

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

President Mike Martel called the meeting to order at noon at the Bridgeview Restaurant. Present were Directors Sharon Spychi, Robert Lawn, Mike Baril, Ray Young, Bryan Somerville, Bill Pakeman, Brent Laton, Heather Lawless, Gerry Hasiuk, members Bonnie Martel, Brett Todd, Pat Sayeau, Jessie Ritchie, Barb Osborne and Roger Rhodes. Minutes recorded by secretary Debbie Lawless.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** No report.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda for November 19, 2008 was approved on motion by Heather Lawless and seconded by Bill Pakeman. (5 for, 0 opposed) Carried.
3. **REVIEW OF BUSINESS FROM LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** No report.
4. **APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** The minutes for October 15, 2008 were approved as circulated on motion by Robert Lawn and seconded by Bryan Somerville. (6 for, 0 opposed) Carried.
5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Mike Martel reported he had attended the South Grenville DHS commencement and presented the Chamber's Annual Bursary Award.

Mike also attended the Brockville Chamber of Commerce's Awards Gala where our local Shakespeare Festival was among the nominations for Tourism.

He noted Pat Sayeau and Heather Lawless are working on setting up a ride sharing program and explained costs involved, \$1000 to \$1500 to set up then only a bit of maintenance. Discussion was held and it was decided to proceed with the ride sharing program as it was felt this was a positive venture for our Chamber to undertake.

Mike then announced he will be resigning due to recent commitments at the end of this year and will be unable to continue his position as President for 2009. Positions needing to be filled for the 2009 Executive include President, Vice-President and Director positions. Anyone wishing to volunteer may contact members of the nominating committee Heather Lawless (925-4275 ext 21), Sharon Spychi (925-5700) or Mike Martel (345-5284).

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in January 2009. Further details to follow.

6. **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No report presented.
7. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Sharon Spychi presented the treasurer's report for period ending October 31, 2008 and the financial statement was approved on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Mike Baril. (6 for, 0 opposed) Carried. Copy enclosed.

Sharon thanked Ray Young and his group for doing a great job organizing the Chamber's golf tournament and profit was approximately \$3,746.00.

Sharon also noted the chamber has donated over \$10,000 for 2008 and suggested to review what the Chamber should be supporting and donating to. The finance committee will meet and discuss how to direct donations and Directors with suggestions and feedback is most welcome. Contact Sharon at 925-5700 with your input.

Also money revenue from the Chamber's Group Insurance Plan should be used on membership only.

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

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

#1 Food For All Food Bank - request for financial support. A project funding application form will be sent to the Food Bank.

#3 Bill Pakeman noted changes for the Chamber's Group Insurance Plan re disability, out of country insurance, non-medical maximums, etc. Contact Bill at 925-2711 for more info.

#9 Rehau - Announcement of closure of Prescott's production facility as of November 1, 2008 with a limited staff until March 31, 2009.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **FINANCE:** No report presented.

2. **PROGRAM AND PLANNING:** No report presented.

3. **MEMBERSHIP:** Bill Pakeman reported one new member.

Mr. Gas,  
Prescott, Ontario  
(Gas Bar)

This business was accepted on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Heather Lawless. (7 for, 0 opposed) Carried.

11. **LIAISON REPORTS:**

1. **TOWN OF PRESCOTT:** Brett Todd reported Council is presently consulting with Rehau North America's CEO on the closure of Rehau.

Some recommendations of the Town's organizational review have been adopted and advertisements for four positions have been posted. Council met with the Ainley Group regarding the town dock development and the group is assessing the waterfront. Meetings have been held regarding the waterfront study receiving great feedback.

The waterfront hotel plans are progressing well and meetings have been held regarding proposals.

Two new light standards have been installed at the tennis courts enabling all three courts to be used now.

A public meeting is being held December 3 at the Town Hall to present the draft version of the zoning bylaw update.

Ogdensburg C of C Outreach Program is holding the North Country Wine and Food Festival in August 2009 and invited our Chamber to participate in celebrations and hold events on both sides of the border. Our Loyalist Days Festival may coincide with their Festival.

**2. TOWNSHIP OF AUGUSTA:** Bill Pakeman reported work is ongoing regarding IMPAC and the official plan.

Road work at Riverview Heights and Maitland is close to completion and the Good Roads Convention will be held in February 2009.

Council is presently planning the Christmas party for volunteer firefighters and staff and working on the budget.

Bill thanked the Chamber for the recent fruit basket he received.

**3. TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL:** Pat Sayeau reported the first phase of the official plan has been reviewed.

The lot layout for the Meadowlands subdivision has been completed and now marketing the 49 lots is taking place. Also preparation for another 30 lots is being worked on.

The Port's new hopper is being installed to receive shipments directly from ships costing \$120,000. The Canada Build Fund application is being prepared for \$10 million (Federal) and \$10 million (Provincial) for the new wharf and storage bins. The Port's operation is separate from the Township with a net operating income expected in 2008 of \$2.2 million.

Council signed the contract with Greenfield for corn storage and it's workforce has over 30 employees.

Greenfield Ethanol startup date is December 1 with the official opening planned for January 2009.

Edison Drive's new road and the low lift pump station on Windmill Lane have been completed.

The township's promotional booklet is still being worked on.

The new Fields store in Cardinal has been very successful and a new deli has opened in the Cardinal Mall.

T.R. Leger is now open in the Johnstown Defelsko building on Commerce Drive and Measurement International is expanding its facility. Hands Fireworks expansion is also underway.

Council has submitted a proposal to the Great Waterfront Trail Committee to link Galop Park through to the highway to Iroquois as a capital project for our region.

The Galop Canal Restoration Committee is pursuing to hire a consultant to pursue funding for capital works for marketing the canal and will be inviting South Storemont, South Dundas and Prescott to join with Edwardsburgh/Cardinal.

Building permit values for 2008 are \$22 million and fees are in excess of \$85,000.

4. **SGEDC:** Sharon Spychi reported no meeting has been held.

5. **GCFDC:** Heather Lawless reported as of the end of September 2008 over \$900k has been dispersed in business loans this fiscal year versus a full fiscal year target of \$750k. Since 1990 GCFDC has loaned almost \$13 million to almost 350 businesses impacting over 2000 jobs.

A new Eastern Ontario Investment Pool has been created with business loans up to \$500k. Contact Mike O'Keefe at 925-4275 ext. 22 for more information.

The next SEB program orientation and information session will be held November 20, 2008 in Prescott and the next 8 week Business Plan Development workshop starts January 12, 2009 at the GCFDC offices and you may contact Cathy Gilmer at 925-4275 ext 25 to register.

Funds are fully exhausted for the Eastern Ontario Development Program for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

GCFDC are presently meeting to set targets as their contract ends March 31, 2009.

6. **BIA:** Ray Young reported Prescott's Lite Up the Night parade will be held this Friday and the BIA will be holding its Annual Christmas luncheon at the Prescott Legion on December 3. Tickets are \$12.00 each and may be purchased from Ray.

12. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Volunteering for the Chamber's Nominating Committee were Heather Lawless (chair), Mike Baril, Bill Pakeman and Ray Young.

These above directors were approved for the Nominating Committee on motion by Gerry Hasiuk and seconded by Sharon Spychi. (6 for, 0 opposed) Carried.

Sharon noted the Annual Dinner is our next event to plan and prepare for.

Volunteering for the Annual Awards Committee were Mike Martel, Sharon Spychi, Robert Lawn and Bill Pakeman.

13. **NEW BUSINESS:** Barb Osborne of the Recorder and Times distributed the 2008 issue of Brockville Today and Tomorrow. Barb also noted Prescott will be promoted in their upcoming shopping and gift guide through the Recorder and Times where 108,000 copies will be locally distributed through their paid newspaper circulation. For costs to advertise in the guide contact Barb at 342-4441 ext 269 or email [bosborne@recorder.ca](mailto:bosborne@recorder.ca)

14. **NEXT MEETING:** The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008** at the **RED GEORGE PUBLIC HOUSE** in Prescott commencing at noon. "Everyone Welcome"

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. on motion by Sharon Spychi and seconded by Robert Lawn. (6 for, 0 opposed). Carried.