



February 2010

# E-NEWS

## Winkler & District Chamber of Commerce

“TO PARTNER WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN PROVIDING INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT A VIBRANT BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT.”

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGM

Winkler & District Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting will take place on **Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Networking at 11:30 am with lunch served at 12:00 noon. Location: Heartland Inn.**

In addition to the business portion, Mayor Martin Harder will be presenting the “State of the City Address” at that time. Tickets are \$22.00. To register for the luncheon please contact the Chamber office at 325-9758 or by email at [chamber@winkleronline.com](mailto:chamber@winkleronline.com)

### WOMEN IN BUSINESS BREAKFAST

**Wednesday, February 3, 2010** - 13 Women attended the **Women in Business Breakfast**. This event was open to all women in business. The objective was to learn and share ideas relevant to our Business environment. NUTRITION & STRESS MANAGEMENT was the topic - delivered by Adrienne Penner - Registered Dietician. Healthy eating, including Healthy snacking, learning to control Stress within our lives - were the presentations and discussions for the session.

Sponsors for this Business Breakfast were;  
Curves for Women, Herbal Choices, Health Habit, and RBC - Royal Bank

Evaluations received indicate future topics in Exercise programs, healthy eating on limited budgets, additional Nutrition topics

What is your suggestion? Please provide your feedback and suggestions  
[chamber@winleronline.com](mailto:chamber@winleronline.com) or (204) 325-9758.

Next Women in Business Breakfast session slated for May 12, 2010.

## Chamber Executive

### Providing Skilled Labour and Training Opportunities

Update from fall, 2009 and our conference meeting with Apprenticeship Branch of Manitoba on January 27, 2010. Thank you to Greg Archibald, Eugen Klassen and George Penner for their involvement in this project.

The Winkler and District Chamber of Commerce and the Apprenticeship Board of Manitoba have been working together to offer apprenticeship training in Southern Manitoba.

The Winkler Chamber provided Apprenticeship Manitoba with data from surveys conducted over the months of December and January in four identified trades, Electrical, Plumbing, Heavy Duty Mechanic, and Welding. Effective February, 2010, the Manitoba Apprenticeship Branch will begin to visit businesses that have been identified in this region to sign up more apprentices for training.

Of the 85 apprentices identified in the Chambers' survey, at least 35 were new names to the Apprenticeship Branch. Apprenticeship Manitoba, has committed initially to providing a Winnipeg Team of resources to work with Employees and Employers, in this region and their base will be the Employment Manitoba Office.

Apprenticeships Manitoba will be investigating facilities and the cost of training in these trades.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those Employers and leaders, in Southern Manitoba who have provided this trades training information to the Winkler Chamber of Commerce to date. As businesses if you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact the Winkler & District Chamber of Commerce at [chamber@winkleronline.com](mailto:chamber@winkleronline.com) or (204)325-9758.

### MTS Symmetrical Service Coming to Winkler

As identified in our BR+E survey, our business community is in need of more advanced connectivity options than what we currently have. It's timely then, that MTS has responded with the release of their Symmetrical service in the Winkler area as of January, 2010. Their Symmetrical Service is a commercial grade service, delivered on copper, which provides the upload bandwidth that many businesses are growing to require. Speeds up to 4 meg upstream as well as downstream provide a platform that way outpaces what most business are currently using. This makes possible many different services that are simply not feasible on DSL or similar connections.

These services include:

- VOIP communications
- VPN networking between facilities
- Service providing (ie: hosting websites and applications)
- Large file transfer
- Offsite backup

Basically any function that requires the movement of large amounts of data upstream has been limited with current solutions. While these needs have been historically very specialized, the movement of more and more business functions to the internet has pushed these needs into the realm of many of today's small businesses.

MTS is also offering multi year plans to make this service affordable.

The contact in Winkler is Mike Dueck at the Winkler Connect store. His email is [mike.dueck@idccomm.mb.ca](mailto:mike.dueck@idccomm.mb.ca) and his direct cell is 325-2021.



- Greg Archibald  
*Schweitzer-Mauduit*
- Scott Cockbill  
*Southland Honda*
- Kenton Doerksen  
*Gislason Targownik Peters*
- Linda Doerksen  
*Tim Hortons*
- Dianne Friesen  
*Winkler & District Chamber of Commerce*
- Betty Hiebert  
*Prudential Riverbend Realty Ltd.*
- Myrna Hildebrand  
*Access Credit Union Ltd.*
- Eugen Klassen  
*Elias Woodwork & Manufacturing*
- Emily Lane  
*Garden Valley Collegiate Junior Executive*
- Justin Schinkel  
*Heartland Inn*
- Brenda Storey  
*Winkler & District Chamber of Commerce*
- Kenneth Thomas  
*GVT Inc.*

## Managing WCB Claims – ½ Day Session

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 (12 pm – 4 pm)

Heartland Inn; 851 Main Street

Winkler, Manitoba

How can you reduce your WCB claims costs?

Join us for a short fact filled session and discover better ways of managing claims!

CME is pleased to partner with Nancy Gray; Nancy Gray & Associates and Dave Kramer; WCB SAFE WORK SERVICES team member; to empower you, the employer, regarding some of the issues that employers may have when managing workplace injury claims. Join us on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 in this informative and interactive half day session.

For further information, contact Tammy Oakes at the CME office at (204) 949-1454 or visit our website [www.winklerchamber.com](http://www.winklerchamber.com)

**Red River College Winkler Community Adult Learning Centre** has enlisted the services of George Penner to liaison with area businesses to explore the support, possibilities and needs for adult education in the workplace. George's previous role with the DAWN project will assist the learning centre in piloting this unique opportunity for area adults to work towards high school credits. Our goal is to increase the opportunities adults have to return to school, while maintaining employment. We also hope to provide employers, with employees with increased essential skills. These skills include numeracy, document use and reading. George will be contacting local businesses early March 2010.

To learn more about Essential skills please check out the following link.

[http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential\\_skills/general/toolkit.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential_skills/general/toolkit.shtml)

## Businesses in Winkler - Paper Shredding Needs

As a result of our Business Retention & Expansion Survey findings, your feedback is required to Gateway Resources on Shredding Needs.

Please go to the following link to access Survey

<http://www.gatewayresourcesinc.com/recycling.shtml>

For more information, contact Ron Gerbrandt at (204) 325-7304 ext. 227 or email [grpkg@mts.net](mailto:grpkg@mts.net)

## Video Conference seminars



### February 2010

22. 10:00-12:00  
Microsoft Office Word 2003 - Tips  
for Small Business

22. 1:00-3:00  
Microsoft Office Excel 2003 - Tips  
for Small Business

25. 10:00-12:00  
How to Start a Business in Mani-  
toba

### March 2010

2. 10:00-12:00  
Business Plan Re-Boot

2. 12:30-4:30 |  
Using Financial Statements as  
Management Tools

3. 1:00-3:00  
Introduction to Balance Sheets

10. 11:00-1:00  
Pricing Through the Supply Chain

10. 2:00-4:00  
Branding Basics

17. 12:00-4:00  
Positive Employee Relations

25. 3:00-5:00  
How to Start a Business in  
Manitoba

26. 10:30-1:30  
GST Information Workshop

26. 2:00-3:30  
PST: An Introduction to PST

31. 9:00-1:00  
Developing a Policies and  
Procedures Manual

31. 1:30-4:30  
CRA - Small Business Tax  
Information Workshop

## NEW WELCOME TO WINKLER GUIDE

The City of Winkler has published a new "Welcome to Winkler" guide. This new format is a 24-page document with new full colour photos and no advertisements. It offers information about accommodations, dining, shopping, attractions and amenities. Although it will be distributed to various businesses, anyone wishing to have some copies of their own are welcome to contact Deb Penner at City Hall. [cec@cityofwinkler.ca](mailto:cec@cityofwinkler.ca)



Community Futures Heartland is pleased to announce the appointment of Don Fehr as their new Business Analyst / CED Coordinator. Don brings 15 years of local and international business development experience to Heartland. Don is from Winkler and will be working out of their Portage Office, as well as meeting clients throughout the region. In addition to being the Community Development Coordinator and working with community groups and organizations with their projects, Don will be working with business and loan clients developing business plans and conducting small business lending. Don looks forward to meeting and networking with all associated organizations. Feel free to call Don at 1-877-472-7122 to discuss a community project or to refer a client to him.



## Business to Business Events

### Workplace Essential Skills Training Centre

Essentials Skills 1-Hour Workshops (5pm).

All Workshops are free of charge. For info call 1-866-704-6118 or visit [www.wem.mb.ca](http://www.wem.mb.ca)

Mar. 3, 2010. Take Note! for Meetings

Mar. 17, 2010. Know Your Hazards!

Mar. 31, 2010. What's Your Style? An Intro to Communication

### Spring 2010.

Regional Job Fair for New Comers.

For more info, please contact Rita Chahal at 204-948-0106 or [rchahal@mbchamber.mb.ca](mailto:rchahal@mbchamber.mb.ca) at the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce

### Power of Smart Meetings

Learn to reduce time and increase productivity at meetings.

Bob Wiebe, presenter  
Shalom Retreat Center, Winkler Bible Camp

Tuesday, March 30 – 8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$104.95 per person includes GST.

To register or for more information contact 204-837-3967 or [bobwiebe@mts.net](mailto:bobwiebe@mts.net)

# Welcome Chamber of Commerce New Members



### Jonny's Java

Southland Mall

Ph: 362-7288

Andy Wiebe &

Jeff Hoepfner

### MSTW Planning District

180 5th St, Unit D, Morden

Ph: 822-6223

Kathy Friesen

### Tamarack Massage Therapy

443 6th St, Morden

Ph: 332-0121

Peter Loewen

### Enliven Consulting

Winnipeg, MB

Ph: 837-3967

Bob Wiebe



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Chamber of Commerce

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