



JUST THE FAX

Newsletter of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce

www.mordenchamber.com

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WE HAVE THE POWER TO KEEP MORDEN STRONG

Thank you to Lori Fehr, Man Sun/Agassiz Powersports

The Canadian Government has acknowledged that the economy is in a recession. We are very fortunate in Morden that our local economy remains strong. Farmers in our region have just enjoyed an exceptionally productive harvest, continued immigration is bringing a constant influx of new resources into the area, gas prices have dropped considerably, and jobs are plentiful.

The Chamber promotes confidence in our local economy by encouraging everyone to shop at home this Christmas season and year round. Keeping money circulating in our region benefits us all.

One of our most successful promotions is **Morden Moolah**, an initiative implemented in 2002 for businesses or individuals to utilize similar to gift certificates at ANY business in Morden. It is available in denominations from 5 cents to 20 dollars and **\$120,395.00** has been spent in Morden businesses to date!

We also promote new or little known services that are available in Morden. Many of us assume that some products and services are not provided here so we go elsewhere without even asking.

We all must make the choice to shop in Morden and keep our local economy as strong as we can.

CHAMBER PLANS LUNCHEON SERIES WITH SPEAKERS

The *Morden Chamber of Commerce* is putting together a series of monthly luncheons at the Friendship Centre to kick off 2009. The first, scheduled for **Tuesday, January 20th** will feature **Gary Hannaford, CEO of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba**. He will present and discuss the results of the Institute's annual economic analysis of Manitoba, **MB Check-up**. It provides a comprehensive evaluation of Manitoba as a place to live, work and invest. This study compares our province with the other western provinces as well as Ontario and the national average.

All Manitobans, including business, government, educators, law enforcement and the general public have a role to play in finding solutions to the challenges facing our province. The **MB Check-up** is to be used as a tool to stimulate discussion and encourage leadership, helping everyone to focus on the key points where change can have the greatest impact to improve Manitoba's competitiveness.

The second luncheon, on **Tuesday, February 17th** will feature **George Penner, Skills Developer for the Determining and Addressing Workplace Needs (DAWN) Project**.

The third luncheon will be held on **Tuesday, March 24th** and may take the form of a 1/2 day seminar on the topic of **Succession Planning** for your business.

Stay tuned for information on registration and sponsorship opportunities.

COMING EVENTS

- Dec20- Christmas Break for
Jan 5 Morden Schools
25 Community Christmas
Dinner – 2-4 – St. Paul's
United Church. Call
822-4508 to register.
31 Friends of Dance/Elks
Club New Years Eve
Dance – Rec Centre
31 New Years Eve Gala –
Timbers at Minnewasta
Jan 9 DAWN Manufacturing
Industries information
session – Friendship Ctre
12 & Town Council Meetings
26 – Civic Centre
13 **Chamber Exec Mtg –
Morden Motor Inn
Chamber Lunch Series
#1 – Speaker Gary
Hannaford, CEO,
Institute of Chartered
Accountants of MB –
Friendship Centre
Women in Business
Breakfast Meeting –
Morden's Heartland**
20 Morden Area Foundation
Annual Meeting: Legacy
of Chautauqua – noon –
Friendship Centre. Call
822-5614 for tickets

OF MEMBERS & MORE

There will be no *Chamber of Commerce* newsletter next Friday. The Chamber office will be closed for the holidays on **December 25, 26 and January 1.**

The Determining and Addressing Workplace Needs (DAWN) project invites manufacturing industries to an information session regarding a new 2-year pilot project to assist employers to improve the work skills of their immigrant and newcomer labour force. The Morden session will be held **Friday, January 9th** at **2:00** in the **Friendship Centre** or alternately in Winkler on January 7th or Altona on the 8th. Register by calling **325-7261** or email george@winkleronline.com

President Carol Fehr, the Executive and Staff of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce wish You and Yours a very Merry Christmas and all the best for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

FREE SEMINARS FROM HEARTLAND COMMUNITY FUTURES

Heartland Community Futures Development Corp continues to offer free video conferencing business seminars in the Winkler Chamber Board Room. To register call **1-877-472-7122**. Each seminar is described on their website: www.cfheartland.ca:

Jan 5 – Trade Show Selling; **Jan 6** – CBSA – Vehicle Importation; **Jan 7** – Making Meetings Work for You; **Jan 9** – Preparing a Winning Business Plan; **Jan 13** – Buying a Franchise; **Jan 14** – PST: An Introduction to Provincial Sales Tax; GST: Information Workshop; **Jan 15** – Positive Employee Relations; **Jan 16** – MS Office Work & Excel – Tips for Small Business; **Jan 20** – Buying a Business. Continued next issue.