



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

Happy New Year to all! I hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and wish you all a healthy and prosperous New Year. Since we did not publish a TGIT in December due to time restraints at the office, it is time to catch up.

Country Christmas by all reports was a rousing success, with great crowds all night long. The weather cooperated and everyone was in the spirit. Thank you again to all of the many volunteers, both on the Light Committee and the Country Christmas Committee, who worked so very hard to make this a great start to our Christmas shopping season. All that is left now is to remove the lights sometime in January. Our Light Committee will be deciding on a date so that they can all be taken down at the same time, we hope. Watch for more news from Ursula at Ulla-La Boutique.

As most of you are aware, your Chamber membership expired as of December 31, 2008. We would normally have had the renewal messages out in the mail by now, but with the change to our By-Laws our membership year now runs from May 1st to April 30th. To make this transition as simple as possible, you will be receiving your renewal forms this month for a membership year of 16 months, to

reflect the 4 extra months to April 30th of 2010. This will save the Chamber and members a lot of time by only having to do the one renewal notice. From April 30th, 2010 and on the membership will revert back to 12 months. Watch for your renewal notice sometime this month. Membership by businesses in and around Didsbury is critical to the continued success of your Chamber. Be sure to renew your membership to prevent an interruption of your membership privileges.

The Rosebud Run Committee has been very busy as usual and it looks like we might get very lucky with the weather and have the Run on the announced dates of January 24th & 25th. Thank you to all of the many volunteers on this committee who work to make this such a successful event.

The Trade Show has also begun with much activity for the New Year. Dates for this year are April 4th and 5th, 2009. Book now if you want your favorite spot! Please visit the Chamber web-site for detailed information.

A reminder to everyone that our next Chamber General Meeting is January 14th. We will be voting on the notice of motion re the final by-law changes that were put forth by Ian Kennedy at our meeting in November. Thank you to Deb Pelletier for organizing this meeting. The detailed meeting information is found later in this newsletter.

Rosebud Run January 24th & 25th

It's time to start putting together some shopping specials for the thousands of people expected to attend the 2009 sled-dog races at the end of this month.

The committee has been working diligently to organize this event. Everything is right on schedule.

There are more than 60 volunteers working day and night to ensure that this is a GREAT weekend!

This year's poster was designed by Dr. Dave Phillips — wait till you see it!!

Be sure to check out the website at www.rosebudrun.ca for up-to-the-minute information. Musers from around the world can check out trail conditions, updates and contacts as they train and prepare for their race. Bill Windsor is keeping everyone up to date, complete with pictures. The Chamber of Commerce is very proud to be a part of it all.

Noteworthy Dates:

Chamber General Meeting	January 14th
Golden River Restaurant Cocktails 6:00 pm, Meeting 7:00 pm	
Family Literacy WORLD RECORD Attempt	January 23 & 24
Call Inez at the Library for full details 403.335.3142	
Rosebud Run	January 24 & 25
Get complete details at www.rosebudrun.ca	
Chamber Council Meeting	January 28th

It's Art, Travel and Trade Expo Time Again!!

The Mission of the Didsbury Art, Travel, & Trade Expo (formerly Didsbury Trade Show) is to provide a showcase for local businesses and organizations (including non-profit organizations) to market their products, services and organization to area residents and visitors; to demonstrate to the public that Didsbury and district is a vital and exciting place to live and work, and that the business community and economic climate is healthy and prosperous (aimed at encouraging investment and growth, both commercial and residential, within the community).

The 2009 Trade Show will be held April 4 and 5 at the Didsbury Memorial Complex.

The Didsbury Art, Travel, & Trade Expo offers an excellent venue to showcase your business, products or services, and provides a great opportunity to say "Thank you" to your customers. With more and more people moving to Didsbury and the Calgary-Edmonton corridor, we know you will be pleased with the amount of exposure you will receive. The 2008 show consisted of 125 booths and drew over 4,400 visitors from all over Central Alberta.

The Didsbury Art, Travel, & Trade Expo is a great way to get your name out there, whether it is purchasing a booth, our great sponsorship opportunities, or offering a door prize. We hope you plan to join us at the 2009 version of the Didsbury Trade Show!

Full details including Exhibitor packages, Sponsorship information, schedule of events and venues is available at www.didsburytradeshow.ca. Or you can e-mail the office at info@didsburychamber.ca.

Exhibitors can contact Joelle Fournier, Exhibitor Manager directly at 403.335.4893.

Library to take part in World Record!

The Didsbury Municipal Library will be joining libraries and schools from across Canada on January 23rd & 24th to participate in a Family Literacy Day World Record Attempt for "Most Children Reading With an Adult!" The official site for this event is <http://abc-canada.org/en/fldworldrecord> Inez at the Library will be busy gathering volunteers and witnesses, so if you can throw in your two bits, be sure to contact the Library at 403.335.3142

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

MISSION: *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*



General Meeting
Wednesday, January 14th
Golden River Restaurant
Cocktails: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 6:30 pm
Cost: \$15.00 + GST
Meeting: 7:00 pm
Speaker: Didsbury Youth Justice Coalition. Following up on youth crimes that affect our businesses and how we can manage them. Please RSVP to the office by Jan. 9th

Christmas Lighting Winners!
Large Yard: 2214—22nd Avenue
Small Yard: 2105—20th Avenue
Congratulations to the Homeowners!



Get involved
Volunteer
Today!