



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

## From the President's Desk

It has been an exceptionally busy week for me with the Forum on Monday, the meet and greet with Premier Ed Stelmach on Wednesday and the Town meeting to discuss the Central Core Heritage Plan. The meeting with Mr. Stelmach was very well attended by both young and old and was very informative.

The Town's meeting was to present the Central Core Heritage Plan which is in two parts and is a very important document which can affect business and landowners in the Town of Didsbury. Land owners may be commercial or residential and the effect of this plan will depend on where your property is located. It is very important to read and familiarize yourself with this document. The full document can be found on the Town's website at [www.didsbury.ca](http://www.didsbury.ca). The Town will

be asking for input from the Chamber of Commerce before

passing this legislation. I would like as much feedback from members as possible so that I am comfortable voicing our opinion as that of all Chamber members.

Please send all views and comments to the Chamber office at [info@didsburychamber.ca](mailto:info@didsburychamber.ca). I hope to see you all at the next Chamber General Meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Margo Ward, President



## Central Core Heritage Plan

### Trade Show Sold Out!

Well gang, the 2008 Didsbury Trade Show is SOLD OUT! This is fabulous news, and compared to last year, we are 3 weeks ahead of schedule!

We actually have more exhibitors than last year, as more businesses recognize the great value of promoting their products and services through our "Art, Travel, and Trade Expo". Exhibitors are coming from all over Mountain View County, and beyond!

Here's a few reminders for this year's exhibitors:

- Trade Show supplement ads deadline is March 6th. Please contact Alan Chambers at 335-3301 or fax 335-8143 or e-mail [achambers@olds.greatwest.ca](mailto:achambers@olds.greatwest.ca)
- Contact CK-fm 96.5 for radio ads at 556-2628.

- There is now a CASH ATM machine located just outside the Multi-Purpose Room at the arena.
- If you would like a job position advertised on the Grasse Lumber Centre for Employment Job Board, please contact Melissa at C4E at 556-3808.
- Exhibitors in the Curling Rink can use the overhead doors until 12 noon on Friday, April 4th, then those doors will be closed to accommodate set up of the Art Show and Sale.
- Exhibitor Entrance - A reminder we are trying



something new this year. Exhibitor parking and entrance will be through the Curling Rink. This should help speed things up for you. This entrance will be open for exhibitors from 8 - 9:30am on Saturday and 11:30 - 12:30 on Sunday.

Any exhibitor who has a pass or is picking up a pass is asked to go to this entrance.

- Name tags, prepaid Scouts dinner tickets and other information will be handed out during check-in on Friday.
- There will be a short Exhibitor's Meeting Saturday morning at 8:40 am in front of Booth 26.

## Noteworthy Dates:

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*General Membership Meeting* ..... Wed., March 12th, 7 pm, Train Station  
*Trade Show Committee Meeting* ..... Wed., March 19th, 9 am, Train Station  
*Good Friday/Easter Monday* ..... March 21 - 24  
*Chamber Council Meeting* ..... Tues., March 25th, 7 pm, Train Station  
*Didsbury Trade Show* ..... April 5 & 6, Memorial Complex  
*Chinook's Edge Spring Break* ..... April 5 - 13  
*General Membership Meeting* ..... Wed., April 9th, 7 pm, Train Station  
*Chamber Council Meeting* ..... Tues., April 22nd, 7 pm, Train Station  
*Didsbury Show & Shine* ..... Sat., May 10, Downtown  
*Mother's Day* ..... Sun., May 11

## Who's New?

**Didsbury Country Inn**  
**TRS Heating**  
**Shorthorn Art Studio**  
**Revibe**

**The Council and Membership of the Chamber welcome these businesses as NEW members!**

## Provincial Candidates Forum a Great Success!

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Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> saw another successful Candidates Forum hosted by the Didsbury Chamber of Commerce.

Candidates from the Progressive Conservative, Liberal and Wild Rose Alliance Parties came to the Memorial Complex to put forth their party's plans for Alberta's future. Their presentations

were followed by a 45 minute question period which had all candidates fielding questions from the over 100 people present.

It was a very informative evening for all. Our many thanks to the volunteers who made this evening possible!

## Rosebud Run 2008 Cancelled

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The Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic organizing committee met Thursday, February 28, at noon with a big decision to make. Given the current weather conditions and 14-day forecast, the committee decided it would be impossible to host the races in 2008. With great disappointment, the committee cancelled the 2008 edition of Rosebud Run.

Attempts to host the races in 2008 was, once again, a roller coaster ride of selecting dates, then, due to poor weather conditions, postponing to later dates no less than four times. It all started with dates initially set for late in January. As the weekend race dates drew closer and no snow on the ground, the committee postponed to late in February. Similar conditions leading up to the February 23 & 24 dates resulted in a postponement to March 1 & 2 and then finally

to March 8 & 9. With no snow on the ground and no snow of any significant amount expected before the March 8 & 9 dates, the committee was forced to abandon the 2008 race plans.

### *Rosebud Run* Sleddog Classic

“People have to understand that it takes a 10-day window to put these races together” commented Committee Chair Bill Windsor. “Rental facility operators need time to adjust their schedules, food has to be ordered and the trail has to be groomed. These things can't just happen over night. We have to do our best to evaluate the current snow conditions and peer into the future and make a guess at what the snow situation will be come race days.”

Windsor pointed out that the concession operators must order their supplies at least 8 days ahead of the races. Tent and port-a-potti rentals must also be booked at least 8 days in advance. The venue for the

Rosebud Run Dinner and shuttle buses need as much notice as they can be given. And then there's the race trail.

“It takes about 20 passes on the race trail to pack and prepare the trail properly”, says Windsor. “With our longest trail being a 6-mile trail, it takes about two and a half hours to make each pass. That's 50 hours on the trail alone, more than a full week's work at a full-time job. First we need enough snow to facilitate packing and

grooming and then we need the snow to stick around long enough to allow proper preparation. This winter we didn't see a single 10-day window where we had sufficient snow that stuck around long enough to create a race trail.”

While the committee is very disappointed to have to cancel the 2008 races, they are not disheartened. “Heck, races a lot bigger and with a lot longer history than us have had to cancel.” Windsor was quick to add, “Our cancellation isn't unique. It's just one of those things we have to adapt to given our dependence on the weather and an accumulation of snow.”

When asked what impact this will have on the races in the future, Windsor smiled and stated without hesitation, “Rosebud Run 2009 is only 10 months away.”

## Trade Show Supplement

As you already know, the Trade Show will be publishing another newspaper supplement the week of the big event. Partnering with Mountain View Publishing, this year's 8-page newspaper will include the list of exhibitors and the floor plan map, as well as special articles highlighting the great events and attractions that take place during the largest trade show in Mountain View County!

40,000 copies will be printed, with 23,000 distributed through the Mountain View Gazette, and 16,000 through the Rocky View Weekly. Another 1,000 will be available at the Trade Show itself.

The deadline is fast-approaching, so please call Alan Chambers at 556-7510 or 335-3301 to book your spot today. All ads are in colour.

You don't have to be an exhibitor in the Trade Show to take advantage of these special ad rates, and talk about great coverage!

Business Card .....	\$85
1/8 Page .....	\$200
1/4 Page .....	\$375
1/2 Page .....	\$700
Full Page .....	\$1,200

## Thousands of Dollars in Door Prizes!

Thanks to the efforts of Rod Neufeld of Front Porch Realty, once again the Didsbury Trade Show is offering thousands of dollars worth of product and services in door prizes. And wait till you see what's coming!

When you pay your admission to the Trade Show, you will be handed a ballot, courtesy of Didsbury Pharmasave. Just write your name and phone number, then drop it in the big red drum barrel at the west end of the Main Ice surface.

Then don't forget to go back to Didsbury Pharmasave and cash in your discount coupon for another

great special, just for coming to the trade show!

At least two winners will be drawn every hour!

Here's this year's door prize donors!

- A Gallery of Floors
- ATB Financial
- CIR Realtors
- Cornerstone Beauty
- Country Road RV
- Curves for Women
- Cut 'n Loose
- Didsbury AG Foods
- Didsbury Aquatic Centre
- Didsbury Dollar Store & More

- Didsbury Home Hardware
- Didsbury Pharmasave
- Didsbury Value Drug Mart
- Dreamwood Homes
- For Trees Company
- Front Porch Realty
- Fountain Tire
- Golden River Restaurant
- M. Lennox & Associates
- Mountain View Credit Union
- Mugs Coffee House
- Parkland Agri Services
- Re/Max Mountain Aire
- Royal LePage Wildrose
- Tanas Concrete
- Vanda Agencies
- Wander Wash



## Want to be part of the Fun?

If you missed out on the door prize donations, don't worry, you can still be part of the fun!

Last year's Gift Boxes were such a favourite among our fashion show visitors, that we're doing it again!

Three Gift Baskets will be offered this year - one for brides, one for grads, and a special "spring" basket for everyone who comes to Sunday's fashion show!

If you would like to provide a little something special in either the "Bride in a Box", "Grad in a Box", or "Spring Gift in a Box", give Tara a

call at 586-0650.

Other items in the baskets will be purchased at the Didsbury stores who have shown support to the Trade Show.



*You are invited to the Didsbury Municipal Library's Annual General Meeting and Open House Thursday, March 13 at 7 p.m. Meet your Library Trustees. Help honour Library Volunteers. Find out how Didsbury is the best little library around! Learn plans for the future. Join for displays and refreshments in the Library.*

### Member Homepage Offer

Thinking of testing the waters with a site on the Internet? The Chamber will host your homepage for just \$100!

This is a great opportunity to get Didsbury businesses "on the map". For more information, check out the Benefits of Membership on the Chamber's website at [www.didsburychamber.ca](http://www.didsburychamber.ca).

## Some Sponsorships still remain

If you haven't already participated by booking a booth, offering a door prize, or provided something for the bride/grad gift baskets, you might want to consider sponsorship. Some opportunities are still available; some as low as \$15!

If you read last month's TGIT, you already know the many ways your business can benefit by sponsoring a popular event like the Didsbury Trade Show. Corporate identification through sponsorship signage, target marketing, promotion tie-ins to drive customers into your store, entertain clients, coupon opportunities, create awareness of your business, and improve or enhance your image.

If you are looking for an event where you will receive a positive return on your sponsorship investment, look no further than the Didsbury Trade Show.

Sponsorships still available:

Security - Sponsorship goes directly to the Lions Club Fashion Show Corsages & Boutonnieres - Sponsors will receive the item they are sponsoring after the shows.

For more information on how you can be a sponsor at the 2008 Didsbury Trade Show, or if you would like to lock in your sponsorship for three years, visit the Trade Show page on the Chamber's website, or call Joelle Fournier at 335-9201, or e-mail [tradeshow@didsburychamber.ca](mailto:tradeshow@didsburychamber.ca)

## Council Positions Available

Please don't glance over this without reading it. We need your help!

Due to changes in occupations for a couple of people, the Didsbury & District Chamber of Commerce has positions open on Council. We really need these spots filled in order to get the business of the Chamber done, and to meet the requirements of our Bylaws. The Council just meets once a month. You do not have to be a business owner to sit on the Chamber board; you can be an employee of a member. If you would be interested in becoming involved on the Chamber Council, please call Tammy at the Chamber office.

The terms for current vacant positions are till May only. Elections for the 2008 - 2009 Council take place at the AGM on May 14th.

**Chamber Office Hours**  
9 to 11:30 am  
Tuesday - Friday  
Office Manager  
Tammy Brooks

Next General Meeting  
Wednesday, March 12 - 7 pm  
Didsbury Train Station  
Guest Speaker: Didsbury RCMP  
answers your questions on credit  
card fraud, business security,  
vandalism, counterfeit bills,  
and more.

## Volunteer for the Nominating Committee

The Chamber is looking for one more person who would be willing to canvass the business community gathering individuals who would like to serve on the Chamber Council.

If you could spare a few hours between now and April, please call Tammy at 335-3265. She will give you a copy of the Chamber's "Nominating Committee Guidelines", which outlines the duties and expectations for this very important committee.

### ACC Group Insurance

Didsbury Chamber of Commerce members are eligible to enroll in the Alberta Chambers Group Insurance Program. The program itself is far too extensive to cover in a small medium like TGIT, however, if you are interested in obtaining more information about the ACC Insurance Program, please contact the Chamber office at 335-3265 or call ACC directly at 1-800-984-2658.

### 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.*

