

**PRESCOTT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 19, 2008**

President Marylou Murray called the meeting to order at noon at the Red George Public House. Present were Vice-President Mike Martel, Treasurer Sharon Spychi, Directors Allan Norton, Bill Pakeman, Robert Lawn, Ray Young, Mike Baril, Gerry Hasiuk, members Ken Rundle, Lorne Mallory, Brett Todd, Mayor Larry Dishaw, Pat Sayeau, Jessie Ritchie, Peter LeClair and guests Ms. Nori Spence, Ted Livingston and Mrs. Gerry Hasiuk. Minutes recorded by secretary Debbie Lawless.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Marylou Murray introduced guest speakers Nori Spence and Ted Livingston who spoke on the Connect Youth program funded by the United Way of Leeds and Grenville and the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The program connects with a network of services to educate, assist and support youth in our community to help them reach their goals by attending school and working as Co-op students to achieve credits toward their Ontario Secondary School Diplomas. The program enables “at risk” youth to keep going!

For more information on the program please contact SGDHS at 925-2855 x 3373 and/or go to www.connectyouth.ca.

Marylou thanked Nori and Ted for attending and explaining this important program for our youth and what employers can do to help them reach their goals.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda for March 19, 2008 was approved on motion by Ray Young and seconded by Bill Pakeman. (6 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

3. **REVIEW OF BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MONTH’S MINUTES:** No report presented.

4. **APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH’S MINUTES:** The minutes for February 20, 2008 were approved as circulated on motion by Mike Baril and seconded by Gerry Hasiuk. (8 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

5. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** No report presented.

6. **VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** No report presented.

7. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Sharon Spychi presented the treasurer’s report for period ending February 29, 2008. The financial statement was approved as presented on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Robert Lawn. (8 for, 0 opposed). Carried. Copy enclosed.

8. **SECRETARY’S REPORT:** No report presented.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** A list of correspondence received for March 2008 was distributed to all present.

Lisa noted the Terry Fox at Work Day/Great Canadian Head Shave will take place on September 12, 2008 and your support is appreciated.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **FINANCE:** The finance committee met and the following requests were discussed.

a) Request for donation from St. Lawrence Shakespeare Theatrical Co. to support Festival.

Discussion was held and motion was made by Sharon Spychi and seconded by Bill Pakeman the Chamber donate \$2000.00 now and review donation in September 2008 pending the Chamber's financial situation. (7 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

b) Volunteer Bureau of L&G request for donation to establish a monetary youth volunteer award.

Recommendation from Committee was to decline this request as our Chamber already has the Connie Dicky Youth Award. Motion was made by Sharon Spychi and seconded by Mike Baril to decline this request as the Chamber already has the Connie Dickey Youth Award to recognize volunteers for youth. (8 for , 0 opposed). Carried.

c) Request for donation for the Veterans 2008 Memorial Highland Games being held on June 21, 2008 in Spencerville. A project funding application form will be sent to them.

2. **PROGRAM AND PLANNING:** Sharon Spychi reported the committee met and plans are well underway for the Chamber's Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet to be held on April 7, 2008 at the Prescott Golf Club. Tickets are on sale now. Guest speaker will be Jeff Morris, Publisher and Managing Editor of the Manotick Messenger, Barhaven Independent and The Packet newspapers and Prescott Journal columnist.

Donations are still needed for the silent auction and committee members will be calling all Chamber members in the near future to donate to the auction.

3. **MEMBERSHIP:** No report presented.

11. LIAISON REPORTS:

1. **TOWN OF PRESCOTT:** Brett Todd reported Council is still processing the budget.

2. **TOWNSHIP OF AUGUSTA:** Bill Pakeman reported Council is busy processing the budget and working on the official plan.

Bill also noted half load restrictions are in effect now and a workshop was held in February offering tax tips for small businesses by Robert Walker of Walker and Associates Profession Corporation at the township building.

3. **TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL:** Mayor Larry Dishaw reported on the following items Council is presently working on.

-zoning changes to 2 six unit apartment complexes and a new business in Groveton

- planning firm (Stantec) was chose for official plan review

- noise study at Prosser sub-division due to CN/Casco rail spur line
- tree removal and brush cleaning being done for new gas line
- energy audit by Ainseworth to utilize grain dust as full source for Port energy conservation - power production
- provincial legislation to designate a portion of surplus money to fund infrastructure needs
- use of 65,000 tourist vacation guides to showcase township and township booklet being prepared by Economic Development Committee and also working on township web site
- convincing partners to locate plant in Johnstown which uses sorted municipal solid waste and wood residues for bio fuels (cellulosic ethanol production)
- Joint council meeting to report on three phases of Ontario East Wood Centre progress will be held on March 28, 2008 with Prescott and Augusta Township
- building permits values for 2008 are 3.3 million dollars and fees \$6,100.00.

4. **SGED COMMITTEE:** Mayor Larry Dishaw noted a meeting will be held next month with local municipalities to scope out economic development along 416 (front border) to brainstorm and discuss ideas.

5. **GCFDC:** No report presented

6. **BIA:** Ray Young reported the new board and budget are now in place and the association is moving forward with advertising and beautification ideas. Also Lisa Smith has returned as Chair for the BIA.

Ray noted the merchant directory/map brochure needs updating and 2000 copies need to be printed. Updating costs are \$500 and can be done by Jason Rooney of Red Top Design. Last year's printing cost was approximately \$1500. Ray requested the Chamber pay for the up-front charge of \$500. Discussion was held and it was decided this request be forwarded to the Finance Committee.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:** Robert Lawn reported he attended the Community Improvement Plan meeting recently held.

13. **OTHER BUSINESS:** No report presented.

14. **NEXT MEETING:** The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008 at the RED GEORGE PUBLIC HOUSE commencing at noon. "Everyone Welcome".

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m. on motion by Ray Young and seconded by Bill Pakeman. (6 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

