Kathy's Collection

Lacey Estates Vineyard

Mark Heating & Cooling

Merrill Inn

Milford Bistro

Mindful Movements

Moonlight on the Lake B&B

Pat Guernsey Insurance Services Inc.

Picton BIA

Picton Home Hardware

Samlyn Enterprises

Scout Design

The Carriage House Cooperage

The Shieling Bed & Breakfast

The Source

Travellers Dream B&B

Business Person of the Year

Andrew MacKenzie

Bev Skidmore

Jeanette Arsenaault

Come out and join your fellow business members on **Friday, October 23rd** at the Quinte Business Achievement Awards banquet and help celebrate the outstanding business people in Prince Edward County. This year the gala dinner will be at the National Air Force Museum of Canada in Trenton. There will be an opportunity to tour this wonderful museum prior to dinner.

5:30 pm Cocktails

7 pm dinner

8 pm awards

Tickets \$45 per person.

For further information and tickets go to www.qbaa.ca.

TOURISM UPDATE

Do you have any information on Turkey?

This is just one of the more interesting questions the PECCTAC staff answered this year.



L to R
Lawrie; Jan; Elyse; Jarrod; Dylan

Some other interesting stories from our summer students:

From Elyse Platt

“What is there to do on a rainy day?” seemed to be the popular question of the summer. Fortunately for me, after two years of working at the Chamber, I have gotten quite good at answering. It’s a good thing for us that the County specializes in tasty county cuisine and wines to warm up damp spirits. The weather maybe didn’t cooperate with us this summer, but the crowds of happy vacationers continued to pour through our doors.

One of the delights of this job is the opportunity to meet dozens of new people everyday. People come from all over the world to enjoy what the County has to offer. A typical page in our guest book reads “Toronto, Montreal, Toronto, Spain, Switzerland, Montreal, the Netherlands”! It was interesting to see a newspaper brought in by one visitor, covered in Chinese

symbols with “Lake on the Mountain” written in large letters at the top. Needless to say, working at the Chamber makes me even more thankful that I live in the County. I would like to thank all of our members for being so friendly all summer. Whether you popped by the office, or I spoke to you on the phone, it has been a pleasure working with all of you. Thanks for another great season!

Elyse

From Jarrod Keogh

It’s been a fast and fantastic summer! Throughout the last few months, I have had the honourable post of representing and promoting the fine businesses of Prince Edward County. As a born and bred “County” native, I’ve had the unique experience of watching Prince Edward County develop and blossom into the tourist haven that it is today. My position at the Chamber this summer has exposed me to many of the exceptional people of Prince Edward; whether they are long-time entrepreneur, migrated business-person, or temporary resident, the sense of teamwork on display as been dazzling and unforgettable.

This job has been an eye-opening experience since the beginning. Firstly, I learned that my knowledge of the County needed some touching up. The first time someone asked me where they could go to swim on a sandy beach with little to no people, no parking fees and a place to pitch a tent for free, I was speechless. Of course, the answer to that question, as I quickly became aware of, is no where.

Thank you to all the members for being helpful and polite. Although it is not a condition when you join the Chamber, we sincerely appreciate everything you have done to make our job a little easier.

Overall, I’ve enjoyed my experience at the Chamber. Would I go as far as to say that it has been spectacular? No, I would probably

have to say this it has been a PECCTAC-ular summer!
Jarrod

From Dylan Marecak

These are just a few of the answers I gave out this summer:

- No, this is not “Sandbanks, Ontario”.
- No, you won’t be able to see the 1000 Islands, Sandbanks, Canada’s Wonderland and Wasaga Beach all in one day.
- No, there aren’t any single cottages that will accommodate both your 17-person family and your brother’s 19-person family.
- No, those real estate prices you’re looking at are not misprints.

Thanks for a great summer, Dylan

NEWS FROM BQTC

The Bay of Quinte Tourist Council is pleased to announce that Alison Dickey has been hired as the marketing coordinator.

Alison’s priority will be to jump start initiatives set in place to increase tourism efforts in the Bay of Quinte region.

Working out of the whole region, Alison will be approaching all potential partners in Tourism in the coming months with new strategies to boost all efforts in making the Tourist Council’s goals realized. Of those goals, creating greater partnerships, instilling a powerful new website, and working with the region for a central new Tourism centre are of most importance.

“We are very excited for what is to come with Bay of Quinte Tourism” states Council President Lawrie Ackerman. “For the first time, we are able to have an individual who will be able to bring everything together for the greater good of the entire region”.

“We are sitting on a goldmine”, notes Director Ryan Williams. “This entire region, as we all know, is one of the most undiscovered in Ontario. Working alongside amazing initiatives seen through Taste the County in Prince Edward County, and Comfort Country in Tweed, Cambellford, and Madoc, Bay of Quinte Tourism will define the region not just in Tourism, but also as the great place it is to work and live.”

Partnerships are the key to Tourism’s success. The Bay of Quinte Tourist Council is a premier partnership in itself, having been formed in 1982 and made up of all Chambers of Commerce and Tyendinaga.

Alison is from the Quinte Area, attending Loyalist College with her diploma in Broadcast Journalism, and completed an internship with Quinte Broadcasting before working in Sales. She presently resides in Carrying Place. Look for her soon!

As it moves forward, the committee is looking for anyone with comments and suggestions. Please e-mail Alison Dickey at info@bayofquintecountry.com .

The BQTC thanks Trenval for the funding to hire Alison.