



## **CHAMBER SUCCESSFUL IN POLICY RESOLUTIONS & WINS PROVINCIAL AWARD**

**The Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce hosted the Alberta Chambers of Commerce 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference “Winds of Innovation & Change”, in Lethbridge this past weekend, May 13-15.**

**This conference was a great success thanks to the outstanding support of Chamber sponsors, members, and volunteers.**

During the Policy Session (34) policy resolutions were debated by over 100 voting delegates, representing Chambers throughout the province.

The Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce sponsored and presented resolutions on:

- 1) Creating a New Pharmaceutical Industry in Alberta – The Thebaine Opportunity**
- 2) Alberta Transmission Capacity Upgrades** (*along with the Medicine Hat Chamber*)

The local chamber also co-sponsored the following resolutions:

- 3) Provincial Land-Use Framework: Achieving sustainable development while improving the regulatory environment** (*Calgary & Lethbridge*)
- 4) Provincial Highway Planning: Economic Impact Considerations** (*Devon & Lethbridge*)
- 5) Enhance Domestic Markets and Recapture Closed International Markets for Agriculture Products** (*Lloydminster & Lethbridge*)

6) **Common-sense Approach to Livestock Product Identification and Food Safety** (*Red Deer & Lethbridge*)

**All (6) resolutions were approved.**

There were (34) resolutions debated and of these (31) were approved, (2) were defeated and (1) was referred to the Alberta Chambers' Board for further study.

**All approved resolutions become official policies of the AB Chambers and are presented to the provincial government for action.**

**A highlight of the conference was the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce receiving the 2009 "Chamber of the Year" Award** (for Chambers with memberships over 300). The 2009 year was shared by the Lethbridge Chamber Presidents **Dennis Hatt** and **Paul Pharo** (*the local Chambers fiscal year is July to June*). The award recognized the strong leadership and partnership of these Presidents during 2009, in guiding their Chamber in achieving its many accomplishments.

The Alberta Chambers of Commerce, in presenting the award stated, ***"the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce is involved with many initiatives to enhance its city, with the ultimate goal of fostering a positive environment for its members and community as a whole. Provincial and national policy development, energetic committees, and strong partnerships are just a few of its hallmarks. To become such an influential force, a Chamber needs a strong contingent of volunteers, and Lethbridge is known provincially for its particularly large Board of Directors. Its directors are Chamber ambassadors who help nurture relationships with elected officials and other community organizations. This model Chamber has worked hard to place itself in a position to influence government and help develop its region."***

*For more information please contact:*

*Paul Pharo, President, Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce*

403-328-5576

[pgpharo@stringam.ca](mailto:pgpharo@stringam.ca)