

Working For You

Your Chamber staff and volunteers have been busy this last quarter. Our 2010 Directory is now in homes and businesses in Halton Hills and the fresh-looking Visitors Guide is now available. Planning is underway for our annual golf tournament, which is taking place on Sept 28th at Eagle Ridge Golf Course. A new sub-committee is busy planning our inaugural Food and Beverage Show to be held in January

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2011. There has been great excitement on this, and I'm sure I speak for all of us when I say we look forward to this. And work has begun already on the next Home and Leisure Show, which is being held on April 15-16, 2011 at the Acton Arena. It's not too early to think about booking your booth.

One of the issues we deal with at the Chamber of Commerce is lack of understanding of what we do and whom we serve. We are sometimes perceived as serving only small businesses or the service sector, but we are very involved with all industries in Halton Hills. Manufacturers may represent a small percentage of our membership base, but the Chamber of Commerce certainly works with them and for them on issues that impact their ability to do business both locally and globally. Here is a partial list of some of the things we

work on: We deal with issues that impact our local manufacturers at all levels of government. Just over the last four

weeks, some of these issues include the municipal noise bylaw, truck traffic through town, local and regional development charges, and the HST. We have Chamber representation on the Golden Horseshoe

Transportation Caucus and Metrolinx. As recently as last month, our Chamber was in Windsor to work on a long range transportation plan for Ontario, expansion of the 407 and strategic reinvestment in Ontario universities. These are all items our local manufacturers have identified as important and which must be addressed if they are going to remain profitable. We work regularly with local companies to ensure that their products are exported to China, Iran, Italy, Japan, USA, Spain, Vietnam, India and the United Arab

From the Boardroom
Helen MacCormack
 President



Emirates, to name a few. We work hard on your behalf, regardless of what your business does. We are here for you!

On May 25, the government introduced Bill C-28, the Fighting Internet and Wireless Spam Act (FISA), which replaced the Electronic Commerce Protection Act that died when Parliament was prorogued in December. Perrin Beatty, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, reports that the government has responded to their work on this bill to improve it and to fix technical issues that were in the previous bill. Quick passage of this bill will better protect individuals and businesses from harmful and annoying spam. The government also announced on May 25 the introduction of Bill C-29 that will amend the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).

If you have questions or comments, please let me know. I can be reached at 905 873-1877, or at helen@haltonhillschamber.on.ca.

P & H Milling - Dover Flour - Acton

By Tracey Wellon,
 TY Virtual Assistant

The P & H Milling plant in Acton was established in 1829. Dover Industries purchased Halton Flour Milling Inc in 2003 and in 2009 was itself purchased by the current owners, Parrish and Heimbecker Limited and it is now part of the P & H Milling Group. The last portion of the original building was replaced with a new structure in 1995. As luck would have it, having the same philosophies as Halton Flour, the company found it easier to make the transitions as they continued to grow and expand. They have grown from a small town company to a nationally recognized supplier of grain products. Ranked number two in Canada and number one in Ontario, the Acton plant continues to expand. In the last 12 years alone, their customer base has grown by 100% and their product line has grown over 90%. Having sales of approximately 30 Million dollars annually makes this small plant, a very successful operation.

When it was time to increase the capacity of the plant it was decided, with logical persuasion, to retrofit the current plant instead of moving to another location. With their new equipment and their automated systems, they can now

load a shipment in fifteen minutes, allowing them to deliver their products within 45 minutes to most of their customers.

When asked, Bruce MacIntyre, newly promoted Vice President of the Ontario Region, said that they believe their high quality and efficiency is what their clients have come to expect.

It is hard to believe, but this facility houses 31 employees, their quality labs as well as providing the opportunity to custom blend orders.

The Acton plant is an integral part of their community and to see them coexist with their residential neighbours is proof of their dedication to their jobs and desire to continue to be an asset. They no longer have their store on site for smaller purchases, but their products can still be bought at the Flour Barrel Bulk Food store in Guelph.

High customer and employee retention rates, Gold Standards, and quality products. These are just a few of the things that make this plant equal to none when they go that extra mile.



P & H Milling - Dover Flour - 45 Church Street West, Acton, Ontario L7J 1K1