



EXPLOITS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER VISION

SEPTEMBER 2014 - VOLUME 10

Message From The President



I have frequently been asked “What does the Chamber do?” Our Chamber exists to support local businesses, improve the region’s economy and make Central Newfoundland a better place to work and live. We do not seek out businesses to set up shop in this region; that’s the job of the community.

The Chamber provides a range of valuable services to its members. These include lobbying government on behalf of our members and the business community, helping to promote our members businesses and services, as well as offering our members exclusive access to the local, provincial, and national Chamber network.

In the second half of my term as President, our Chamber will continue with our Small Business Week promotion in October, our Christmas Social in December, our Business Awards in February, and new this year a series of Lunch and Learn Sessions. If you are a business and not a member, I encourage you to contact our office and get connected to our business community.

Sincerely,

Kris Spurrell

THANK YOU



Kerri Wade is a graduate of College of the North Atlantic, with a diploma in Office Administration Executive. When Kerri came to work for the Chamber over three years ago, she was not familiar with this region or its business community. Today, Kerri is very familiar with the region, knows many of our members and has been a valuable part of our Chamber. Kerri is moving on to a career with Central Health, and we wish her all the best.



Keisha Rose is a recent graduate from College of the North Atlantic, with a diploma in Office Administration Executive. She is very passionate about business, and eager to work with the Chamber and its members. Keisha is a great new addition to our Chamber, and we look forward to working with her to help our Chamber grow.



EXPLOITS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board of Directors

President Kris Spurrell	Executive Director Gerald Thompson
1st Vice President Ashley MacDonald	1st Year Directors Robert Sills Ivan Ball
2nd Vice President Peter Morris	Aaron Bennett Tony Martin
Secretary Brian Barry	2nd Year Directors Brenda Cooper Brenda Hayter Michael Strickland Craig Murray
Treasurer Lou Alteen	Ex-Officio Rodney Mercer Mayor Bob Hobbs Mayor Jerry Dean
Past President Tom Boone	

MEETING NOTICE

Board Meetings are tentatively the 3rd
Thursday of the Month

Time: 12:00 noon
Place: TBA

MISSION STATEMENT

The mandate of the Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce is to promote and improve trade and commerce, and the economic, civic, and social welfare of the Exploits Valley Region.

CONTACT INFO

Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 272, 2B Mill Road
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL A2A 2J7
Phone: 709.489.7512
Fax: 709.489.7532

Email: info@exploitschamber.com
Web: www.exploitschamber.com

Editor: Gerald Thompson
Assistant: Keisha Rose

MEMBER PROFILE



Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association

The Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association, (NAIA) is a member based on non-profit organization with a mandate to facilitate and promote commercial development of aquaculture in Newfoundland and Labrador. The fundamental purpose of NAIA is to assist the aquaculture industry to achieve its full wealth creation potential. It is the voice for the industry ensuring that Federal Provincial legislation, policy, and services match the needs of the industry. It delivers programs and services to its members to attain excellence in safety, quality, environmental sustainability, and profitability. NAIA's membership base is composed of representation from the following sectors: finfish, and shellfish farmers, primary and secondary processors, hatchery producers, supply and service companies and academic institutions.

The aquaculture industry in Newfoundland and Labrador is changing rapidly, and growing steadily. In 2013, the Newfoundland aquaculture industry produced approximately 26,551 metric tons (Atlantic salmon, steelhead, muscles) at a mark value of \$197 million. The industry currently employs more than 1,000 people on approximately 100 licensed farms and several processing and hatchery facilities, mainly located in the southern Coat of Bays and Notre Dame Bay/Green Bay regions. NAIA works closely with many community, regional and national developments and regulatory agencies to foster an atmosphere of positive growth of the aquaculture industry for all residences of this province.

For more information on the aquaculture industry in Newfoundland and Labrador please contact Mirada Pryor at 709-754-2854, or visit their website at www.naia.ca



DRIVE IN 65



Some time ago I received a call from my good friend Ray Phair. He reminded me that 2015 is an important date for Central Newfoundland and Labrador; under the terms of Confederation with Canada, it was agreed to complete the Trans-Canada Highway across the province, which was done in 1965.

The province, then under the leadership of Joseph R. Smallwood, decided to build a monument at the half-way point marking that completion. Smallwood invited Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson to come to Central Newfoundland to unveil that monument. Smallwood left St. John's in a motorcade of government ministers and dignitaries, traveling to what became known as Pearson's Peak. There, a plaque was placed upon a tower made of rock from a local quarry.

This landmark for many years was a focal point of this great accomplishment. Today, it lay in rubble. I've tried to visit this monument some time ago but the road was completely blocked off; whatever happened to the plaque is anybody's guess.

Back to the purpose of the call from Ray; Ray was right, this monument marked the center of the province, Grand Falls-Windsor. This is an opportunity for the Town to expand on their branding as being perfectly centered. Let's boast up our claim as the hub, everything that goes East or West travels through this community. We are the hub, the centre well balanced; now we have an opportunity to promote and capitalize on this historic occasion.

BLUEBIRD INVESTMENT LTD.

Member Profile

Over the past thirty-five years Bluebird Investment Ltd. has played an important role in the commercial development of Central Newfoundland in particular, and Newfoundland and Labrador in general.

They are award-winning contractors that are capable of handling a variety of construction projects. Bluebird has participated in a number of public and private projects including the construction of schools, nursing homes, churches, R.C.M.P. Detachments, recreational facilities and much more. Looking back in 2011, Bluebird Investment handled the new construction of the K-12 school at Baie Verte, New Long Term Care Facility at Lewisporte, extension to C.O.N.A. Grand Falls- Windsor Campus, and the New Weigh Scales Facility, Wabush.

Owen Young operates and leads a team of over sixty well trained employees in peak season; including experienced carpenters, heavy equipment operators, labourers and roofers.

Owen and Bluebird Investments Ltd. are a major corporate sponsor of the Exploits Regional Chamber of Commerce, and also a great supporter of many other organizations and not-for-profit groups throughout the region.

To Owen and his team, all the best with continued success.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Provincial and Federal Government invest more funds in the Cranberry Industry. September 10, 2014, MHA and Minister of Innovation, Business, and Rural Development, Susan Sullivan, accompanied by Senator Norm Doyle announced an additional seven million dollars to Cranberry Farms in the Central Area.

Stuart Dyke, one of the farmers, praised both levels of government and their investment, noting that with additional land his farm will be more viable.

PAPA'S SWEET SHOP



New Store Opening on Main Street
September 20, 2014

Bob Duffney, owner and operator of New Town Cleaners and Restoration, and Duffney's Inspection Services have been doing business in the Central Region for many years. Bob's commitment to customer service and attentive detail has made his company leaders in their field.

In a conversation with Bob, he stated "Papa's Sweet Shop will be a store like no other in this region. If you have a sweet tooth, Papa's Sweet Shop will be surely added to your list of favorite places to visit".

To Bob and staff, all the best.

MHA HUNTER LEAVING POLITICS



MHA Ray Hunter, member for Grand Falls-Windsor-Green Bay South says when the election is called he will not be running again.

Ray has been a great supporter of the Chamber in many of our initiatives and have kept us informed on issues concerning this region. To Ray and his family, we wish you well in the future.

MY RANT

When you drive around our community we have much to be proud of. Many of our streets are in good condition, the homes are well kept, and the lawns are neatly manicured. Overlooking the small town politics, most of the people are fairly satisfied with our community.

One of the resources that we as a community do not pay enough attention to are the vast number of volunteers. Yes, we have people who work at their regular jobs for non-profit organizations and do a very good job at it. Then we have the pocket of business people like Owen Young, David Pelley and Bruce Hunt, who on regular bases donate to almost everything in the communities; from darts to bake sales. There are also the business people who for many years have used their own time and money, for example: Scott Kenney, who brings light to social needs of the Autism Society. We also have men like Wayne Morris, who for years has led the Red Shield Campaign and Paul Evans for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. We also have the volunteers who help make this community what it is, like Bruce Moores, with the School Breakfast Program, Rose Bungay with CIBC and Jim Smith with MADD.

We have Individuals who work throughout our churches like Mrs. Maidment in the Salvation Army, Eileen Butt with the United Church, Judy Miller with the Anglican Church and the list goes on.

Furthermore, the local canvassers, who year after year go door to door to help organizations, many of whom are never recognized. People like Philip Power, Joe Tremblett, George Piercey and more.

These are the people who make up the fabric of this community, who are always willing to reach out and try to improve the quality of others. I know I have only mentioned a very small portion of these great people and for that I apologize, but to one and all, thank you for caring.

-Gerald