

Think Global ...
Buy Local

Small Business Week

Volume 3 Issue 2

SADC Pontiac and Pontiac CLD have planned events for Small Business Week, which begins October 18.

Small Business Week was created to promote entrepreneurship in Quebec. The event aims to provide businesspeople with the tools and information they need to maintain success and competitiveness in their economic environment.

This year there are two breakfast seminars planned as well as a cocktail with an awards presentation.

For more information visit the SADC, CLD or chamber web sites.

Launch of the SADC Innovative Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award

As part of its 25th anniversary festivities, SADC Pontiac is launching the Innovative Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize and reward young entrepreneurs who excel in their professional life by using their creativity.

The winner will receive \$1,000 for professional communication and marketing services.

Deadline: October 15, 2010

To participate in the contest: www.sadc.commercepontiac.ca

The Pontiac Chamber of Commerce will provide a free membership to the winner.

Events

Small Business Week

Breakfast-seminars—Business to business buying/selling – \$5

Tuesday, October 19 (English)

8:00 am—Café 349, 349 Main Street, Shawville

Wednesday, October 20 (Bilingual)

8:00 am—Ferme Livamia, 61 chemin Lac la Truite, Mansfield et Pontefract

Cocktail & Awards

Thursday, October 21 – free

5 to 7 pm—Café GIGI's, 1452 route 148, Campbell's Bay

Registration for events:

Deadline for registration of all events:
October 15

Please confirm your attendance to SADC Pontiac – 819 648-2186 or CLD Pontiac – 819-648-5689 poste/ext. 121.

Monthly SADC Business Breakfast

First Wednesday of Month

7:30 am – \$2.50

SADC Office – Campbell's Bay

If you have a business event you would like advertised, please contact the chamber.

Some interesting facts...

- As of December 2007, there were 1,077,047 employer businesses (having a payroll of at least one person) in Canada.
- Small Business accounts for 98% of all businesses in Canada.
- Each year, approximately 139,000 new small businesses are created in Canada.
- On average, small businesses that have fewer than 100 employees contribute about 30% to Canada's GDP.
- As of 2007, small businesses employed approximately 5 million individuals in Canada, or 48% of the total labour force in the private sector.
- Approximately 15% of all employed workers in the Canadian economy in 2007 were self-employed.

CREDIT: CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—WWW.CHAMBER.CA

Benefits that small business can take advantage of

The Canadian Chamber assists businesses of all sizes in improving their bottom line through a number of benefit programs. These include: preferred rates on credit and debit transactions; savings on gasoline; home, auto, and travel insurance; pre-paid legal services; and SME-oriented online training opportunities. Along with offering these affinity programs directly to its corporate members, the Canadian Chamber makes these benefit programs available for its local chamber of commerce/board of trade members to use with their members.

Aside from a healthy balance sheet and a viable business plan, marketing is another important tool that small businesses owners can use to grow their business. Effective networking can be a small business owner's best form of marketing as it is affordable and productive. Membership in a local chamber of commerce/board of trade provides plenty of opportunities to engage with the local business community, develop relevant contacts, and obtain personal referrals. Small business owners will attest that word of mouth advertising is invaluable and highly effective.

As a member of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce, here are just some of the benefit programs you can start taking advantage of:

TD Merchant Services and First Data: preferred pricing program

Esso – Imperial Oil Gas discounts: enjoy 3 cents per litre fuel discount off the retail posted pump price at Esso service stations

SCORE – Group Insurance Plan: A variety of plans are available to all Chamber members, regardless of the enterprise size, and is particularly advantageous to companies with fewer than 8 employees, where, traditionally, group rates have not been available.

Telebec Discount: enjoy 65% savings off your long distance from your business line

Business to Business Discounts: Members offer discounts for products or services to other members

Please check the web site for more information on any of the above benefits or email: info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

“Pay It Forward” Program

Do you know of a business you believe would benefit from a membership in the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce?

By anonymously paying for the membership of a non-member through the “Pay It Forward” program you will enable the business you designate to enjoy the services, benefits and discounts offered through the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce. The following year the business will receive a renewal notice and be encouraged to pay its own membership. At some point in the future, the “Pay It Forward” recipient might wish to return the favour by sponsoring another business in the Pontiac.

For more information on this or anything else, feel free to call 1-866-561-0509 or 819.648.5471 or email us at info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

Think Global ... Buy Local
Support Those Who Support You
Small Businesses Make Small Towns Work!

Consider this when you're buying ...

As business operators, our actions shape our communities.

Welcome to the Chamber!

New members who have joined the chamber since the last newsletter.

Clinique d'auto Duquette

Club Moto-Neige Pingouins

Connelly & Koshy

Hillside Green Centre

Horizon X Rafting

Society of Rural Physicians of Canada

WePC Inc.

Check the chamber web site for links to these businesses.

Support your local businesses!

Would Like to Join the Chamber?

Membership fee of \$100 entitles you to all chamber benefits. Membership valid from April 1st to March 31st.

Contact info:

The Pontiac Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 119

Campbell's Bay, Quebec, J0X 1K0

1-866-861-0509 or 819-648-5471

www.pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

Business to Business Discounts

This is an excellent opportunity to grow your business as others learn about your business and take advantage of savings, as you will them. A truly worthwhile program!

You will need to show your chamber membership card to participating retailers at time of purchase.

If you are interested in participating, or if you have any questions, please contact the chamber.

Resources

The Government of Canada understands that entrepreneurs need relevant information at their fingertips. The Canada Business Network is designed to provide exactly that. Visit:

<http://www.canadabusiness.ca/>

News, article suggestions and letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. Content will be edited to fit the space available. We welcome press releases and news from our local business community to be published free of charge.