

Your source for to up-to-date information about your Chamber, Chamber members and the activities the Chamber undertakes on your behalf.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK !

Well here it is February already and according to Balzac Billy we will NOT have 6 more weeks of winter. That means spring is just around the corner and along with spring comes the Didsbury Art Travel and Trade Expo. This is probably the biggest undertaking for the Didsbury Chamber each year. Booths are selling fast, so if you want in please call Deana at the Chamber office at 403-335-3265 or e-mail her at info@didsburychamber.ca and she will take care of you. This will be our 25th Anniversary for the trade show and there are some special things happening. Committee Chairman Greg Poirier wants this to be the biggest and best show ever. Please see the separate article in this TGIT for more information.

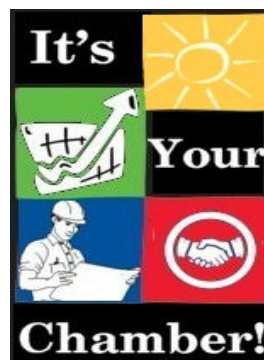
The removal of Christmas Lights went fairly smoothly on January 17th, special thanks to Ian Kennedy, Ron Townrow, Shelley Fakir, Deb Pelletier, Rob Steer, Karen Missikewitz, and Linda Plewis for all their help on Sunday and to Charlie McDonald, from the Town of Didsbury, who arranged to remove the lights from the Didsbury Inn as our lift was not available. With the help we had we were done in about 2 hours. Thank you all so very much for volunteering.

Those who attended our last General Meeting enjoyed a fabulous salmon supper prepared by the Elks and a very interesting and informative presentation by Steven Kennedy on shoplifting and

credit card fraud. Everyone found Steven's presentation very thought provoking and it lead to quite a question period. Our next General Meeting is March 10th. Our topic for this meeting will be Investments & Retirement Planning. This should prove to be a very informative evening and a great time to get those nagging questions answered. Please mark the date on your calendars now so you will be able to attend. Details of location will be in the March TGIT.

And last but not least, congratulation to the Rosebud Run Sleddog Society for getting their races completed last weekend

Chamber Office
Hours
Monday—Friday
9:00 am—1:00 pm



Mission Statement
The Didsbury & District Chamber of Commerce is a community-based volunteer business organization, whose purpose is to support, promote, nurture, and educate for the improvement of our business community

Noteworthy Dates:

Chamber of Commerce Council Meeting

February 23rd

Didsbury Art, travel & Trade Expo Meeting

March 2nd

Chamber of Commerce General Meeting

March 10th

Linda and Lance Plewis would like to thank Margo Ward and all the volunteers who contributed to decorating the downtown this year. It was nice to see the volunteers pitch in and get the decorations down in a few hours. Please remember its volunteers that decorate the downtown core, any and all help next year would be greatly appreciated. This is a huge job that seems to get a little bigger each year, but the results and feel of Christmas in Didsbury is well worth the effort.

Lance Plewis
Spectrum Drafting & Design Studios Ltd.

Upcoming Events

Museum Roast Beef Dinner & Auction

Saturday, March 6th, 2010

Memorial Complex

Door Prize: Tickets for Railway Tour from Stettler to Big Valley

Cocktails 5:30

Dinner 6:30

Advanced Tickets Only

Members \$25/ Non-Members \$30

Please let us know of any dietary concerns.

Rides for Seniors can be arranged.

Contact Museum 403-335-9295 or

Shirley 403-335-3277

Get Involved Volunteer Today!

Book Your Booth Now!

The Didsbury Art, Travel & Trade Expo is over 50% sold out. If your interested in booking a booth contact the office right away to secure your spot.

The Didsbury Art, Travel & Trade Expo is a great way to showcase your business, product or services.

If you are interested in purchasing a booth, sponsorship opportunity or donating a door prize please contact the Chamber Office @403-335-3265 or info@didsburychamber.ca.

Membership Renewals Coming Soon

A reminder that we changed the membership year to match the Fiscal Year End to April 30th. We will be sending out renewal notices soon.

ACC Group Insurance

Didsbury Chamber of Commerce members are eligible to enroll in the Alberta Chambers Group Insurance Program. The program itself is far to extensive to cover in a small medium like TGIT, however, if you are interested in obtaining more information about the ACC Group Insurance Program, please contact the Chamber office at 335.3265 OR call ACC directly at 1-800-984-2658



25th Annual Art, Travel & Trade Expo!

This year's Art, Travel & Trade Expo Committee is looking forward to having the 25th Anniversary. The Expo will be having hourly door prizes and 3 Grand Door Prizes. (T.V., BBQ, and a Grocery Voucher).

Back by popular demand we will be having the fabulous "Small Town Big Style Fashion Show" hosted by Fashions on Main and Potentials. The Art Show & Sale will be held in the west end of the curling rink to showcase local artists. One the most popular events is the Fiddlers Jamboree on Sunday on

the CKLJ Radio Stage. Free with your admission Zion Evangelical Youth Pancake Breakfast on Saturday & Free Swimming on Saturday & Sunday with extended hours this year 11:00—4:00. On Saturday the CKLJ Radio Stage will provide local talent to keep everyone entertained. Take a break at the AG Food's "A Taste of Didsbury" which provides food from 4 local restaurants. New this year on the Tanas Stage vendors will be able to perform an infomercial for 20 minutes to advertise their product or

service. Grasse Lumber Sales Centre for Employment booth is back so vendors & sponsors can post any job openings they may have. The Giggle Gang will be in the leisure ice area for face painting, balloon making & much more.

If you would like to purchase a booth, become a sponsor or donate a door prize please contact the Chamber Office @ 403-335-3265 or info@didsburychamber.ca.



Targeting Ozone Pollution: Is Your Business an Action HERO?

The Parkland Airshed Management Zone (PAMZ) is encouraging Central Alberta businesses to combat ground level ozone through its **Action HERO** recognition program. **Action HERO** is short for **Action** for **Health** and the **Environment** by **Reducing Ozone**.

PAMZ will recognize and celebrate businesses who are, for example; decreasing the use of motorized vehicles and equipment, reducing emissions from vehicles (avoid idling, good vehicle maintenance, etc.), scrapping fleet vehicles in the federally funded “Retire Your Ride” program, decreasing emissions from chemicals, using environmentally safe paints and cleaning products, making their workplaces more energy efficient; using alternative energy sources or encouraging their staff to reduce ozone pollutant through their activities.

On warm, sunny days, ozone forms from emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds from sources like vehicles, industrial processes and power plants or small motorized equipment like lawn mowers, chainsaws and snow blowers.

“Ozone is a major constituent of smog, that yellow or brown haze we see on the horizon or over a city on a hot, still day,” says Kevin Warren, Executive Director of PAMZ. “At high concentration levels it can cause respiratory and other health problems, damage vegetation and lower our quality of life. It’s not a serious problem yet in Central Alberta and we want to keep it that way.” However, periodic episodes of high ground-level ozone compelled PAMZ to develop an Ozone Management Plan, approved by Alberta Environment in 2009, that is now being implemented.

The Ozone Management Plan encourages the voluntary participation of everyone in our area to take an active role in reducing emissions that cause ozone. “We want to find out what businesses are doing to reduce emissions.” says Warren. “Our biggest challenge is encouraging everyone to take more concerted action to reduce ozone.”

If your business is acting to reduce air pollution or taking other environmental initiatives, PAMZ wants to hear from you and recognize you. If you want to learn more about ozone and air pollution and how your business can help reduce ozone, PAMZ can help. Please contact Kevin Warren, Executive Director, PAMZ at: e-mail: ozone@pamz.org Fax: 1.866.258.5049 Mail: PAMZ, Box 1020, Sundre AB T0M 1X0. For more information on the Ozone Management Plan, go to the PAMZ website is www.pamz.org

PAMZ is a multi-stakeholder group with representatives from industry, government, non-government organizations and the public. Its purpose is to identify air quality concerns in Central Alberta and implement strategies to address these concerns.