



JUST THE FAX

Newsletter of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce

www.mordenchamber.com

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MORDEN CHAMBER PLANS SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT

The *Morden Chamber of Commerce* is currently making plans for our annual **Spring Golf Tournament** and **General Meeting** to be held on **Friday, June 19th** at **Minnewasta Golf & Country Club**. Plans so far include a light lunch, nine holes of golf, a scrumptious supper and a short meeting which will include an update on plans for the **Corn & Apple Festival** and some preliminary observances from the **Business Retention & Expansion** project surveys. The **Manitoba Chambers of Commerce Directors** will be in Morden for their Board meeting and will join us for golf. **President Graham Starmer** will speak on the current activities of our provincial body. Other events will be announced at a later date.

Chamber Members are being contacted to sponsor and to donate prizes for this event. If you have not yet been contacted and wish to participate in this unique opportunity, please call **Carol Fehr** at **822-5630** or **823-0939** or email chambermarketing@yahoo.com.

We will be taking registrations for Golf and Supper or Supper only. More information will follow.

BR+E SURVEYS CONTINUE

The *Morden and District Chamber of Commerce* is training volunteers to conduct the **Business Retention & Expansion Survey** and the target businesses are being contacted to arrange visits.

The **Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E)** project is a community-based approach to learn about the issues and concerns of local business, so that priorities can be set for the creation of effective and well-managed economic development.

MAY CORN & APPLE LOTTERY WINNERS

Congratulations to the lucky winners of the May Corn & Apple Lottery draws: **Elda Schroeder & Earla Titchkosky \$1,000; Frank Loewen \$100; and Jeff Hildebrand \$100.**

MORDEN CARING & SHARING WELCOMES FUNDRAISER

National Hunger Awareness Day is June 2, 2009 and the **Morden Caring & Sharing** notes that they are a part of the growing number of food banks and food delivery systems who support National Hunger Awareness.

On **Friday, May 29th** from **4 to 5:00 p.m.** Caring & Sharing will host a reception at the **Kinsmen Suncatch Park** to welcome **Ken Livingston**, a cyclist traveling over 1286 km on the Manitoba section of the Trans Canada Trail in support of Winnipeg Harvest and Manitoba Association of Food Banks. Ken will be cycling on Day 8 from Swan Lake to Morden, then on to Altona. The general public is invited to attend this reception.

START A BUSINESS DURING A RECESSION?

A recession may not seem like the most prudent time to start a business, but it may actually be one of the best times. After all, there are bargains everywhere.

During a recession you may be able to lease space more cheaply than usual, have an expanded labour pool to choose from, and purchase your goods at sale prices.

Interest rates are at record low levels, so financing a business operation has also become much cheaper. While traditional lenders may be more cautious than in the past, money is always available to back entrepreneurs with solid business plans, including through government loan programs. In addition, family and friends who have been burned in the stock market, and are discouraged by the low interest rates offered by bonds and guaranteed investment certificates, may be looking for alternate investment opportunities.

More consumers and companies are looking for value for their money. Even if you don't have the lowest prices, if you offer innovative or improved products and services, your business may be perceived as providing better value.

There's no doubt some businesses will go under during a recession, but that doesn't mean they couldn't be very profitable if run differently. You may be able to buy one of these businesses at a great price.

Finally, remember that at the end of every recession comes a period of economic growth. Entrepreneurs who start their business now may be well positioned to take advantage of the next growth cycle when it eventually arrives.

COMING EVENTS

- May 29 National Hunger Awareness Reception for cyclist Ken Livingston – Kinsmen Suncatch – 4:00
- 30 Morden & Dist. United Way Day of Caring – Tourist Info Centre. Call Randy Penner at 822-4070
- June 4 **Corn & Apple Festival Committee Meeting – Friendship Centre**
- 5 Heritage Day – Pemb Thresherman's Museum
- 6 Alzheimer Memory Walk – Tabor Home – 10 a.m.
- 6 Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Banquet – Community Centre
- 7 Back 40 Folk Festival – Morden Park
- 9 **Chamber of Commerce Executive Meeting - MMI**
- 13 Home Hazardous Waste Day – Firehall 10 am – 2 pm
- 14 Steps for Pets Walkathon – Morden Park 1:30 p.m.
- 15 Town Council Meeting – Civic Centre
- 18 **Morden Farmers' Market starts – corner 8th & Stephen Streets – 4:00 p.m.**
- 19 **Spring Golf Tournament & General Meeting – Minnewasta Golf & CC**
- 24 Morden Collegiate Grad – Community Centre
- 24 Essential Skills & Human Resources Workshop – Using Job Analyses & Profiles – Regional Connections Wklr

OF MEMBERS & MORE

The *Morden Chamber* offers our sincere condolences to the family of **Kel Wiebe** of **Morden Realty**. Kel was an active supporter of his *Chamber of Commerce* and will be missed by all his friends and business associates.

The **Morden Corn & Apple Festival Committee** welcomes **Art Petkau** who has agreed to chair **Free Corn**. To volunteer for this or any other committee call **822-5630**.