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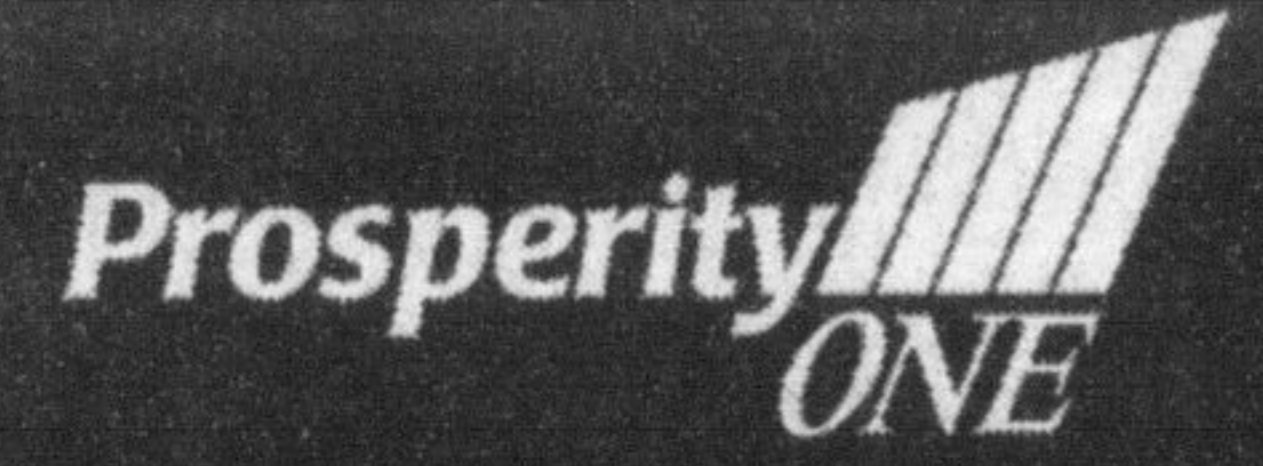
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MILTON CHAMBER of COMMERCE



President's Message Melissa De Brouwer

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce 74th Annual General Meeting was held in Quebec City, Quebec, on September 14, 15, and 16th. Sandy Martin and I attended on behalf of our Milton membership. The conference was well attended with about 400 representatives from all ten provinces and 3 territories. The conference provided insight into the many different issues facing business owners in different industries from all areas of the country.

This year, in addition to key note speeches from the Honourable Anne McLellan, Minister of Health, Prime Minister Jean Chretien, and others specializing in economic forecasts and market research, there were more than 60 policies that were debated and voted on. There was everything from the large "omnibus" resolutions encompassing many areas of taxation and transportation, to the specialized resolutions surrounding the Wheat Marketing Board, SARS, BSE, and even some spirited debate over whether the ferry service to Newfoundland is an "essential service" or not. (The majority of delegates decided it is.) The Canadian Chamber now has the basis for its mandate for 2004 and will proceed to lobby the Federal government on behalf of its members across Canada.

As one would expect with a business organization, the focus will be on taxation, transportation and border issues, and infrastructure. You can access the actual policy resolutions and a host of other information on the website: www.chamber.ca.

MINDING YOUR BUSINESS!

There has never been a better time to be a member of a Chamber of Commerce. The war, SARS and Mad Cow have all reinforced what thousands of businesses in Ontario already know - that being a member of a Chamber of Commerce is an important part of operating a successful business in today's challenging business environment.


Your business needs the support of a Chamber to be your voice at the various levels of government, to be able to work on issues pertinent to your business and to maximize business opportunities through networking. Chambers of Commerce specialize in providing businesses of all sizes this type of service and support. Take for example the immediate mobilization of the Chambers to lobby for support of the tourism industry in the wake of SARS. The effective, powerful response of the Chambers kept the need for support of the industry in the forefront.

12 Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce from Mississauga, Toronto, Richmond Hill, Brampton, Caledon, Milton, Guelph, Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls are working together on a joint membership drive to increase the public knowledge and advantages of becoming a member. The membership drive was organized through the Golden Horseshoe Caucus of Chambers and Boards of Trade. Visit www.joinyourchamber.com for a complete list of reasons why membership is an excellent investment in your business success.

Call the Milton Chamber of Commerce, speak to Membership Coordinator Andrea Boyle, and learn more about the Chamber - it may be the most important call you make today!

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

The September Business After Hours was held at Prosperity ONE - Community Banking & Financial Services and Prosperity ONE Financial Services and was co-hosted by DSA Furnishings - A Division of the Don Smith Agency Inc. The October Business After Hours will be held on Tuesday, October 28th at the new Martindale Gardens, located at 45 Martin Street from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

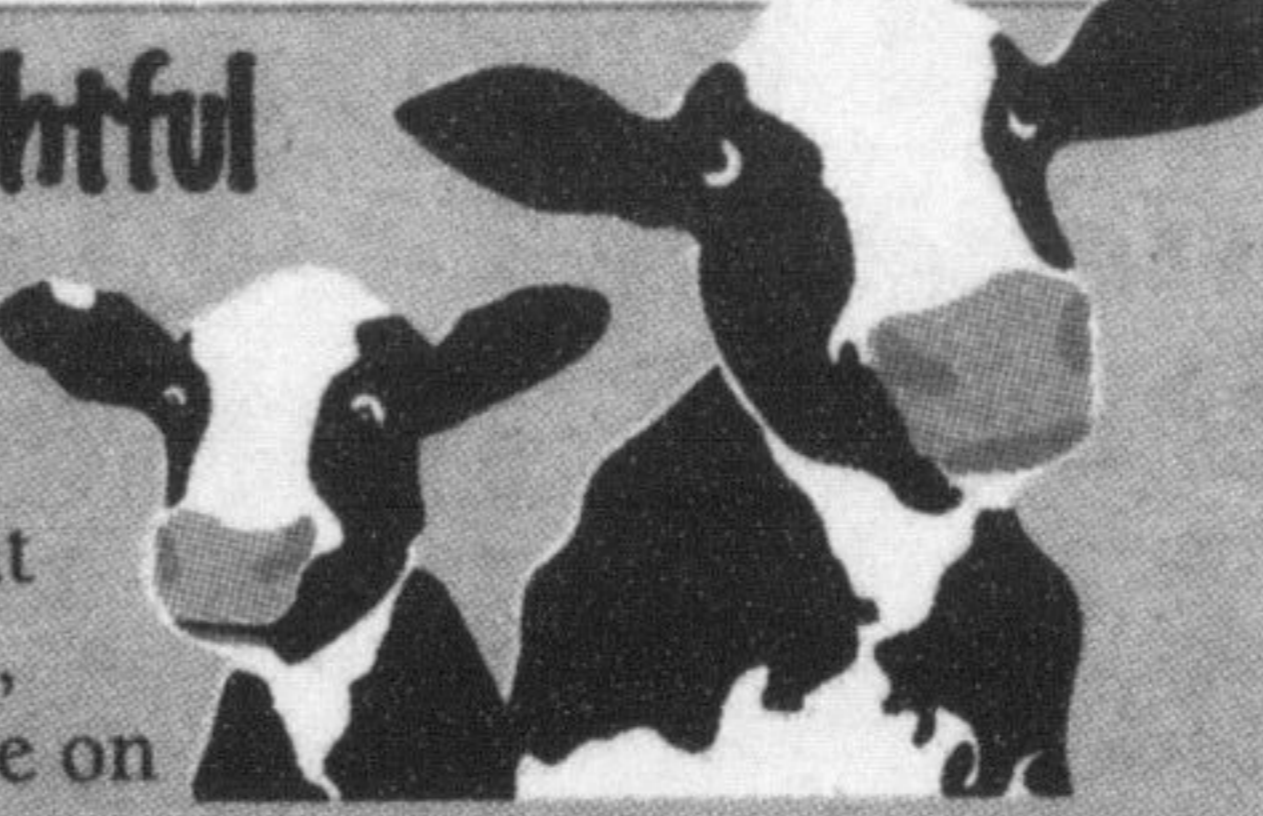


Earl Dolmage,
 Business Development Manager at Prosperity ONE

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Another Udderly Delightful Cow'ntest!



Peaches and Cream, those silly little cows, have been playing at the Farmers' Market since May, but it is time for them to moove on home!

Many of you have seen our flyers in your mailbox over the summer, with slogans such as: "Have you Herd?", "Get a Mooove on!" and "Udderly fresh... udderly fun!" As the Farmers' Market draws to a close, we need a final slogan to promote the last market of the year: October 25th. If you think you have a slogan that is simply bovine, fax or email it to Peaches and Cream at 905 878 4972 or to jenn@chamber.milton.on.ca by Friday, October 17th. You could win a deluxe ice cream maker sponsored by Chris Newell of Coldwell Banker Home & Family. A dairy tale come true!

Last day is Saturday, October 25th!

FOUR Saturdays left at the Milton Farmers' Market!



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