



# JUST THE FAX

Newsletter of the Morden and District Chamber of Commerce

[www.mordenchamber.com](http://www.mordenchamber.com)

Edition CCLXXVI

December 5, 2008

## 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 available.

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 **\$119,735.00** 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 strong.**

## IT'S CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP TIME

It is the time of your when Your *Chamber of Commerce* asks for your support by renewing your membership or becoming a Member. Business and community development are of prime importance to the Chamber and it is the **ONE** organization that is established exclusively to deal effectively with them. As a unified voice, the Chamber acts as a lobby group, or advocate investigating and taking action to make things happen.

By investing in the Chamber today, you are sharing your energies, ideas and resources for future economic growth and development. Your support for the Chamber can best safeguard **YOUR** investment in Morden. Please make your Chamber Membership a priority in 2009.

## 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](http://www.cfheartland.ca):

**Dec 9** – Performance Management; Managing Your Credit; **Dec 10** – Customer Service Tips for Small Business; **Dec 11** – How to Find a Business Idea; **Dec 15** – City of Winnipeg; **Dec 16** – Province of Manitoba; Government of Canada; Marketing Basics; Marketing Research; **Dec 17** – Advertising & Promotion; Developing a Marketing Plan; **Dec 18** – PST: An Introduction to Provincial Sales Tax; GST Information Workshop; **Dec 19** – CRA – Small Business Tax Information Workshop.

## VOLUNTEER VISITORS NEEDED FOR BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION SURVEY

The **Morden and District Chamber of Commerce** is proudly sponsoring the **Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E)** project which is a community-based approach to business and economic development. Our goal is to support local business in the creation of effective and well-managed economic development that leads to increased opportunity and quality of life in our community. By helping the community learn about the issues and concerns of local business we can set the priorities for projects to address those objectives.

We are looking for approximately 50 **Volunteers** to visit four businesses each early in the New Year to conduct our survey. Questions beyond general operating queries cover such topics as future plans, markets, information/ assistance requirements, human resources, financial structure, business climate and local community.

The information analysis is then reviewed and local leaders try to solve the problems or better meet those needs identified by the businesses.

Recommendations are written for future economic development initiatives. This report is shared with all the stakeholders: businesses, Town and Rural Municipal Councils, provincial and federal representatives, etc.

**To volunteer to survey businesses please call the Chamber office at 822-5630.**

## COMING EVENTS

- Dec 15 Town Council Meeting – Civic Centre
- 20-Jan Christmas Break for Morden Schools
- 5 Friends of Dance/Elks Club New Years Eve Dance – Rec Centre
- 31 New Years Eve Gala – Timbers at Minnewasta
- Jan 12 Town Council Meeting – Civic Centre
- 13 **Chamber Exec Mtg – Morden Motor Inn**
- 27 Morden Area Foundation Annual Meeting: Legacy of Chautauqua – noon – Friendship Centre. Call 822-5614 for tickets
- 28 Town Council Meeting – Civic Centre

## 300 LOTTERY STRIKES AGAIN

The November **Corn and Apple Festival 300 Club Lottery** draw is now history.

Congratulations to **Michael Dyck** our **\$1,000.00** winner; to **Carol Fehr of Employnet Inc, \$100.00** and **Ed Lucier of Mountain Automotive Service Centre** who also won **\$100.00**.

## OF MEMBERS & MORE

This is your last chance to take advantage of unique gift ideas at **Minnewasta Golf Club Pro Shop**.

Have you considered personalized golf balls from Callaway Golf or Top Flight? You can also choose from a huge array of clubs, golf balls and apparel at savings up to 75%. Call Chris at 822-4992 or email [mgcc@mts.net](mailto:mgcc@mts.net) for information on store hours, prices, availability, etc.

The **Morden Area Foundation** is selling Christmas ornaments, coffee mugs, bags and shirts. Great ideas for all your gift-giving needs. Call 822-5614.