

Chamber Chatter

December 2011

*There's no better
time to share a
holiday rhyme
than at Christmas
with all of its cheer,
so may you have
more than you ever
wish for with the
promise of a
prosperous
New Year.*

*And while
reflecting today on
this year gone
away,
please remember us
on another year's
quest.
In warm
appreciation of our
continued
association,
have a holiday
season that's
blessed!*

*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*

2012 Board of Director Nominations

The call for the 2012 Board of Director nominations has been forwarded to you and Nominating Chair, Troy Freeborn, is encouraging you to get involved with the Board of Directors or nominate a business person who you feel would bring a strong voice and fresh ideas to the Chamber Board table. Nominations close on January 13, 2012 with the Annual General Meeting scheduled for February 15, 2012. Further details on the AGM will be forwarded as plans are finalized.

Important Information for All Businesses

RCMP Tips for Safety and Protection of your Premises and Goods

Business Alarms

- Always have a key holder available
- Ensure all windows and doors are locked
- If hanging decorations, be vigilant of setting off the motion sensor

Businesses remain vigilant and not leave CASH in their premises overnight

- Take a few minutes to make a bank deposit
- If you have to leave a cash float for the next shift, change the hiding spot regularly

Christmas Shopping Precautions

- Ensure your vehicle is always locked if unattended
- Always remain cognizant of telemarketing scams

Holiday Drivers/Travellers

- Always wear your seatbelt
- Drive with caution especially with our quick changing weather conditions
- Be courteous to other drivers
- Do not use your cell phone or BlackBerry while driving
- Don't drink and drive – use a designated driver

Labour Market Information from the Department of Advanced Education

Skills and Training

According to the Labour Market Outlook 2020 ...

- The average number of weeks worked per year in Newfoundland and Labrador has been increasing however; the average length of time people remain unemployed during the year has been decreasing and is now lower than the Canadian average.
- It is anticipated that approximately 66.7% of all job openings in the 2011 to 2020 period will be in management occupations or will require some form of post-secondary education.
- Job openings that arise due to retirements and deaths will account for a significant number of job openings over the next ten years. Over 70,000 job openings are anticipated to arise between 2011 and 2020, with attrition accounting for up to 89% of these openings. Attrition will account for approximately 57% of all job openings in the 2011 to 2015 period, and all net job openings in the latter part of the forecast period.

To learn more about Labour Markets Trends up to and including 2020 visit;

<http://www.hrle.gov.nl.ca/hrle/publications/LMOutlook2020.pdf>

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Activity within our Area

Congratulations to the Town of Appleton on being the first in the Province to secure funding for the purchase of high density polyethylene surface that can be used year-round and comes complete with standard rink boards, glass, safety netting and regulation hockey nets, This project is cost share on a 90/10 split between the Dept. of Municipal Affairs and the Town of Appleton.

Tides Canada, the country's largest public foundation to the environment and social justice, placed the Shorefast Foundation in its Top 10 list for funding social enterprise in geo tourism, the arts and sustainable fisheries on Fogo and Change Islands. Shorefast were chosen for believing there is a future for rural communities in Canada and that future is built on innovation, resilience, optimism and the ability to adapt.

The Glovertown Marina is nestled in the northwest corner of Alexander Bay around the shores of Glovertown. Phase 1 of the development has been completed and some boats are now winterized on site. Services include a sheltered harbour protected by a breakwater, floating docks, lift out and launch facilities, storage areas, electrical services, plus repair and maintenance advice. Services planned for next year include: water and sewer, Laundromat, washrooms and showers and internet.

The Gander International Airport Authority expects 2011 to be a good year for business. As of the end of November, the airport had enjoyed a 20 per cent year to date increase in passenger traffic and is expecting to post a 10-year high for domestic traffic at Gander. The airport authority attributes this to incremental seat capacity available through Air Canada's seasonal service to Toronto and continued strong demand for service to Labrador. The airport also reported a high for passenger movements to the Caribbean through Sunwing's winter service to the Dominican Republic and Cuba. "We are really encouraged with the direction our passenger traffic is headed ," said GIAA President and CEO Gary Vey. "It's really a testament to the strength of the Central Newfoundland economy and we are in a good position to introduce new frequency and capacity to provide the timely, affordable air travel options our market demands.

911 Beyond Words Tribute

The Chamber was honored and proud to participate with other delegates from Gander who were in Washington, D.C. to receive the "International Community Resilience Award" as part of "The 9/11 Tenth Anniversary Summit: Remembrance, Renewal, Resilience" event. Chamber Executive Director, Hazel Bishop, along with Premier Dunderdale, Mayor Elliott, Jake Turner, Beulah Cooper, Pastor Ralph Benson, Des Dillon, and Major Wade Budgell attended the ceremony. The delegation also met with Congresswoman Louise Slaughter who presented the Town of Gander and the Province with a framed copy of the Resolution she brought forward in the House of Representatives to "Recognize and thank the residents of Gander, NL and all other citizens across Canada who came to the aid of the United states citizens during an unprecedented crisis, challenge and uncertainty". A special thank-you to the Canadian Embassy and TD Canada Trust for making this trip possible. Also congratulations to Destination Gander on the superb job with the 9/11 service and all of the events held during the month of September to raise funds for the Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund.



Chamber Events

- Annual General Meeting
Hotel Gander
February 15, 2012

- Joe & Clarice Goodyear Business Achievement Awards Gala
Hotel Gander
April 19, 2012



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11th Annual Joe and Clarice Goodyear Business Achievement Awards Gala



Pictured L-R Seated: Brenda-Lee Gillingham of Tiffany Rose Nursery & Gift Shoppe Inc. Small Business Award sponsored by *Gander Area Community Business Development Corporation*; Ken & Nita Abbott of LA Farms Joe & Clarice Goodyear Business Achievement Award sponsored by *The Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce*; Scott Oldford of Essential Coding Inc. Customer Service Award sponsored by *The Beacon/Transcontinental Media*
Standing L-R: Melissa & Jason Collins of Fab-Tech Industries Business of the Year Award sponsored by *Business Development Bank of Canada*; Morley Goodyear of Gander Co-op 50/50 Committee Helping Hands Award sponsored by *Steele Communications*; Jim Moss, Lenny Moss & Bradley Hurley of VON Broadening Horizons Environmental Award sponsored by *Newfoundland Power*; Abbie Norris & John Verville of Versatile Stones Inc. Small Business Award sponsored by *Gander Area Community Business Development Corporation*.

2011 Provincial Political Forum



Tuesday, September 27, the Gander and Area Chamber of Commerce in Partnership with Rogers TV Hosted the 2011 Provincial Political forum at the Joseph R. Smallwood Arts and Culture Centre, where PC Candidate, Kevin O'Brien and Liberal Candidate, Barry Warren got a chance to respond to questions regarding issues within the area. NDP Candidate Lucas Norman sent along his regrets as he was unable to attend the forum due to School Commitments.



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**2011
Board of Directors**

Dan Mahoney
President

Darrin Murray
1st Vice President

Dion Faulkner
2nd Vice President

Debby Yannakidis
Secretary
2nd Year Director

Don Farrell
Treasurer
1st Year Director

Troy Freeborn
Past President

Paula Clark
1st Year Director

Mike Harkaway
2nd Year Director

Tony Rogers
1st Year Director

David Carlson
*Fogo/Change Islands
Chapter*

Staff

Hazel Bishop
Executive Director

Cheryl Wicks
Executive Assistant



Pictured front row: Paula Clark, Dan Mahoney, Darrin Murray, Kim Humphries.
Back row: Mike Harkaway, Debby Yannakidis, DeeAnna Harbin, Renee Moore, Troy Freeborn
Missing from photo: David Carlson, Dion Faulkner

President's Message

As 2011 draws to a close we need to reflect on the past year to determine what we are doing right and what we can do better. It is only by examining our strengths and weaknesses that we can grow our business and continue to prosper in our community.

The past year has been a busy one for the Chamber. The chamber hosted two Political Forums – Federal and Provincial; continue to work closely with Central Health Board on infrastructure requirements within the area and physician recruitment; continued to support our Airport and its initiatives; working with MP Scott Simms on the reduction of services and staff cutbacks at the Gander Service Canada Data Processing centre; supporting Nova District School Board with their request for the building of a new elementary school and renovations to Gander Academy. These are just a few of the issues undertaken by the Chamber along with the various information seminars and luncheons held throughout the year.

2012 will bring new challenges and opportunities not the least of which will be access to people to hire to fill vacant positions. Your Chamber will continue to monitor the market and work on strategies that assist our members in meeting short and long term issues that impact the business community. We will continue to develop strong partnerships with various organizations, municipalities and stakeholders throughout the area.

Included with this newsletter are nomination packages for your 2012 Board of Directors. It is important that you consider nominating someone as a strong Board will help your Chamber grow and prosper.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to working with you in 2012.

