



NEWS & VIEWS

April 2010

COMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday April 13, 2010

Annual General Meeting

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Train Station, 6176 Main Street

April 15, 2010

Networking Breakfast—8:00–9:00 am

**Hosted by: Identity Theft –
Lorraine Pearce**

1 Final Round (enter 1 stoplight
north of Aurora Rd. on Hwy. 48)

Free to Members

\$15.00 to Non-Members (GST incl.)

May 13, 2010

Networking Breakfast—8:00–9:00 am

Hosted by: Bloomington Cove

13621 Ninth Line

Free to Members

\$15.00 to Non-Members (GST incl.)

June 17, 2010

Networking Breakfast—8:00–9:00 am

Hosted by: Cedar Beach Grill

155 Cedarvale Blvd.

Musselman's Lake

Free to Members

\$15.00 to Non-Members (GST incl.)

2010 INFORMATION & GUIDE MAP

The Chamber of Commerce is once again going to produce our own Information & Guide Map; last years proved extremely successful. With the new homes being built and sold in Whitchurch-Stouffville we have a lot of requests for our maps. If you wish to have your business **put on the map** please book your advertising space now. We must have your ads by Tuesday May 25, 2010. We have enclosed the price list and it is posted on our website. There will be 17,500 maps printed and distributed through the local newspaper, Chamber office and train station, Town office and your business.

Executive Director's Message

I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome that I have received since assuming the position of Executive Director here at our Chamber. I will be visiting as many of you as I can over the coming weeks, and want to hear your ideas of what the Chamber can do to help your business thrive in our community. In the meantime I hope that you will join us for our AGM on Tuesday April 13, 2010 at 7pm at the Train Station on Main Street. Please attend and get involved in YOUR Chamber!

Welcome New Members

Sandbox Group Limited

Leanne Taylor
86 Ringwood Dr., Ste. 215
Stouffville, ON L4A 1C3
Tel: 905-640-4100
Publishers Services

Knox Insulation

Kent Knox
14691 Ninth Line
Stouffville, ON L4A 7X3
Tel: 905-642-2225
Insulation

Town & Country Animal Hospital

Peter Weidelich
5208 Stouffville Road
Stouffville, ON L4A 7X5
Tel: 905-640-4107
Veterinarian

Markham Minor Football Assoc.

Pamela Osborne
PO Box 95004
Stouffville, ON L4A 1J1
Tel: 647-347-2777
Football

Biz-Zone Internet Group

Kevin Jackson
2243 Stouffville Rd., Box 310
Gormley, ON L0H 1G0
Tel: 905-927-0015
Web Site Design & Hosting

Green Roots

Salima Amin
3850 Sheppard Ave. E., Unit 270
Scarborough, ON M1T 3L4
Tel: 416-321-8950
Health Food Store

Know your market!

It's one of the top items on any company's to-do list. Who is going to buy what you have to offer? Do potential buyers have any specific traits you can identify and use to help you better sell your product or service? Is there even a market for your product or service? Who are your competitors? What would it take to turn a one-time customer into a long-term, repeat customer?

These are just some of the questions to which Market Research – if done correctly – can provide answers. X Tabulate Inc. is a company that has been conducting Market Research correctly for 14 years. Be it a complex online customer survey, or a simple paper questionnaire – we can help you find the answers you need to help make your business a success! Call us at (416) 302-9718 and see what Market Research can do for **your** company!

Submitted by: Peter Csizmadia, **X Tabulate Inc.**

2009/2010 BUSINESS AWARDS

The deadline for nominations is June 25, 2010. Nominations are open to all businesses that have a presence in Whitchurch-Stouffville. Nominees do not have to be members of the Chamber and businesses can nominate themselves. The four award categories are: Business of the Year, Business Entrepreneur of the Year, Corporate Citizen of the Year and Young Entrepreneur of the Year. A copy of the nomination form can be found on the Chamber website under the Chamber Events page. Visit the Chamber website at www.whitchurchstouffville.ca. Winners will be announced at the business awards dinner on September 23, 2010.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Please find enclosed a sponsor sheet. We are still looking for sponsors for the following: Business Entrepreneur, Young Entrepreneur and Heritage Award; sponsorship is \$350.00 and that includes 2 tickets for the Event, presentation of sponsored Award and recognition in the Award Program.

Helene M. Johnson

In March 2010, the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce said goodbye to Helene Johnson.

Helene was involved with our Chamber for over 22 years, first as a member of the Board of Directors and more recently as the President and CEO.

Helene has been a passionate supporter of the Chamber over the years, and gave tirelessly of herself in promoting business and Chamber interests in our community.

While Helene will be missed, she now has time to spend on her second passion the Stouffville Igoma Partnership (SIP) that she is involved with.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Chamber staff and members, I know I speak for all of us in saying to Helene that she will be very much missed. I also want to thank Helene for her many years of selfless service to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce. The fact that our Chamber has grown over the years, and is a vibrant, active organization, is in large part due to Helene's influence and dedication.

We are planning an evening in Helene's honour in early May, and more information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, I want to thank Helene for all she has done and wish her all the best going forward.

Mardi Taylor
Executive Director

Executive Officers

Chair of the Board
Dave Bolan
Southwire Canada
Canada

Past Chair
Karen Davies
YMCA Employment Centre

Secretary
Steve Walker
Executive Decision Cleaning

Treasurer
Susan Acton
Boston Pizza

Director
Janet Geddes
Scotiabank

Director
Andy Yuen
Stouffville Physiotherapy
Clinic

Director
Ricardo Costa
Wal-Mart Canada

Office Administration
Executive Director
Mardi Taylor

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Stouffville, ON L4A 8A4
Tel: 905-642-4227
Fax: 905-642-8966
chamber@whitchurchstouffville.ca
www.whitchurchstouffville.ca

Go Sales and Tourist
Information
Monday-Friday 7:30am-5:00pm
Saturday 7:30am-4:00pm

As of April 1, 2010 the minimum wage in Ontario increases to \$10.25 per hour. You may obtain more information on the internet at <http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/info/minimumwage/> Or you can phone 416 326-7160 if you have any questions. (Employment Standards Information Centre).

As of July 1, 2010 the HST will come into effect. Are you ready? Here's some information from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce's website at <http://occ.on.ca/>

- Currently, the PST is applied to many purchases made by business; however, unlike the GST, businesses cannot claim the PST as an input tax credit. Ultimately, these costs are passed onto consumers in higher prices.
- The HST will now allow businesses to claim all sales taxes as an input tax credit, and pass the savings along to consumers.
- Businesses will now be allowed to claim all sales taxes as an input tax credit – similar to the current GST.
- In addition to direct PST savings on investments and operating costs, businesses will save from lower prices from their own suppliers who will no longer be subject to the PST themselves.
- Finally, businesses will no longer be required to manage two sets of sales taxes which impose a significant administrative burden. The administration savings alone, according to recent estimates, will be \$500 million to Ontario businesses.