

Political Action... Staying Connected with Government

(continued from Page 1)

Ed Stelmach. To find out how you can participate in 2010, information is available at www.abbusinessawards.ab.ca.

At the end of May, President Elect Paul Pharo, Jody and myself will be attending the **Alberta Chamber's Annual General Meeting in Grande Prairie.** We will be presenting two resolutions on your behalf at the Policy Session. The first resolution is entitled **A Vision for Alberta Royalty Reviews.** As you remember, over one year ago, the Provincial Government legislated a new Royalty plan to ensure Albertans receive a fair share from its non-renewable energy resources. Our Resolution proposes certain changes to this Royalty Review process such as scheduling reviews routinely every five years, with these changes phased in over the next five-year period. This would allow oil/drilling companies an ability to plan ahead and know what the costs would be over a certain period of time. We also suggest the Government honour any existing agreement or contract. This goes to trust; **a deal is a deal and should be honoured by both parties** and not changed during the contract. The **Resolution also has recommendations towards Government spending** suggested they not to be overly optimistic when budgeting and establish program spending on a per capita baseline adjusting only for population growth and inflation. Also we recommend the Government establishing a **savings program** for surpluses.

The second Resolution, **Water for Sustainability – An Alberta Strategy** is a renewal and update from an expiring resolution previously presented by the **Lethbridge Chamber.** The newer resolution recommends the **Government take a leadership role in bringing the provinces and territories together to place an urgent and high priority on water management issues, encourage the creation of a national water management strategy, and take an active role in communicating and promoting water conservation measures.**

I can assure you that Paul and I will be prepared to vigorously debate the merits of our resolutions as well as the other 27 resolutions presented by other Alberta Chambers. I will tell you about the Annual General Meeting in our next Newsletter.



Dennis Hatt
President,
Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce

Welcome New Chamber Members

in the months of February and March 2009

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members in February and March 2009 look forward to their participation.

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403-308-8518 (Fax: 403-381-5082)

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403-524-3282 (Fax: 403-320-6434)

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403-329-9347 (Fax: 403-329-9349)

Business: Industrial Distribution/ Transportation/ Food grade warehousing & distribution

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Business: Hotel

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Lethbridge 2009 -



Business of the Year Awards

Presented by the:
Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce &
The Business Development Bank of Canada

NOMINATE THE BUSINESS OF YOUR CHOICE TODAY!

Nominations are open to
any business, institution or organization in Lethbridge

Previous winners may be
re-nominated 3 years after receiving award for that category

1. Business Leadership Award

Eligibility: A business or business person that deserves special recognition for their impact on enhancing the community through exceptional leadership in business practices, building or changing, champion of a project, fund raising endeavour(s), social change, or community undertaking. This award may not be presented every year given its eligibility criteria.

Sponsored by Economic Development Lethbridge

2. Business Legacy Award

Eligibility: A special award not always presented, the Business Legacy Award will recognize a business or business person in business for over ten years whose efforts have accomplished extraordinary things that have benefited Lethbridge and area in unique and meaningful ways. Inspirational role model for the community. (Could be awarded posthumously.)

Sponsored by Alberta Blue Cross

3. Change & Innovation Award

Eligibility: Any business that has successfully executed a change within their organization or produced or created an innovation.

Sponsored by the University of Lethbridge

4. Dalton Jordan Memorial Award for Business Excellence

Eligibility: Any business with 11 or more employees that had demonstrated performance excellence.

Sponsored by the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce and the Business Development Bank of Canada

5. Estelle Botfield Memorial Award for Customer Service Excellence

Eligibility: A business that provides exceptional customer service on a consistent basis.

Sponsored by the Lethbridge Lodge Hotel & Conference Centre

6. Small Business of the Year

Eligibility: Any business that has been operating a minimum of three years and has less than 11 employees.

Sponsored by Runner's Soul

7. Spirit of Lethbridge

Eligibility: A business or organization (non-profit, educational/health institutions, society, auxiliary) who serves and promotes the community through time involvement, energy and volunteer hours spent. This award will be given to a business or organization whose example demonstrates excellence in the enthusiastic support and promotion of the community.

Sponsored by Lethbridge College

8. New Venture/New Business

Eligibility: A new business that demonstrates great potential for future success with products and/or services.

Sponsored by 1st Choice Savings & Credit Union Ltd.

9. Young Entrepreneur

Eligibility: An entrepreneur under the age of 35 who has a track record of entrepreneurship and demonstrated risk and leadership in business.

Sponsored by Young Parkyn McNab LLP



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Lethbridge 2009 - Business of the Year Awards

Presented by the:
Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce & The Business Development Bank of Canada

N O M I N A T I O N F O R M

I nominate the following business:

*Open to any business, institution or organization in Lethbridge

Put an "X" beside the award Category in which the organization is being nominated in:

BUSINESS NAME: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Business Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

- Business Leadership
- Business Legacy
- Change & Innovation
- Dalton Jordan Memorial Award for Business Excellence
- Estelle Botfield Memorial Award for Customer Service Excellence
- Small Business of the Year
- Spirit of Lethbridge
- New Venture/New Business
- Young Entrepreneur

Why I believe this organization is eligible for this award: _____

Nominated by: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
(Print Name)

Awards will be presented at the **"Business of the Year Awards" Breakfast** Tuesday, October 20, 2009.

Please complete this form and forward it to the Chamber by fax: **403-327-1001** or mail to the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce, 529 - 6th St. S., Lethbridge, AB. T1J 2E1, Phone: 403-327-1586

Deadline for nominations: Friday, September 25, 2009

The Chamber's **Business of the Year Awards** Committee will follow up with the company nominated.

Local Businesses Honoured at the 2009 ~ Alberta Business Awards of Distinction

Three local businesses were honoured during the 2009 Alberta Business Awards of Distinction dinner held recently in Edmonton, hosted by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce. **Each business was a finalist in their award category.**



Colette Acheson (ANCO Business Solutions), **Paul Simmons** and four employees (Frito Lay Canada), and **Faith and Ralph Zentner** (Cornerstone Funeral Home Ltd.) enjoy awards' festivities.

EMPLOYER OF PERSON WITH DISABILITIES AWARD OF DISTINCTION:

Finalist: ANCO Business Solutions

This Lethbridge company has carved out a niche by developing business consulting services to entrepreneurs with disabilities. ANCO Business Solutions offers training, workshops and project management to many businesses. But one special contract sees owner Colette Acheson developmental challenges. The program is call "morethanthelabel.com" and one of its features see it assist with networking, marketing, and media features. Currently, ANCO is helping seven entrepreneurs which is now five years old, also supports many local organizations with donations of time, money, expertise.

SMALL BUSINESS AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Finalist: Cornerstone Funeral Home Ltd.

This Lethbridge Funeral Home epitomizes the ideal of a small business dedicated to serving its community, which includes the Blood Reserve, where it offers Aboriginal-themed funeral services held in unique chapels. Cornerstone Funeral Home was started by the husband-and-wife team of Ralph and Faith Zentner in 1995. Over the years, the couple has gained a trusted reputation for supporting people through difficult, often tragic, circumstances. The business is a keystone of its community through its immense public involvement, including a fundraiser for bereavement counselling and tours of the funeral home where school children learn the sad effects of drinking and driving.

DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Finalist & Winner: Frito Lay Canada

A few years ago, Frito Lay's Southern Alberta facilities were having difficulty recruiting and keeping staff in an employee-friendly labour market. The largest manufacturer and distributor of snack foods in Canada responded by developing new techniques to deepen its access to new talent pools and retain its employees. It found a successful recipe and it has the figures to prove it. In 2007, Frito Lay reduced its total staff turnover by nine per cent, followed by another six-per-cent last year. Employee satisfaction also shot up. Frito Lay knows there are no magic solutions, but it plans to continually improve with a long-term commitment to fostering a truly inclusive workplace.

Frito Lay Was The Winner Of The Diversity Leadership Award Of Distinction. They Were Recognized As An Organization That Embraces Diversity In Their Workforce, Encourages Respect And Inclusion, Their Work In Eliminating Discrimination And Barriers, And Creating A Welcoming And Inclusive Workplace.

The Chamber congratulates ANCO Business Solutions, Cornerstone Funeral Home Ltd. and Frito Lay Canada and is proud to have them as members of the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce.



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- Put your work phone number on your checks instead of your home phone.** If you have a P.O. Box use that instead of your homes address. If you do not have a P.O. Box, use your work address. Never have SIN# printed on your checks. You can add it if is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.
- Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine.** Copy both sides of each license, credit card, or document that you keep in your wallet. In this way, you will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. It's also a good idea to carry a photocopy of your passport when traveling either here or abroad.

- When stolen, cancel your credit cards immediately and have the toll free numbers and your cards numbers handy so that you know where to call.
- File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc. were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation if one is conducted.

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Chamber's Last "Mix & Mingle" Trade Show Until Fall



Susan Burrows-Johnson and Anine Vonkman welcome visitors to the Galt Museum & Archives.



Local business people enjoyed the "Mix & Mingle" Trade Show held recently at the Galt Museum & Archives. Thirty-four local businesses displayed their products and services to over 150 business people who attended and enjoyed this informal mixer.

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