



Trade Winds



The Voice of the Camrose Chamber of Commerce

October 2006

Promoting and Maintaining a Proud and Prosperous Business Community

Issue 8

Chamber General Meeting

Wednesday, October 4th, 2006

Location: Senior Centre at 11:30am - 1:00pm

Speakers: Karin Naslund of KBN Consulting Services

Topic: "Retain & Gain" The Benefits of Staff Retention

Tickets: \$13.00 per person

RSVP by noon **Tues., October 3rd** to 672-4217

Presentation: From Wal-Mart to the Senior Centre

Member Showcase: City of Camrose Police Service

Welcome to our Newest Member!!!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to members who have recently joined our Chamber. We look forward to your future involvement in our activities and committees.

Ramada Inn

4702 - 73 Street Camrose T4V 0E5

Ph. 672 - 5220 Fax. 672 - 5299

Email: gm@ramadacamrose.com

Wednesday, October 18,

Small Business Week Gala

2006

Norsemen Inn

Celebrating Business in Camrose

Guest Speaker: Darrell Toma

Past President, Alberta Chamber of Commerce

Cocktails 5:30pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

Tickets \$35.00

Champagne Reception Sponsored by:



THE CANADIAN
CAMROSE
"The paper about people"



Camrose Community Events - October

- 1 Red Dress Run - Mirror Lake
- 4 **Chamber of Commerce Luncheon - Senior Centre**
- 5 Hot Breakfast Topics - Senior Centre
- 7 Senior Centre Potluck
- 10-11 Richard & Deborah Popowich Concerts-Senior Centre
- 14 Camrose Country Opry - Senior Centre
- 15 CAFCL - Charity Auction - CRE
- 15 Annual Fiddler's Jamboree - Senior Centre
- 20 Augustana Voice Faculty Recital - AUC Chapel
- 20 Rose City Swingers - Sparling School
- 16-20 **Small Business Week - Camrose Chamber of Commerce**
- 18 **Small Business Week Banquet - Norsemen Inn**
- 18 Senior Centre Wednesday Night Dance - Senior Centre
- 21 50th Anniversary Police Ball - CRE
- 21-22 AUC Homecoming Weekend - Augustana
- 24-26 AED Conference - CRE
- 25 Senior Centre Wednesday Night Dance - Senior Centre
- 26 Blood Donor Clinic - Norsemen Inn
- 31 Public Reading by Author Lois Simmie - Augustana Chapel

For additional information about events please go to:
http://www.camrosecchamber.ca/calender_of_events

We would be happy to list or update your event - please call our office more than one month prior at 672-4217

NATIONAL DRESS DOWN DAY - October 6, 2006

National Dress Down Day is an annual event to raise funds for Canadian research into the detection, prevention and treatment of breast cancer. We ask companies, schools, organizations and clubs to participate in this event by asking their employees, teachers, students and members to donate \$5 to the Breast Cancer Society of Canada to dress down for the day.

Register online @ www.dressdownday.ca

CORPORATE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Camrose Regional Exhibition

December 15th or December 16th

Featuring: **The Drastics** with The Tributes impersonators
Elton John & Johnny Cash.

The Drastics play a variety of 1950's and 60's to present dance music.

Tickets: \$35.00 each Only 425 to be sold per night.
Book your tickets now!



Call 672-4217
or stop by the Bill Fowler Centre



President's Perspective

Diane Hutchinson

President's Perspective – Trade Winds
During October we will celebrate Small Business Week both here in Camrose and around the country.

You've heard it before, but it is worth saying again – Small Business is the backbone of our community. Without the independent retail outlets, the specialty shops and the private contractors our community would lack individuality, selection, opportunity and choice, not to mention a host of employment options.

Did you know that 1/3 of all Chamber member businesses in Camrose and area tell us that they have between one and five staff positions? Those are the businesses that may benefit most from Chamber of Commerce programs such as mass distribution e-mails to members for a small fee; the opportunity to have showcase displays at general meetings or the networking exposure of an after-hours business mixer.

We all know it's a tough time to be a Small Business. Competition is fierce, skilled workers are hard to find and harder to keep; and demands on owners are great. We're happy to be able to offer options and alternatives that can help reward or retain staff, such as member to member discounts or access to group insurance programs.

The Camrose Chamber of Commerce is also pleased to host the annual Small Business Week Banquet on Wednesday, October 18 at the Norsemen Inn, where our community will gather to celebrate the true spirit of free enterprise. Join us to hear Darrell Toma from the Alberta Chambers of Commerce talk about challenges and opportunities facing small business; as well as to recognize some outstanding local businesses nominated for the honour of being named Small Business of the Year. Tickets for the event are available at the Chamber office.

This is the 21st year we've formally gathered to celebrate small business in our community. I'd say there's never been a better time to say how much we appreciate everything small business adds to our local economy and quality of life.

Programs for Adults @ Camrose Public Library

Oct 2 - 7:00 pm - Packing Healthy Lunches for the Whole Family (free)

Oct 16 - 7:00 pm - Choosing the Right Pet for Your Family (free)

Oct 23 - 7:00 pm - Personal Safety Awareness (free)

Oct 30 - 7:00 pm - Memory Manager (Organizing Digital Photos) - \$5.00

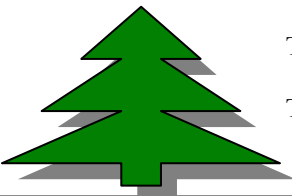
**FESTIVAL
-OF-
TREES
Nov 24 - 26**

Schedule of Events

Festive Feast including Live and Silent Auctions - Saturday, November 18

Teddy Bear Disco - Wednesday, Nov 22

Tribute to Thom Goetz - Sunday, Nov 26



CAMROSE POLICE SERVICE

PRESENTS THE

50TH ANNIVERSARY POLICE BALL

OCTOBER 21, 2006

LOCATION: CAMROSE REGIONAL EXHIBITION

TICKETS: \$75.00 EACH

CONTACT: 672-4444



SHARE Advantage Program

The SHARE program is in full swing and still available for interested businesses. The advantage program will run until May 1st, 2007. All Chamber members and staff can receive discounts from participating area businesses. Chamber members can pick up their SHARE Advantage Cards from the Chamber office.

Current Sponsors include:

A Fine Balance * Accessories Edge * Adrenaline Gym & Fitness Club * Camrose Stationary * Canadian Tire * Creative Bedrooms * Dairy Queen * Lube-X * Mary Kay Consultant * Panago Pizza * Reflexology By Diane * Vital Effect Inc.



I missed the deadline for enrolling a new employee. What do I do now?

Have the employee complete the normal application plus a Statement of Health and send it to the plan administrator. Coverage will take effect on the first of the month after the insurance company approves the application. If you have dental coverage, late applicants (employees and their insured family members) are each limited to \$250 in dental benefits during the first 12 months of their coverage under the plan.

What if I miss the deadline for adding a dependent?

Have the employee complete the normal Change Form plus a Statement of Health on the dependent's behalf. Send both forms to the plan administrator. The dependent's coverage will take effect on the first of the month after the insurance company approves the application. If you have dental cover-

Can I change the level of our coverage under a benefit we already have?

Most firms make benefit changes at the plan's April 1 renewal date. The best way to initiate a change between renewals is to call your agent. He or she can walk you through the options available to firms your size.