

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT Chamber of Commerce

September 2, 2015 Chamber News Update

Business After Hours Mark your calendars!

Thursday, September 24, 2015 Mini-Trade Show hosted by



4:00 pm - 7:30 pm (for the registration see page 2)

Small Business Week October 19th to 23rd mark your calendar for Evening of Excellence Awards the finale to SBW on Thursday, October 22nd, 2015 (more details to come in the September Newsletter)

Yes, we are moving Downtown!!!! Watch for details of our Grand Opening in October.



Response to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's Proposed Preliminary Rate Framework

The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) is changing the way employer premiums are determined. While in some respects the Proposed Preliminary Rate Framework marks a positive change from the existing rate setting process, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) is concerned that the new rate framework could increase the premium rates paid by employers and, subsequently, the cost of doing business in the province.

As such, the OCC has provided the WSIB with a <u>written submission</u> outlining 10 recommendations that the WSIB and the Government of Ontario should adopt to mitigate the impact of the proposed reforms. Over 25 chambers of commerce and boards of trade signed on to the submission including the North Bay & District Chamber of Commerce.

The Chambers support efforts to modernize the workers' compensation system in Ontario. Building a 21st century workforce is a core component of the OCC's five year Emerging Stronger economic agenda. Keeping the province's economy firmly on the path from recovery to growth will require changes to the way government and its agencies work. Ontario needs a workers' compensation system that is both responsive to labour market needs and fiscally sustainable.



Meet the Candidates in the Federal Election

We invite all members to attend the **Meet the Candidates Event & Debate**.

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, September 29, 2015** at the Capitol Centre

Meet the Candidates between 6:00 pm and 6:45 pm one-on-one and then we go LIVE on TV Cogeco at 7:00 pm sharp in the theatre. Members will have the opportunity next week to submit questions for the event in advance that will be a part of the panel questions during the event.

Since we are live, there will be <u>no</u> opportunity for the audience to ask questions from the floor; however, if they are not members that didn't have the opportunity to submit questions in advance through our survey, the audience may submit questions in writing before going live at 7:00 pm. Audience written questions submitted the evening of the event will only be allowed, if time permits near the end of the event and prior to candidates' final remarks on stage.



Non-profit Group Seeks a Work Space

The Nipissing Rock & Mineral Club Inc. brings

people of all ages together to learn about, work with, and enjoy rocks & minerals. The Club is seeking a low-cost space for its meetings, displays, supplies, and lapidary equipment so it can continue to contribute to the vibrancy of North Bay and the well-being of young and old as it has since 1956.

This venerable Club:

- is affiliated with the Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CCFMS) which provides insurance coverage, and
 - is eligible for an Ontario Trillium Fund capital stream grant.

If you are community-spirited and would like to discuss the possibilities, please call Richard Page (705-474-6841) or Don Winter (752-3182)



Dinner Club Wednesday, September 16, 2015



the conner of CARTIER + MCKEOWN NORTH BAY • ONTARIO 705.478.5396

The Young Professionals invite <u>all Chamber members</u> to join them for a networking dinner at Miner's Son!

Please RSVP to Patti at the Chamber office, 705-472-8480 or <u>click here</u> to email now, so we can make reservations.

Chamber President starts a facebook page to post jobs in North Bay and area....

After the Mayor stated recently that he has had an abundance of calls from employers seeking employees, the media ran a story called "Mayor at a loss over unfilled jobs". Employers that are having a hard time finding employees are welcome to post their openings on a new facebook page called **North Bay and District Ontario Jobs** started recently by President Jake Lacourse. Then job seekers stated there were no job postings to apply for, so to make it easier for both sides to match up, the facebook page is an easy way for them to view employment opportunities.



We would also encourage job seekers to speak with the employment teams that can assist them in their search and applying for these positions. Alternatives to finding postings include: Yes Employment, DEOC, Canada Job Bank, Kijiji, Get Trained Workers, etc. Don't get discouraged there are jobs for people and people for jobs!



Rock your End-of-Year Celebration with Music Icons in Muskoka

Got the lucky job of organizing this year's corporate party? Well, this year, you're in luck! Choose one of Deerhurst Resort's holiday concert parties and sit back and wait for the accolades to flow your way. Who are we kidding? There'll be no sitting once these legendary Canadian music icons hit the stage ... everyone will be on the dance floor!



Tourism North Bay

Working in partnership with tourism and hospitality partners and the City of North Bay, the Chamber is pleased to announce the ability for online bookings now on the new website www.tourismnorthbay.com

Tourism North Bay is working towards four areas of efforts: a tourism officer, marketing & promotions, product development and bid funding. Tourism North Bay will work closely with the provincial tourism association of Northeastern Ontario to promote additional opportunities for operators and partners in the industry. For more information on NeOnt - please visit: http://www.northeasternontario.com/

We are moving!

After 29 years of operating and managing the Regional Tourist Information Centre and Dionne Quints Museum at 1375 Seymour Street at Hwy 11/17, the North Bay & District Chamber of Commerce will be moving to the downtown core. This is a very positive move for the Chamber. The Chamber has strategically re-focussed its efforts, this year, to enhance advocacy, connections, growth and value to our members. As such our current operation has evolved.

Over the years, we have seen a steady decrease in the number of visitors to the Centre and Museum. Recognizing the importance of tourism for the region, we have realized that with technology, travellers have an abundance of information at their fingertips. The Chamber will continue to support tourism, but in a very different way (as seen above).

With the City of North Bay, we will continue to find an appropriate solution for the assets of the museum; and the valuable asset the City has in the property and building, having great potential for an alternate use.

The Chamber looks forward to serving the membership from our new location in the near future.

