

Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

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Report from the Chair



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to share with you this update. With the momentum created through active and diligent work, and reflecting on purposeful and meaningful working relationships with a number of partners, we have seen many positive outcomes. We have engaged with our fellow local Chambers and actively worked with the Wallaceburg Chamber of Commerce to continue our shared commitment of supporting issues impacting all of Chatham-Kent.

There are many reasons to celebrate 2017 and look forward to 2018. The Chatham-Kent Chamber continues to champion the voice of business. We carry on the tradition of showcasing "Feature Industry" where we have a glimpse of the "behind the scenes" activities that make manufacturing business successful. Possibly, you have attended Business After Hours which continues to be a much anticipated event, providing many businesses the opportunity to showcase themselves, grow their contacts and network with other businesses. We were particularly pleased to welcome Ontario Chamber of Commerce Interim President & CEO, Richard Koroscil, at our new business showcase in October. So many valuable connections are made at these events, and I am proud of our Business and Member Connections Committee for the tireless work planning and volunteering their assistance to help host these events.

Our Agriculture Committee was, once again, instrumental at planning and organizing a truly inspirational Guest Speaker in attaining Jay Blake. Jay spoke about perseverance and resiliency while never giving up on your dreams. After an industrial accident where Jay lost total vision and other key senses, he had the courageous and bold vision to start his own competitive race team, and now works as its Head Mechanic. It is a true demonstration of what's possible if you're willing to dream big and work hard for it.

Our alliance with Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board helped us 'Feature' Entrepreneurs of all ages and interests. It is stimulating to hear of the uniqueness and the determination of those that create their own jobs, living their dream – and contributing to the prosperity of Chatham-Kent. And, together with Resident Attraction and Retention, we showcased a number of Young Professionals and those embracing 'baCK to Chatham-Kent' momentum.

Of course, not everything in 2017 was easy. The Provincial Government swiftly passed legislation in Bill 148. The Chatham-Kent Chamber reacted quickly as your advocate. Our Government Affairs Committee co-ordinated efforts with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and we campaigned, called to action, pushed our opposition to the Bill and rallied in support of all businesses. We provided correspondence to our Premier urging consideration to the economic impact and viability of such quick implementation of these items, most notably the minimum wage increase. We partnered with the OCC to support the "Keep Ontario Working Coalition" to commission an independent analysis to better understand the economic impact of these changes. We shared that report which can be found on the Chatham-Kent Chamber website. While our advocacy work is not done, in order to support you and your business through Bill 148 implementation we are sharing information sessions and videos through our website to assist you through the challenges you may face.

We also hosted a roundtable with Minister of Energy, Glen Thibeault, and a roundtable session with our members around Workplace Fairness, Better Jobs relating to Bill 148. We further arranged for participation from our Board to represent Chatham-Kent at a Roundtable with Minister Leal, Minister for Small Business, as co-ordinated with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

We regularly met with our Municipal CAO to help align like actions to enhance Chatham-Kent, resulting in a strengthened relationship all around as we shared our common goals. We continue representation from our Board on the Chatham-Kent Community Leaders' Cabinet and the Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board as we see these efforts of great importance to our Board and our members.

Through our Policy and Governance Committee, we re-examined our awards programs. Together with past judges, nominees and recipients, many months were invested to ensure we had a transparent process that could stand up to our Chamber Values. In the end, we sought that every award recipient could also stand proud, knowing their recognition was vetted through a thorough and fair process.

There continues to be a number of important files for us to work through in 2018. Whether it's bridging the communication gap with government, our continued support for business through Bill 148, looming legalization of marijuana and work place safety, Ontario's Energy Plan, the CK Community Energy Plan and our internal strategies where we evaluate, remain agile and add value to your membership.

Lastly, I want to thank you, our Members, for your contribution and support. You continue to give back to our community; we are grateful that you choose to open your doors and do your business right here in Chatham-Kent. We are all energized and enabled to bring to you another successful year and the best from the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce in 2018.

2017

Board of Directors



Executive Committee:



Chair
Christopher June
Bank of Montreal



Chair - Elect
Cecily Coppola
Restorative Justice
Chatham-Kent



Vice Chair
Sheila Bateman
Comfort Inn

Strategic Goals:

- 1) Drive Growth of Chatham-Kent Enterprises and the Economy
- 2) Through Community Partners Become a More Inclusive and Diverse Chamber
- 3) Deliver Organizational Excellence

Values

- . Accountable
- . Diversity
- . Integrity
- . Inclusion



Treasurer
Kevin Deacon
Southwest Granite &
Glass

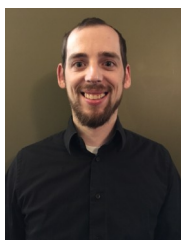


Director at Large
Scott Prall
Dillon Consulting



Director at Large
Trevor Hinnegan
Trevor Hinnegan Law

Board of Directors:



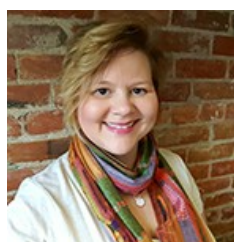
Christopher Dewey
Union Gas Ltd.



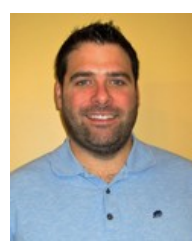
Kraig Quagliotto
Collins Barrow



Jim Waters
BDM Millwrights Inc.



Tricia Xavier
The Purple Pansy



Pete Fantuz
Intellitix Technologies



Rob Brown
Travelodge



Paul Machado
Entegrus



Dave Barnier
Erieau Marina



Mary Anne Udvari
Kent Federation of
Agriculture

Chamber Staff:



Gail Hundt
President & CEO



Sarah Smith
Administrative Assistant

Report from the President & CEO

Looking back at 2017, the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce Board, Committees and Staff never slowed down. The year seemed to pass by in a flash, however, a great number of projects and activities were successfully accomplished. I trust you will find some of the highlights encouraging.

I am very pleased to report that our Chamber, again, earned *Accreditation with Distinction*. Accreditation takes a considerable amount of teamwork of the Board and Staff working diligently, ethically and with passion to prove standards as set by the Chamber Accreditation Council of Canada. We continue to strive to such requirements as we remain committed to our Strategic Plan, our Mission and Vision and with a focus on our Values at the forefront.

As we noted more local incubator office facilities arise, the Chamber stepped away. Welcoming two new tenants into the CK Chamber of Commerce Building early in 2017, the building is at full capacity and our three businesses are making great neighbours.

As we look for opportunities to enhance member value, benefits and resources, we made advancement in a website that is easier to access, more interactive and is mobile friendly. Along with the website, we made investment in a new software program to optimize membership integration, allowing streamlining of administrative programs, allows members to monitor and update their public profile and provides added resource to Chamber staff. We have made great strides as we continue to embrace the processes and all its capacities, and hoping you are as well. If you haven't created your Member Log-In as yet, I encourage you to do so and take advantage of this new resource.

We established a new relationship with Berisha Merchant Services to strengthen our representation with our First Data Visa and MasterCard Merchant Service program. Having a local contact and agent ensures speedy response, bettering of our member service for on-boarding, and competitive rates to help our members and their bottom line.

As we look ahead to 2018, you can be assured our Chamber will be involved in the 2 upcoming elections. Planning is well underway as, time to Make Your Vote Count will be quickly upon us. And, as always, we look forward to working with you in the upcoming year.

Mission Statement:

The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce champions business excellence through Investing in progressive economic and community infrastructure, . Fostering entrepreneurship and business linkages and Integrating business and community wellness and actively promoting Chatham-Kent

Vision Statement:

The Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce will be recognized for its visionary leadership in enhancing the economic prosperity and quality of life in Chatham-Kent.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY



We welcomed the following businesses:

Goldhar
Karen Liberty

Real Mortgage Associates C-K
Rocky Gaudrault

JMHI Insurance Group Inc.
Eric Gaudrault

Junctura Group Construction
Rocky Gaudrault

Remax Chatham-Kent
Rocky Gaudrault

MHA Appraisals
Mike Hastings

Planet Print
Rick Gardiner

YA Canada
Kelley Pichinte

Floating Therapy
Laura Foster & Courtney Maynard

Bennic Machine Inc.
Brian Reaume

Sons of Kent Brewing Company
James (Benson) Carrington

D.M.S. Veterinary Group
Dr. Kerry Mall

Lundy Insurance
Jim Lundy

Master Plumber Services
William (Butch) Gregg

Trevor Hinnegan Law
Trevor Hinnegan

Run`n with Scizzors
Sandra Dorner

PAW Pet and Wildlife Rescue
Myriam Armstrong

Community Living Wallaceburg
Lisa Caron

Intellitix Technologies
Peter Fantuz

Comfort Inn
Sheila Bateman

ICU Automotive
Michael & Janine Wilson

Shoeless Joe's Sports Grill
Krystal Kwan

Greener Project Development
Mary Svec

College Boreal
Simon Goulet

Pattern Renewable Holdings
Pat Murray

BDM Millwrights
Jim Waters

The Salvation Army Chatham-Kent
Stephanie Watkinson

Jo-Al Farms Ltd.
Joan Jackson

Thames Machine & Tool Ltd.
Allan Nauer

J. Quaglia Law Firm
Jonathan Quaglia

Chatham-Kent Health Alliance
Debbie Ancocik

J-Mac Consulting
John MacDonald

STEM Camp
Kevin Cougler

Chatham-Kent Sports Xpress
Rebecca Reimer

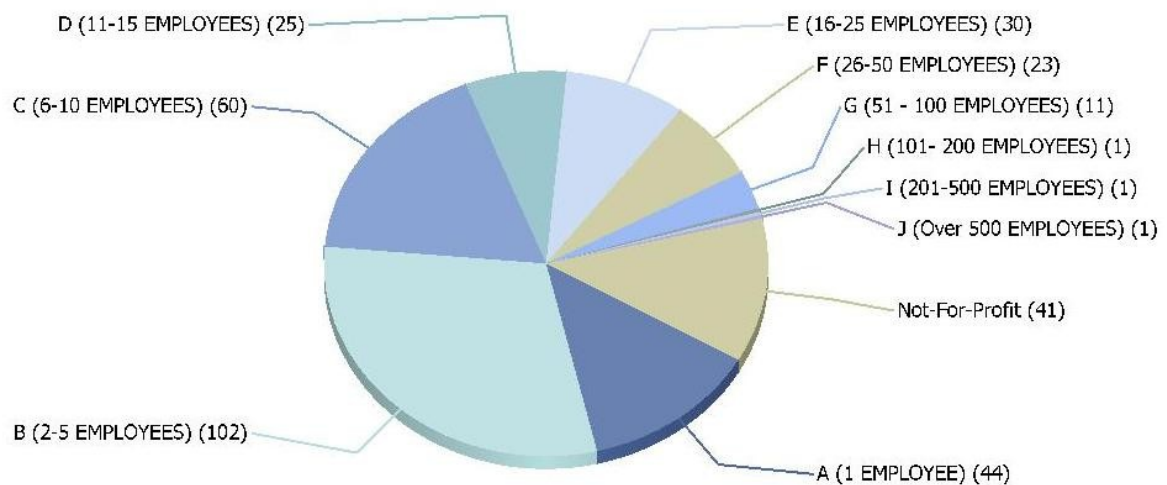
Absolute Comfort Heating & Cooling
Cindy Brooke

Edward Jones Investment
- Christine Stover

Nest Realty Inc.
Meg Lyttle

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Member Types



Chatham-Kent Chamber Partners & Members of:

2017

Volunteers



THANK-YOU

To our event and our valued members of our committees, without your support we could not host our first class business events.

Agriculture Committee:

Adrian VanDyk, AGRIS Co-operative Ltd.
Don McGugan, Bank of Montreal
Kelly Atkinson, PRIDE Seeds
Kim Cooper, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Lori Ripley, Mainstreet Credit Union
Marenda Schipper, Royal Bank
Mary Anne Udvari, Kent Federation of Agriculture
Steve Brent, Sun Life Financial
Wilhelmina Waters, TD Canada Trust
Michael Pugh, Scotiabank

Business & Membership Connections Committee:

Rob Brown, Travelodge
Mike Korpan, Early Acres Estate Winery
Jamie Giffin, The Giffin Group
Kristy Jacobs, Chatham-Kent Workforce Planning Board
Heather Woodhouse, Apollo Property Management
Sarah Wagenaar, C-K John D. Bradley Convention Centre
Terri Kewley, Scotiabank
Victoria Bodnar, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Michael Verhoeven, Bank of Montreal

Government Affairs Committee - committee of Board

Scott Praill, Dillon Consulting
Christopher June, Bank of Montreal
Pete Fantuz, Intellitix
Dave Barnier, Eriean Marina
Christopher Dewey, Union Gas Limited

Policy & Governance Committee - committee of Board

Kevin Deacon, Southwest Granite & Glass
Scott Praill, Dillon Consulting
Sheila Bateman, Comfort Inn
Tricia Xavier, The Purple Pansy
Rob Brown, Travelodge

Annual Chamber Golf Tournament

Kristi Willder, Realty Connects Inc.
Jolene VanDyk, Realty Connects Inc.
Crystal Robinson, Realty Connects Inc.
Heather Woodhouse, Apollo Property Management
Sheila Bateman, Comfort Inn
Mary Anne Udvari, Kent Federation of Agriculture
Brianna Delaey, Chatham-Kent Hospice
Maggie Clendenning - Chatham-Kent Hospice

Business Excellence Awards

Numerous judges
Respectfully, remain anonymous

Community Involvement

Year in Review - Events & Activities



Business After Hours

January - St. Clair College Health Plex
February - Mainstreet Credit Union
April - Kent & Essex Mutual Insurance
May - Bechard Insurance
June - Apollo Property Management
September - Bank of Montreal
October - The Dutch Market
November - C-K John D. Bradley Convention Centre
December - Sons of Kent Brewing Company

Feature Industry of the Month

February - LP Wood Ltd.
March - Roesch Meats & More
September - Hub Creative Group
October - Quality Custom Covers
December - MAHLE Filter Systems Canada

Feature Act

April - Sponsorship Agreement Holders
June - Salvation Army - Captain Stephanie Watkinson
November - Nasr Nasr and Tim Zavitz

Feature Entrepreneur

June - Gary Smith (Red Devil Scuba), Meg Lyttle (Nest Realty) & Alexandria Depuydt (Alexandria Dance Studio)
December - Shelley Bresett (Butterfly Bakery), Liz Collins, Fatima Taylor, Erin Handsor (Eight Count Cheer Academy) Rachel Laidler (Fuel For You)

Business Excellence Awards

Business Professional - Tricia Xavier
Industry of the Year - Enviroshake
Entrepreneur of the Year - Fred Naclerio
Citizen of the Year - Carolyn Powers
Youth Entrepreneur of the Year - Natalie Devolder

Rural Urban Dinner & Awards

Agriculturist of the Year - Mark Richards
4-H Member of the Year - Molly Sayers & Matthew Vermey
Friend of Agriculture - Dr. Peter Sikkema
Agriculture Innovator - Laurent Van Arkel



FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2017, with comparative figures for 2016

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 16,643	12,125
Short term investments at cost	43,802	32,308
Accounts receivables	1,331	7,216
Prepaid expenses	3,040	3,637
	64,816	55,286
Capital assets:	300,786	312,863
	\$ 365,602	368,149
Liabilities and Fund Balance		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 9,192	9,568
Government remittances payable	2,506	6,897
Deferred revenue and deposits	1,859	1,906
	13,557	18,371
Deferred Contributions:		
Deferred grants	43,255	45,773
	56,812	64,144
Fund balances:		
Net invested in capital assets	257,532	267,090
Internally restricted	50,557	43,477
Surplus	701	(6,562)
	308,790	304,005
	\$ 356,602	368,149

The financial information presented here was extracted from the audited financial statements of the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce. The firm Daniel E. Loney, CA Professional Corporation performed the audit and issued an auditors report on the financial statements