

Taking Peterborough's business voice to the provincial level

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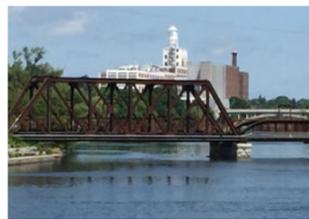
The Peterborough Chamber of Commerce is constantly looking to ensure the voice of Peterborough business is heard at the provincial level.

Over the winter months and continuing throughout the summer months of 2016, the Peterborough Chamber has or will be part of three provincial working groups under the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) examining areas of great importance to Peterborough and the province. All three subject areas were identified in the Chamber's Top 10 Opportunities for Peterborough. They are entrepreneurship, tourism and agriculture.

Recognizing that this is a Top 10 Opportunity for the Peterborough area, the Chamber was part of a working group examining the issues and helped facilitate feedback via a survey about the needs of entrepreneurs to grow their businesses. We also connected the OCC with several local businesses for an interview and attended the launch of the resulting report at the Ryerson DMZ. The Breaking Barriers: Ontario's Scale Up Challenge report presented six recommendations to position Ontario for long-term success including improved access to talent with scale up experience, addressing gaps in the right kinds of financing, and increasing incentives to growth offered through public programs. In their 2016 budgets, both the federal and provincial governments mentioned the importance of scaling up to the Canadian and Ontario economies, and according to Statistics Canada small business represents 98% of all firms and created 77.7% of all jobs between 2002 and 2012.

annually and that these visitors spend \$358 million locally.

The OCC has formed a working group to examine and participate in the provincial discussion around a proposed strategic framework for the tourism sector. The Peterborough Chamber is once again part of the working group on this matter and work has already begun with a submission to the provincial government on the proposed framework. Thank you to Brenda Wood at RTO8 and Fiona Dawson at PKT for their information and contributions to this work. The submission put forward suggestions in five areas including: improving the cumulative burden facing businesses in the tourism sector and improving the coordination of the tourism ecosystem.



committed to being part of a working group through the OCC that will be releasing a report later this summer focusing on innovation, competitiveness and market development in the agri-food sector. The OCC and the working group are committed to developing recommendations to ensure Ontario producers and processors have the tools and resources they need to continue to innovate and reach emerging markets. We will be reaching out to our agriculture community for feedback and information on the issues that are impacting the sector.

The federal and provincial governments have also indicated that agriculture is an important sector. The Premier has made commitments to improve the climate for agri-business and the federal government, in Budget 2016, continued with the Growing Forward 2 program to 2018 as well as \$30 million over six years for advanced research in agricultural science.

The Peterborough Chamber of Commerce is proud to be a part of these working groups contributing to the narrative in these sectors. We look forward to presenting the findings to our member businesses and beyond.



The timing is right for entrepreneurship. In Peterborough there has been an intentional and concerted effort to build and create a sustainable ecosystem for startups and new business through the StartUp Ptbo program. That said, it is important to understand the tools available to business for growth. Where are the gaps and overlaps?



This sector of our economy is also a staple. Proof is in the numbers recently released by Peterborough & the Kawartha Tourism (PKT) which show the Peterborough area welcomes 3.45 million visitors



In the Peterborough area agriculture is a key building block of the economy, with over \$400 million in economic activity each year, according to Peterborough Economic Development. Agriculture is also a sector that is changing rapidly with the use of technology and land availability. How we grow our food, get it ready for market and get it to market are areas of important study. The Peterborough Chamber is

OCC: Regulatory Update June 2016

An update on six items of importance to business including:

Changing Workplaces Review

Ontario's labour and employment laws are changing, with the potential for a profound impact on the relationship between employers and employees in every organization in the province. The employer community needs to improve our cooperation and alignment with these potential changes and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) has been leading the employer voice with other industry and sector associations.

Legislation around tips & gratuities

Starting June 10, 2016, it will be illegal for employers to keep a portion of employees' tips and

other gratuities, except as permitted by the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA).

These rules affect employers and employees covered by the ESA in workplaces where tips and gratuities are received – such as at bars, restaurants, hair and nail salons, catering firms and taxis.

Ministry of Labour consulting on proposal to mandate Construction Hazard Awareness Training

The Ministry of Labour is proposing amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Awareness and Training Regulation (O. Reg. 297/13) under the Occupational Health and Safety Act. The amendments, if approved, would apply to employers who engage in "construction" as defined under the Act. The ministry is seeking

stakeholder feedback on the proposed changes from May 11, 2016 to August 12, 2016.

Ministry of Labour conducting Young and Temporary Foreign Workers Blitz

Ontario is helping to protect vulnerable workers with two employment standards blitzes this spring. From May 2 to June 30, 2016, the ministry's employment standards officers are conducting simultaneous inspection blitzes focusing on workplaces in sectors known to employ young workers and those that employ temporary foreign workers.

More information on these regulatory items can be found at: www.peterboroughchamber.ca/policy-publications.html

Event Calendar



2016 Business Woman of the Year Winner - Gwyneth James, Cody & James CPAs Professional Corporation

Carousel Restaurant
116 Lansdowne Street East
Coffee's on at 7:00am
Speakers from 7:30 – 8:30am
Cost: Pay for your breakfast



Holistic Birthday Celebration
Chamber Boardroom
175 George Street North
7:00pm – 9:00pm
Cost: Free



CEO Tour at Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters

Mario Cortellucci Hunting & Fishing Heritage Centre
4601 Guthrie Drive
5:30pm - 7:00pm
Event: Tour and Q&A with Robert Pye, Manager, Business Development & Corporate Messaging on social/economic contributions of anglers & hunters. The group will also have the opportunity to test their skills on the archery and shooting range.
Cost: Admission is free, courtesy of The Venue PTBO
Note: Pre-registration is appreciated.



Managing a Healthy Work-Life Balance

Chamber Boardroom
175 George Street North
12:00pm – 1:00pm
Speaker: Kerri Davies, Canadian Mental Health Association Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge
Details: This workshop will help business owners manage their mental health and well-being in order to have a better work/life balance as we enter the summer months, and help them prioritize their health in the context of their professional aspirations.
Cost: Free (bring your own lunch)
Sponsor: Bell
Note: Pre-registration is required

4th Annual Seniors Showcase
Wednesday, June 15, 2016
9:30am - 4:30pm
Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre
Peterborough, ON

Free Parking
Free Admission
Free Refreshments
Free Workshops

Win a \$500 travel GC courtesy Merit Travel

Agency Village Sponsor
Living Well Home Medical Equipment

Presented by
Seniors Showcase
Peterborough Council on Aging
Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce

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Seniors Showcase: Building Community

The Chamber is often asked about the importance of the Seniors Showcase. The answer is simple. It's about community; our vibrant community – Peterborough and the people who call it home.

The 4th annual showcase, sponsored by Trent Security Systems Ltd, will feature over 110 exhibitors ranging from health & wellness to entertainment & hospitality, seniors services, financial planning & real estate. The show also includes an Agency Village, sponsored by Living Well Home Medical Equipment, which houses a number of not-for-profit organizations showcasing opportunities and education in the community. These vendors will give attendees the opportunity to learn about exciting events, become

informed on what's happening in the community, and experience the wide-range of products and services to enhance the quality of life of our senior population and their families.

Not only do attendees have the opportunity to chat with the vendors, there is also a series of workshops designed to promote an active lifestyle and inform seniors on ways to be successful, up-to-date, and maintain a high quality of life in Peterborough and surrounding areas.

The show is free to attend along with the free information sessions, with the first session starting at 9:30 am. This year also includes a free to enter draw for a \$500 travel

gift certificate courtesy of Merit Travel. The show is presented by the Peterborough Chamber of Commerce and Peterborough Council on Aging.



#LOVE LOCALPTBO
STRENGTHENING BUSINESS

Community Foundation (10/16) - 50
#FathersDay is approaching! How about a charitable #donation in his honour?
#Good Friday #loveislike #ptbo #canadashops.org/charities/...

Com's Webber and 1 other Retweeted
Lansdowne Place Mall @LansdownePlace - 20h
We #loveislike so we LOVE that @neworcas @1000feetRadio and @CHEKnewswatch are Behind Closed Doors sponsors!

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
Saturday, September 24th from 7:00pm to 10:00pm

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
ONLY \$5 GETS YOU ACCESS TO!

Thank you to our Sponsors
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Local Employment Planning Council launches operational phase of pilot project

This update is brought to you by Workforce Development Board

Workforce Development Board (WDB) is pleased to announce the launch of the operational phase of the Local Employment Planning Council (LEPC) pilot project. Over the next 12 months the LEPC will undertake eight community-driven projects aimed at enhancing aspects of local workforce development.

Of these eight projects, four will be funded directly by the LEPC. These funded projects will be carried out by stakeholders tasked with developing local place-based solutions to address current workforce development issues. Calls for proposal for each project will be issued in the coming weeks.

“One of the unique aspects of the LEPC pilot project is the opportunity to fund projects by community stakeholder groups,” said Joe Celestini, WDB CEO. “In this way, the LEPC will achieve its goal of developing local workforce development solutions, as well as increasing the capacity of local stakeholder groups and community organizations who will carry out the work.”

Under the pilot, WDB and its LEPC partners will pioneer new and innovative approaches to local employment planning including supporting integrated service and workforce planning by connecting employers, service providers, and other key organizations with critical information to address workforce needs.