

Power Hour Breakfast



from the 65 attendees. The successful event was the first attempt to bring 3 levels of government into one room for an open dialogue. Tax changes and minimum wage legislation were the hot topics of the morning.



Chamber Members thoroughly enjoyed a unique experience on September 15th at the Power Hour Breakfast. Federal Cabinet Minister Jane Philpott, Provincial Cabinet Minister Helena Jaczek and Mayor Justin Altmann answered questions from the floor

Round Table Networking Event

On October 24, the Chamber has organized an exciting networking event for Members only. The exciting part of the event is the 5 simultaneous round table discussions that will be led by 5 qualified discussion leaders.



Discussion Topics

Speakers

Social Media Marketing

James Burgess

(Former Bank Executive, Author and Founder of Focus 31)

IT For Small Business

Matt Pisarek

(CTO Mackenzie Technology Solutions)

Increase Your Sales

Liz Scott

(North America's Business Growth Guru)

Cyber Risks

Dominik A. Kawnik

(President Websdepot Technology Partners)

Accounting For Small Business

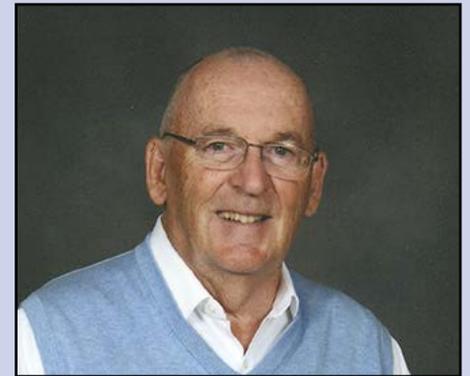
Frank Mezzaucella

(CPA, CGA)

Each Round Table will be presented twice giving all attendees a chance to participate in at least two topics. Each Discussion Leader will summarize the highlights from their session.

There will also be time for some powerful networking. Online registration is now open [Click Here!](#)

Thank you to all our Corporate Sponsors:



Business News

Needless to say the two biggest business news items for Chamber Members are the very negative reactions that the federal and provincial governments are receiving concerning proposed changes they have introduced recently. Please read the summaries in Advocacy on page 2 of this newsletter.

Nominations are now closed for our Business Recognition Awards. The judging is now underway by the independent panel of 5 graduate students at Seneca College who will determine the winners in 5 different categories from the Applications submitted by each nominee. Be sure to come to the 12th Annual Business Recognition event on November 24. Online registration is now open. Order your tickets Today! [Click Here](#)

Small Business Week is October 16-20. Be sure to support our local businesses and thank them for all they do in our community.

Harry Renaud- Executive Director
harry@stouffvillechamber.ca

Welcome New Members

- Gary A. McGowan Real Estate Team
- MVH Design



Federal Income Tax Proposed Changes

The Federal Government has introduced a proposal to change the tax rules particularly for Canadian Controlled Private Corporations (CCPC). The government is claiming to level the playing field in comparison to individual taxpayers who earn similar income.

Income sprinkling to family members via dividend will be stopped. In addition, savings of profits which are invested for the business will not be sheltered and business income conversion to capital gains will be discouraged. These provisions are most effective against the highest income earners.

Incorporation initially was to promote economic growth but the various tax amendments have turned legal business income tax planning into a tax avoidance scheme rather than an economic growth stimulant and incomes of the same magnitude being taxed at considerably different rates.

The federal government needs to be clearer on its amendment intentions and should slow down the imposition of the changes until more consultation is done.

"Networking Events Provide A Unique Opportunity To Meet Other Members In A Fun And Interactive Manner"

Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs ACT - Provincial Bill 148

The Provincial Government has introduced a proposal to change the Labour Standards Act effective January 2018 that will cause many small businesses to incur additional costs of at least 32 % in next 15 months.

The populist description of Bill 148 is "Minimum Wage increasing to 15.00". While that is true that is only part of the increased costs. The wage increase is staged to rise to \$11.60 per hour October 1, then \$14. Jan. 1, 2018 and \$15. Jan 1 2019. That is a 32% rate increase in 15 months. Now add that casual, part-time, temporary and seasonal employees must be paid same as full time for same job. Add the cost of penalty for possibility of misclassifying employees as independent contractors and that 3 weeks of paid vacations occur after 5 years of employment and that employees are entitled to 10 days Personal Emergency Leave a year of which two days are to be paid. There will most certainly be a domino effect when these provisions are passed in next few months.

What is disappointing, is not that minimum wages are being increased but that the impact of this proposed legislation has not been measured. The government does not know the effect such changes will bring to small businesses or the impact on the provincial economy. What is required is a plan to implement the changes over a longer period so that they can be absorbed and not contribute to immediate inflation.



2017 Business Recognition Awards

The Chamber will once again recognize Business Excellence at the 12th Annual Business Recognition Awards Ceremony on November 14th. (6:00 to 9:00 p.m.) at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall - 150 Mostar St. Stouffville.

The Five Categories Are:

- Best Large Business (10+ employees)
- Best Small Business (-10 employees)
- Best New Business
- Best Not-for-Profit
- Entrepreneur of the Year

The event will include a cocktail reception, with complimentary glass of wine, food stations offering free samples of delicious appetizers and the awards presentations. This is a highlight event for the Chamber and Members are encouraged to come out and support the winners while doing some great networking. Online registration is now open. Order your tickets TODAY! [Click Here](#)

***Good Luck to all
the Nominees!***



SMALL BUSINESS Week

Oct 16-20 is deemed to be a salute to Small Business Week. Small Business is recognized because of its powerful influence on the national and provincial economies. We might think of small business as the enterprise located on a street corner or the outfit who sponsors our daughter's soccer team or who organizes the community fund raiser when there is a problem. Undoubtedly, that is all true but Small Business represents 95% of employers in Ontario. Small Business is the engine that drives our industry across every community. It is no wonder we take just a week to pay homage to these wonderful enterprises that contribute so much to our lifestyle and success and congratulate them for their existence.

*Small Business Week Oct. 16-20
The Best Way To Celebrate
Is To Shop Local!*

Succession Planning

Currently, there are two seats vacant on the Board of Directors and two more will become vacant at the next AGM in April 2018. If you are interested to become a Director and sit on our Board, please contact Harry Renaud, Executive Director, who will be happy to explain what the requirements are and what your commitment would be. The Board normally meets six times a year and is focussed on policy direction for the Chamber.



Outdoor Message Centre

Do you know what is the most cost effective advertising opportunity available to you?

Our double-sided outdoor electronic message Centre! Conveniently located in the center of town on Main St. just outside the Go Train Station.

It supports full colour graphics/text, messaging runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is seen by literally thousands of people on a daily basis!

Pricing starts as low as \$50. for a 1 week rotation and is even less per week if you opt for a 2 or 4 week package.

Call Carol at: 905-642-4227 or email her at: carol@stouffvillechamber.ca She will send you the rate card and all of the details.

The Chamber offers free space for community events.



Follow Us On Facebook

Don't wait for the next e-newsletter to get the latest scoop!

Follow us on [Facebook](#) to stay on top of all the developments.



M2M Promotions & Discounts

Make sure you have reviewed the very popular M2M Promotions and Discounts to take advantage of some special deals from other Members.

The Member to Member promotions and discounts program is an excellent opportunity for you to reach out to other Members with a coupon offer. This is an electronic (pdf) listing which is distributed to all Members quarterly showing coupon offers to Members from fellow Members. The next listing will be published early December 2017. The deadline to participate is November 15th. Give the Chamber a call and arrange to be included in the next issue!

Member Only Benefits

Part of the Chamber's value proposition is the Benefits that are offered to Members. Too often these are overlooked and should be reviewed to see if they afford you some advantage. Each benefit is outlined on the Website and provides a summary of the offering and benefits to you, and your employees. [Click Here](#)



Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan®

**Group Dental & Health Insurance Enjoyed
by 25,000 Canadian Businesses**

Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan has been protecting Canadian firms for over 40 years. From Victoria to St. John's, over 25,000 small to medium-sized businesses use the Chambers Plan to protect their employees with comprehensive group benefits including dental and health insurance – making it **Canada's #1 employee benefits plan for small business.**

Thousands of small business owners join the Chambers Plan each year because it's the simple, stable, smart choice for their business:

combining accessibility, flexible options and pooled benefits that **add stability** to their employee benefits.

Firms stay with the Chambers Plan year after year because the Plan combines unsurpassed value with excellent customer service at the national and local levels.

Made For Small Business: Accessibility & Flexibility

Over 25,000 businesses purchase group benefits from the Chambers Plan. Comprehensive benefit packages apply to home-based businesses and small business firms – with no industry restrictions. For-profit businesses as small as one life are eligible for guaranteed coverage.

For more information visit their website at: <https://www.chamberplan.ca/>



FREE Business Seminars

There are a number of FREE seminars being put on this Fall by YSBEC that are designed to help you effectively start or run a business, build relationships (both through online and offline interaction) and drive sales. A list of FREE seminars are available on our website along with descriptions, dates, locations, times and registration links [Click Here!](#)



FREE Import/Export Seminars

The YSBEC has also developed a FREE Import/Export Seminar Series that will be running this fall. If you ever wanted to learn more about the import/export industry, there is no better time! A list of FREE seminars are available on our website along with descriptions, dates, locations, times and registration links [Click Here!](#)



Ultimate Networking Card

Being a Member of the Stouffville Chamber of Commerce includes a special, member-only privilege: the York Region Ultimate Networking Card. Holders of this card are entitled to attend any event scheduled by each of the nine different Chamber groups in York Region, at member pricing. Maximize your networking opportunities and see your business grow!

Did You Know...

The Town of Whitchurch Stouffville is on a course to grow the population of our Town from the current count of 46,000 to 54,500 in next 5 years and 64,500 by 2041.

The growth will occur despite the restrictions contained in the Provincial Places To Grow Act, which came into effect on July 1, 2017, and embraces the Moraine Act and the Green Belt. The population forecast is included in the York Region 2041 Population and Employment Forecast Report which is based on the York Region preferred growth scenario.

The same growth plan restrictions apply to the employment lands which have a direct impact on commercial and industrial development for our municipality

We are not masters of our own destiny but rather supplicants of the restrictions that senior governments hold over the municipality.

Events Calendar 2017

I am very excited to announce that the Events Committee has recommended an exciting calendar of events for 2017. We will host a significant event every month (excluding July and August) for Members to network and enjoy.

Round Tables

October 24th (3:00 to 6:00 p.m.)
Royal Canadian Legion
150 Mostar St. Stouffville
Register Online [Click Here](#)

12th Annual Business Recognition Awards

November 14th (6:00 to 9:00 p.m.)
Royal Canadian Legion
150 Mostar St. Stouffville
Register Online [Click Here](#)

Christmas Luncheon

December 8th. (11:00 to 2:00 p.m.)
Granite Golf Club
2699 Durham Regional Road #30
More Details to Follow
(Table Reservations Will Be Available)



To view a calendar and full list of events that are offered by all nine York Region Chamber [Click Here!](#)



How Would You Like to Go On Safari in 2018?

The Stouffville Chamber, along with Travepoint Travel Agency in Stouffville have made arrangements with Indus Travel to promote an exciting 11 day trip to South Africa, including a safari and an optional extension for a 3 day stay in Dubai. If South Africa is on your bucket list or you were wondering where to go on vacation next year... Here is your chance! Watch for the promotional advertising and information meeting this fall. This is truly going to be a travel opportunity of a lifetime!

**FREE Information Session will be held on October 10th (5:00 to 7:00 pm)
Royal Canadian Legion, 150 Mostar, Stouffville.
Come join us and learn all about this exciting adventure!**

The Stouffville Chamber Membership Update

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce has a goal to increase our membership roster by 10% before the end of 2017. Since January we have had 24 new Members join.

We are half way to achieving our goal so we are asking Members to help by spreading the word to other businesses that are not already Members that you feel could benefit from joining. Or if you prefer... simply forward the names and contact information to our office. We will contact them directly and invite them to join.

The more Members we have the stronger our voice and more influential we can be, not to mention the additional networking opportunities for all our Members

Our Strength Is In Our Numbers... Let's Grow The Chamber Together!

Here is a link to our promotional video <https://vimeo.com/user10144522/stouffville-chamber-of-commerce-membership-invitation> Feel free to distribute to anyone you think may benefit from joining the Chamber.

