



NEWS & VIEWS

March 2009

COMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 14, 2010

Networking Breakfast—8:00—9:00 am

Hosted by: Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library

30 Burkholder Street

Free to Members

\$15.00 Non-members (GST included)

February 18, 2010

Networking Breakfast—8:00—9:00 am

Hosted by: U Weight Loss Clinic

5892 Main Street

Free to Members

\$15.00 Non-members (GST included)

March 4, 2010

International Women's Day

Luncheon

11:30 – Meet & Greet; 12:15 pm

Luncheon

Sleepy Hollow Golf & C.C.

13242 Tenth Line

Prices to be advised

Advance registration & payment required for all events.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce is looking for its next Chief Executive Officer. If interested in this position, please send cover letter and resume by December 31, 2009, to Confidential, Board of Directors Executive, Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1500, 6176 Main Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 8A4.

To Our Members.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our members for your assistance over the many years that I have been President & CEO of this Chamber. The time is right to turn over the reins to a younger, vibrant person with younger legs and new ideas. I have enjoyed my years with the Chamber and will always be an advocate of the Chamber, the many policies that they work on provincially and federally are mammoth. They are always working with governments of all stripes to make it better to do business. We also have been able to bring programs to the Chamber Members only to bring costs down. Look at these programs carefully and get involved.

Again, it has been my pleasure to serve you, please offer your assistance to my replacement.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Helene M. Johnson

A hard fact of life for young people to accept is that some day they too will be as weird as their parents.

What's in it for you?

If you're planning on opening a new business, or own an existing business; as a member of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce you belong to the only organization working for the interests of all the Whitchurch-Stouffville business community. To best serve your needs, the Chamber emphasizes diversity and growth within the organization. Throughout the entire year we work to ensure that you and your company receive as many benefits as possible.

- **TD Merchant Service.** Merchant Discount Rate – Visa, Interac, MasterCard and American Express.
- **Esso Business Card Program** (Discount of \$.03 per litre).
- **Canada's Leading Group Benefit Plan** through Keystone Benefits (for firms with 1 – 50 employees) – Comprehensive Group Insurance coverage for small business is priced to reflect the Chamber's mass purchasing power.
- **Hotline to HR;** provides 24/7 telephone and e-mail support regarding human resources.
- **Mystery Shopper**
- **Chamber Members** are listed on our website in ALPHABETICAL ORDER and CATEGORY with a link to your website.
- **Member to Member discounts.**
- **Chamber Publications–** Members receive monthly issues of the chamber "News & Views", in addition to special e-mailings.
- **Member display rack,** at the train station, for your brochures and business cards, we help you promote your business.
- **Chamber** validates Certificates of Origin for overseas exports.
- **Chamber Business Networking and Speaker Events** – provide the opportunity to make business contacts, acquaintances, promote your company and learn more about current business issues. We honour our outstanding businesses at our annual Business Awards Dinner. You will enjoy the comradery of our Networking Breakfasts and After Hours Networking.
- Hours Networking, Mayor's Luncheon and Christmas "Bring Your Staff to Lunch" events.
- **Voice of Business to the Government** – As members of the Ontario Chamber, and the Canadian Chamber through use of news releases, news conferences, submissions and presentations to all levels of government, the Chamber acts

as your representative for constructive change.

- **Committee Involvement** – The word of the Chamber is accomplished through a committee structure with volunteers from business and the professions working on a wide variety of issues.
- **Tourism and Town Information Centre and Ticket Agents of GO Transit** for Bus and Train.
(Winter hours 6 days/ week;
summer hours 7 days/week)

Bulletin from Hotline to HR

We would like to remind you that as you plan your workplace holiday festivities, be sure to plan for the safe arrival home of every guest. For some time now it has been settled by law that where a guest at a workplace event consumes alcohol, drives and injures or damages someone or something, including the guest him/self, the host employer may be held liable by the court for any damage that is caused.

What is a Virtual Assistant and do I need one?

Many entrepreneurs have heard the term “Virtual Assistant” but are likely wondering what exactly this emerging trend is about. A Virtual Assistant (VA) is a professional entrepreneur that offers various administrative services depending on their individual background and generally works from a home office, communicating via telephone and email.

Use of a VA is on the rise as more and more entrepreneurs recognize the value of partnering with an experienced assistant to help their business keep up with their administrative tasks without having to hire a full time or part time employee. Especially given today’s economic climate where business owners are pressured to increase sales, while at the same time, decrease expenditures, having the opportunity to work with a professional assistant without having to pay a full salary, benefits or income tax proves a welcome option!

Submitted by: Jacquie Grech, More Than Admin

Executive Officers

Chair of the Board
Dave Bolan
Southwire Canada
Canada

Past Chair
Karen Davies
YMCA Employment Centre

Secretary
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Executive Decision Cleaning

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Stouffville Physiotherapy
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Director
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Office Administration
President & CEO
Helene Johnson

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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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Stouffville Picture Framing Studio & Gallery
Candice Gillis-Garlough
6186 Main Street
Stouffville, ON L4A 2S5
Tel: 905-642-5352
Art Galleries & Framing

From the **Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan**

15 Realistic Beliefs to Help Overcome Stress:

1. I don't feel it's necessary for everyone to like me.
2. I prefer to face difficult situations head-on rather than continually avoiding them.
3. I don't always have to achieve great things in order to give my life meaning.
4. I don't depend on other people to make my decisions or solve my problems.
5. I don't let events that are beyond my will control my feelings.
6. I try to learn from past experience rather than having regrets.
7. I'm not constantly caught up in other people's problems.
8. I know that I can't always find an ideal solution to my problems.
9. I know how to say no when I need to without feeling guilty.
10. I'm able to let certain things go so I can focus my time and energy on what's really important to me.
11. I manage my time effectively at work and at home.
12. I am an optimist, and I'm able to transform my negative reactions into positive actions.
13. I am generally open to change, which I see as having more advantages than disadvantages.
14. I feel that it's very important to laugh at life's problems and not take myself too seriously.
15. I find sources of motivation in non- work-related activities.