



WESTBANK & DISTRICT
Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

■ Official newsletter of the Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce
 ■ Unit #4, 2375 Pamela Road, Westbank, B.C. V4T 2H9. Phone 768-3378 Fax 768-3465
 ■ E-mail: chamber@westbankchamber.com; Web site: www.westbankchamber.com

■ Supplement to the Westside Weekly

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Toll reversal an example of Chamber's unseen diplomacy

By Mike Scarlett
CHAMBER PRESIDENT

Chambers of Commerce play an important, and potentially powerful, role in any community; a fact that can be easily forgotten as much of what Chambers do involves quiet, patient diplomacy and long-term vision. In addition, there is much cooperation among Chambers which tends to put the focus on the merits of the issue (where it should be) and not on the particular group that is bringing the issue forward. In the interest of giving credit where credit is due, and attempting to describe one of the intangible or unseen benefits that a

Chamber brings to its membership and the community, I will use the recent removal of tolls from the Coquihalla Highway as an example.

The Kelowna Chamber of Commerce, supported by the Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce, has firmly and consistently pressed for the elimination of these tolls. Most recently, Kelowna put forward and very effectively presented a resolution to the BC Chamber of Commerce AGM calling for the removal of the Coquihalla tolls. The BC Chamber of Commerce represents over 32,000 businesses across the Province and actively communicates with and

lobbies the Provincial government on issues of importance to business.

Individual chambers also communicate with and lobby the provincial government, more often at the local MLA level. Kelowna's BC Chamber motion was narrowly defeated; however, the Kelowna Chamber's dedication to the issue was not, and their continued presentation of a very compelling viewpoint to the Provincial government was eventually rewarded. The result is the removal of a toll on a highway whose cost to the government has long-since been recovered through the tolling process. The benefit will be reduced transporta-

tion costs for Okanagan businesses and a corresponding reduction in prices paid by the end consumer. The WDCC applauds the Provincial government's removal of the tolls, and the role of the Kelowna Chamber and others in the oft long and tedious advocacy process that help to makes these small victories possible.

Like the Kelowna Chamber, the Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce is very active in advocating for its membership.

Regionally, some of the issues that the WDCC is addressing jointly with other Okanagan Chambers are: the Highway 97 trans-

portation network; affordable housing; and the skilled labor shortage. Locally, a few of the many issues that are being addressed by the WDCC are: Westside Tourism marketing; economic development; and communicating the need for a new Visitors Information Centre.

The WDCC also intends to participate in any review of the Westside's Official Community Plan, to provide input from both a business perspective and, where appropriate, an overall community perspective.

I would encourage all Westside businesses, who are not yet members of the Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce, to

consider becoming members. In addition, I would encourage all Kelowna businesses who are members of the Kelowna Chamber to consider becoming associate members of the WDCC. Membership in your local Chamber is an excellent way to support an often unseen advocacy network that actively represents the interests of the business community, as well as the broader community at the local, provincial and federal levels.

As the Coquihalla example above indicates, the process may not always be visible, but the results of the process are very much real. ■

NETWORKING

Golf tournament was a perfect way to cap off a great summer

What a way to end the summer! This year's Golf edition of the Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce with the partnership of the Okanagan Business to Business Club was picture perfect. 104 golfers started the shotgun start at 2 pm.

The sun was shining, the temperature was warm, and the after party food was perfection and prizes to almost everyone who attended. Our thanks to; Two Eagles Golf & Academy for making this a truly wonderful experience. More thanks to Patrick at Wright On Signs for the golf hole signs and to all the supportive members who sponsored a hole, Rainbow Painting, Capital News, OK Tires, D Brown Financial, Invis - Philippe Daigle, Curves, Renaissance Developments, Bassett Spagnuolo & Co, Marlin Travel, Interior Savings Credit Union, Okanagan Map Guides, Benson Salloum Watts LLP, Scotia Bank, The Cove Lakeside Resort, Mission Hill Family Estate Winery, Level Up Homes, Envision Credit Union and NCF Law.

Everyone brought prizes to the tournament and the rule was; Bring a Prize - Get a Prize, which worked out very well. Special prizes were given out by; Two Eagles Golf, Sonoma Pines and McDonalds Restaurants and other gifts were given out from Angel Wings and Lovely Things, Okanagan Map Guides, Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers and Lily's Pad B&B. Next year our tournament will be hosted at Ponderosa Golf Course. Leah has a special thank you to Brian from Interior Pool and Spa and to Philippe Daigle from Invis - you both helped make this Golf Tournament very special and we appreciated your time and support. ■



Contributed

The winning team "Built for Golf" being congratulated by the Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Leah Thordarson to: L-R Gord, Phil, Doug & Ernie.

NEW & RENEWED MEMBERS**NEW:**

INTELLIBED SLEEP & SPA
317 – 3021 Louie Drive
Westbank, BC V4T 3E2
CONTACT: Steve Funk
PHONE: 250-452-9232
FAX: 250-452-9233

DOMINION LENDING CENTRES
200 – 1505 Harvey Avenue
Kelowna, BC V1Y 6G1
CONTACT: Joan Bruncke
PHONE: 250-768-3697
FAX: 250-768-8139

PROFILE: Dominion Lending Centres Kelowna is a part of Dominion Lending Centres, a federally incorporated company. Dominion Lending is Canada's number one mortgage company with access of up to ninety financial institutions including chartered banks, credit unions, trust companies and private lenders. As mortgage brokers are quickly becoming the first choice of the Canadian borrower, for home purchase, refinancing and home equity loans, lenders offer their deepest discounts through brokers. My services to you are free as lenders pay me to bring them your business. Our large range of mortgage product and low interest rates guarantee our clients the best mortgage specific to your situation.

THE AERIAL & VIRTUAL CAMERA
111 Westside Road N.
Kelowna, BC V1Z 3S4
CONTACT: Chris Malins
PHONE: 250-575-6950

PROFILE: The Aerial Camera & The Virtual Camera are exciting new services offered by myself Chris & my partner Magie since we moved to the Westside area from England in July 2008. Our ground based aerial equipment produces stunning elevated pictures from as high as 70 feet, whilst ultra powerful software and special lenses allow us to produce full-sphere virtual reality scenes and tours for web-based demonstrations. Our aim is to produce the most stunning imagery to the highest quality using the best technology available. We are delighted to be a part of the Westbank community and have revelled in every second since we arrived here!

TLC FAST FITNESS INC.
#7 – 2483 Main Street
Westbank, BC V4T 2E8
CONTACT: Lori Westnedge or Tina Weninger
PHONE: 250-452-9252

PROFILE: TLC Fast Fitness is a completely integrated health, nutrition and

whole body vibration wellness studio for both men and women. TLC Fast Fitness uses VibraFlex, an internally patented oscillating whole body vibration machine, which is the the only brand used in hospitals across Canada. TLC Fast Fitness offers whole body and upper body vibration training in a 10 minute work out. VibraFLex machines will firm and strengthen muscles, improve hormone balance, increase circulation, improve bone density and increase energy.

JDS HOME INSPECTIONS
2932 Shannon Lake Road
Westbank, BC V4T 1T6
CONTACT: Trevor & Evangeline Neyedli
PHONE: 250-681-4663

THE COLOSSEO BARBER SHOP
103 – 2565 Main St.
Westbank, BC V4T 2B4
CONTACT: Marcus Diiuorio
PHONE: 250-707-1337

BOOSTER JUICE
503 – 3041 Louie Drive
Westbank, BC V4T 3E2
CONTACT: Deanna Pilgrim
PHONE: 250-768-4064
FAX: 250-768-4064

BIKRAM YOGA WESTBANK
4205 Gellatly Road
Westbank, BC V4T 2K2
CONTACT: Erica Carfra
PHONE: 250-707-1818

TULIP HILL
#2 – 2483 Main St.
Westbank, BC V4T 2E8
CONTACT: Janice Pounce
PHONE: 250-452-9227

CORRECTION: We listed a new member of our Chamber incorrectly as The Body Fit Wellness Co. and it should be "THE BODY FIRM WELLNESS CO." Our apologies for this error.

RENEWED:

All Kinds of Carpet
Blenz Coffee
Clothes Pin Laundromat
Dynamic Westside Auto Repair
K.R.S. Services
Midas Auto Service Experts
OK Valley Home Inspections Ltd.
Rose Valley Veterinary Hospital
SameSun Ventures Inc.
Shoppers Drug Mart
Taco Del Mar
Valley Lift Truck Services Ltd.
Voyager RV Centre Ltd.
Waypoint Truck and Road Maintenance
Westside Celebration Society

NOMINATIONS**This year's Key Business Award nominees feted at luncheon**

8th Annual Key Business Award Nominees were honoured at a luncheon on September 25th at the Westbank Lions Community Center sponsored by the Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce. This event announced the five semi finalists in each category.

The Key Business Excellence Awards are the biggest event for Businesses on the Westside. The Westbank Chamber event is different from other community chamber awards because the public can nominate any business in District of Westside. This year we received 194 Nominations with a total of 89 businesses. There are 14 categories for Business, Community Services and Individuals. It is our pleasure to announce the 2008 NOMINEES:

Service Based Business Sponsored by O.N.E. Technology, 19 Steakhouse & Lounge, Aegean Grill, Ali K Zam Productions, All Kinds of Carpet, Big O Tires, Blenz Coffee, Curves, Dynamic Auto, Esteem Lingerie, Family Wellness Center & Healing Spa, Horizon Travel, Investors Group, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, Medicine Shoppe, Midtown Automotive, NCF Law, Purified Water Store, Rose Valley Veterinary Hospital, Scotia Bank, TD Canada Trust and Valley West Dental Care.

Semi Finalists are: 19 Steakhouse & Lounge, Ali K Zam Productions, All Kinds of Carpet, Curves, Family Wellness Center and Purified Water Store

Customer Service Sponsored by Economic Development Commission

19 Steakhouse & Lounge, Accent Furniture, Aegean Grill, Ali K Zam Productions, All Kinds of Carpet, Beyond Ink, Big O Tires, Blenz Coffee, Capital News,) Debbie's Diner, Dynamic Auto, Esteem Lingerie, Family Wellness Center & Healing Spa, Horizon Travel, I Care Optical, Il Mercanto Deli, JK Schmidt Jewellers, Joe Maciel Inc, La Cucina Ristorante, Liberty Tax and Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce (not eligible)

Semi Finalists are: 19 Steakhouse & Lounge, Ali K Zam Productions, Capital News, Hergott Law, JK Schmidt Jewellers and Smiths Wine Making.

Business Beautification Sponsored by Byland Garden Center

Cherry Pit Restaurant, Debbie's Diner, La Cucina Ristorante, Lake Okanagan Resort, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, Mission Hill Family Estate Winery, Quails Gate Winery, The Cove Lakeside Resort and Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce who is not eligible to win.

Semi Finalists are: Cherry Pitt Restaurant,

La Cucina Ristorante, Lake Okanagan Resort, Mission Hill Family Estate Winery and The Cove Lakeside Resort.

Tourism Excellence Sponsored by Basset Spagnuolo & Co.

Communities In Bloom, Lake Okanagan Resort, Mission Hill Family Estate Winery, Quail's Gate Winery, Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce, Westside Celebration Society and Westside Warriors.

Semi Finalists are: Communities In Bloom, Lake Okanagan Resort, Quail's Gate Estate Winery, Westside Celebration Society and Westside Warriors.

Quality Excellence Sponsored by Mission Hill Family Estate

19 Steak & Lounge, Ali K Zam Productions, BCAA, Big O Tire, Blenz Coffee, Debbie's Diner, Family Wellness Center & Healing Spa, Hergott Law, JK Schmidt Jewellers, Liberty Tax, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce, West Manufacturing, Westbank Chiropractic and Westbank Zellers

Semi Finalists are: Ali K Zam Productions, BCAA, JK Schmidt Jewellers, West Manufacturing and Westbank Chiropractic.

Young Entrepreneur Sponsored by Westbank Rotary Club

Active 8 Fitness, Ali K Zam Productions, Curves, Global Affinity, Landworks Landscaping and Thredz Clothing

Semi Finalists are: Active 8 Fitness, Curves, Global Affinity, Landworks Landscaping and Thredz Clothing.

Retailer Class 1 sponsored by Envision Credit Union

Blenz Coffee, Esteem Lingerie, The Good Guys, Hickok's Country Supply, Horizon Travel, Interior Pools & Spa, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, Pedra Clothing, Pro Wireless and Sears Floor Covering

Semi Finalists are: Esteem Lingerie, The Good Guys, Hickok's Country Supply, Interior Pool & Spa and Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products.

Retailer Class 2 Sponsored by TD Canada Trust

Bylands Garden Center, Home Depot, JK Schmidt Jewellers, Lake Okanagan Resort, Lange Con Construction, Two Eagles Golf & Academy and Westbank Zellers

Semi Finalists are: Bylands Garden Center, Home Depot, JK Schmidt Jewellers, Two Eagles Golf & Academy and Zeller's.

Aboriginal Business Sponsored by Westbank First Nation

■ See NOMINEES on page 21

CHAMBER CHATTER

Find out why membership in the Chamber may fit your company

Have you ever wondered... Why join a Chamber of Commerce? The Westbank & District Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a New & Prospective Member Welcome on Tuesday October 7th at the Chamber offices at 2375 Pamela Road from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. This evening is only to give you information on; what does a chamber do for business, what does my business membership have to do with running this organization and what does the organization do for the community? Anyone interested in attending, please contact our office at 250.768.3378 this will allow us to prepare enough nibbles for the evening.

■ **The Key Business Excellence Awards is the biggest event for Businesses on the Westside.** This year we received 194 nominations for 89 businesses. The winners will be announced and honoured at the Gala Awards on October 18th at Agostino's Restaurant at Shannon Lake Golf Course. Cost to attend this semi formal event is \$80 per person or table of 8 for \$580. For more information 250.768.3378 or go to the chamber web site www.westbankchamber.com

■ **Breakfast and Learn with Chief Robert Louie.** October 29th 7:00 am – 8:30 am. Sponsored by Envision Credit Union. Mark this date Place and cost to be announced.

■ **Annual General Meeting – Luncheon** – November 6th Place, Cost and time to be announced – Mark your calendar!

■ **November 20th Business After Hours will be hosted by Benson Salloum Watts LLP,** located at 1979 Old Okanagan Hwy from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Come and network with fellow chamber members and their guests. There is no cost to attend but please RSVP 250.768.3378 so our host knows how much food will be required.

■ **December 4th "Season Greetings" Business After Hours** will be hosted by the Royal Bank

of Canada on Gossett Road from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Please RSVP 250.768.3378. This is normally one of the biggest networking events of the season so come and enjoy the Christmas spirit with fellow chamber members.

■ **The Annual Westside Family Halloween Bash** will be hosted at the Webber Road Boys & Girls Club on Saturday October 25th from 1 – 4 pm. Admission is only \$2.00 per person. There will be a Haunted House, Kids Crafts & Activities, Entertainment, Goodie Bags and don't forget to come in Costume. Fun for the whole Family! For more information contact Westside Parks at 250.469.6160

■ **Brian Tracy LIVE IN THE OKANAGAN! "FLIGHT PLAN TO SUCCESS"**. Friday, November 7th 9-5 pm. Evangel Auditorium, 3261 Gordon Dr. Kelowna. Seating is limited so don't miss this rare opportunity to see Brian Tracy LIVE. To register email www.briantracylive.ca or call 1.800.839.7028 advise them YOU are a chamber Member for a special discounted rate.

■ **Westside Community Light Up will take place at the Lions Community Hall** on Saturday December 6th from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

The Westside Celebration Society is pleased to bring this Christmas Kick Off Event to our community. There will be community Sing a long and a couple of kid's activities. Don't forget Santa will arrive by Fire Truck and the children can tell Santa their Christmas wishes. There is no cost to attend.

■ **Teddy Bear Tea with Santa will be arriving on Sunday December 14th at Westwood Retirement Resort.** Bring you small children along with their Teddy Bears to have High Tea with Santa, then have your Teddy Bear checked out at the Teddy Bear hospital. There will be children's crafts and activities.

Two seating for high tea at 1:30

pm and 2:45 pm. Cost will be Adults \$25.00 Children \$10.00

Calling all businesses and organizations. Help promote our community wellness and community spirit by sponsoring and decorating one of 20 Christmas trees, which will be displayed for the month of December at Westwood Retirement Resort. Cost to sponsor a tree \$300 plus decorations and a tax receipt will be issued. All proceeds will go to the Westside Community Foodbank Building Fund. For more information Contact Helen Holton at 250.870.8878

■ **Wealth Series Upcoming Seminars:** These seminars are Free but space is limited to 25 therefore please RSVP 250.768.8900 or www.thewealthseries.net.

October 21, 2008 RESPs and other stuff (Including the Facts of Life)(for parents and their kids 12 –18) Inflation game and the effects on Housing, Mortgages, Credit, Investments and RESPs.

October 28, 2008 Borrowing to Invest – Bad/Good Debt. How revenues producing properties work. Refinancing your home. Review different asset classes. Market ups and downs.

November 4, 2008 Pre-Retirement Planning "Living the Dream" Right size/recreational property/adult living/ 2nd home. Refinancing, Universal Life Policies, alternatives to reverse mortgages, CPP - little known facts, history of retirement, charitable giving, and estate planning.

Nov. 12, 2008 Self-Employed Commercial Space, Conforming & non-conforming. Issues in financing. Disability, Critical Illness, Life Insurance, and Buy/Sell Agreements.

■ **Don Brown, of D.B Financial has been in the Group Insurance industry** and associated with the Chambers Plan for 10 years. He volunteers as a community coach in the Okanagan and is very active in local sports. D B Financial specializes in customized Group Benefit Plans for small to medium size businesses as well as Business Insurance for owners. To speak to Don please call (250) 763-4284. ■

RECOGNITION

Gala held on October 18

■ NOMINEES from page ?

Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, NC Derriksan & Son, Payton Contracting, Pedra Clothing, Two Eagles Golf & Academy and Valley West Dental Care

Semi Finalists are: Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, NC Derriksan & Son, Payton Contracting, Pedra Clothing, Two Eagles Golf & Academy and Valley West Dental Care

Sponsored by Bank of Montreal Alpine Helicopters, ASDAC CNC Machining Ltd, Challenge Labels, Lange Con Construction, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, Microsurvey

Semi Finalists are: Alpine Aerotech, ASDAC CNC Machining Ltd, Lange Con Construction, North Side Industries and Microsurvey

Home Based Business Sponsored by Interior Savings Credit Union

Always Write Business Services, Avalla by Geri, Bloom Hair Salon, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products, New Day, Life Coaching, Smart Art and Wright On Signs

Semi Finalists are: Always Write Business Services, Bloom Hair Studio, New Day/Life Coaching, Smart Art and Wright On Signs.

Organizational Community Booster Sponsored by Okanagan Business to Business Emmanuel Church, JK

Schmidt Jewellers, Potter House Community Church, Westbank Lions Club, Westside Celebration Society, Westside Health Network and Westbank Zeller's

Semi Finalists are: Emmanuel Church, Potters House Community Church, Westbank Lions Club, Westside Health Network and Zeller's.

Business Person of the Year Sponsored by Re/Max Kelowna-Westside

Byland's Garden Center, Family Wellness Center & Healing Spa, Hergott Law, Horizon Travel, JK Schmidt Jewellers, Little Miss Chief Gourmet Products and TD Canada Trust

Semi Finalists are: Bylands Garden Center, Family Wellness Center and Healing Spa, Hergott Law, Horizon Travel, JK Schmidt Jewellers and TD Canada Trust.

President's Award is given out by the Chamber of Commerce to a nominated business, organization or individual who transcends all areas for good business, excellent relations and gives back to the community. The winners will be announced and honoured at the Gala Awards on October 18th at Agostino's Restaurant at Shannon Lake Golf Course. Cost to attend this semi formal event is \$80 per person or table of 8 for \$580. For more information 250.768.3378 or go to the chamber web site www.westbankchamber.com. ■

Contact Us

Kee in contact with your Board of Directors:

President: Mike Scarlett, Grant Thornton LLP – 712.6800

First Vice President: Broc Braconnier, Community Futures Development Corporation 707.2063

Second Vice President: Leasa Kennedy, The Cove Lakeside Resort 707-1830

Secretary/Treasurer: Julie Clitheroe, Envision Financial 212.5722

Past President: Rusty Ensign, Ensign Bros Lumber Co. 769.7424

CHAMBER STAFF: 768-3378
Manager — Leah Thordarson