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## The Milton Chamber of Commerce SMALL BU

### Milton Chamber of Commerce hosts "Small Business Week" Breakfast with keynote speaker Mr. Rick Knudson of Sleeman Breweries Ltd.



2004 marks the 25th anniversary of Small Business Week. The dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of small business owners are vital to Milton's economic growth and prosperity. All across Canada, Chambers of Commerce are celebrating Small Business Week to applaud the efforts of Canada's small business men and women in our communities.

Small Business Week, which will be held from October 17 to 23, 2004, will be celebrated with the theme "YOU'RE THE POWER behind the Canadian economy, let's share the energy!" In keeping with this theme, the Milton Chamber of Commerce is hosting a

"Celebrate Small Business Week" Breakfast with keynote speaker Mr. Rick Knudson, President and Chief Operating Officer of Sleeman Breweries Ltd. Sleeman Breweries Ltd. is the leading brewer and distributor of premium beer in Canada and the third largest brewing company nation-wide. The "Sleeman Story" is an interesting one and began in 1834 when John H. Sleeman, an ambitious young brewer from Cornwall, England arrived in Ontario and began brewing small, 100 barrel batches using local well water prized for its purity and "hardness." **This exciting event will be held on Wednesday, October 20th, 2004 at the Glencairn Golf Club, 9807 Regional Road #25. Tickets are \$22(g.s.t.) included for members and \$25 for potential Chamber members.**

For over 115 years, the Milton Chamber of Commerce has focused on providing leadership in promoting the well-being of the business community in Milton. With membership approaching 650 businesses, our primary role is advocacy, fostering a business-friendly environment and allowing the free enterprise system to flourish.

### "The Chamber does the things most people think just happen...."

#### The power of partnership

Since 1888, the business community of Milton has been working together promoting the well-being of our community. Milton has been designated by the Ontario government as a "priority and emerging urban centre" and as we have now surpassed the 50,000 population mark, it becomes increasingly important to stand together and develop a strategic vision for our growing business community. A Chamber's strength lies in the number and diversity of its membership. Both large and small businesses from all sectors are represented and influence the Chamber's programs. Please support our 650 members as through their membership, they are keeping Milton a great place where business can prosper and families can live, work, play and shop!

#### The Voice of Business

The Milton Chamber of Commerce is an association of business people devoted to specific collective goals, which serve the best and key interests of the community in which we live. Together, we have a unified voice to effect change in the areas of economic development, policy, taxation and tourism. The Chamber is the "voice of business" and we ensure that we regularly communicate the Milton business viewpoint to our members, the public, and to all levels of the government. The Milton Chamber is a member of both the Ontario and the Canadian Chambers of Commerce, assuring a strong presence in both Toronto and Ottawa for our members. The Canadian Chamber is the only grassroots business organization in the country with independent local chambers, as well as being the largest business lobby group in Canada. Our

Government Relations Committee invested a great deal of time and effort in addressing the major concerns of our businesses regarding hydro security deposits and development charges. Our voices were heard and many changes were made at various levels of government resulting in a fair and just resolution for our community.

#### Member-driven

Volunteers are the driving force of our Chamber. Over 50 local business people gather together in various committees and project teams to develop programs...Our committees include Government Relations, Meetings & Seminars, Escarpment Country™ Tourism, Scholarship, Sponsorship, and Business After Hours. Along with these groups come the individuals who dedicate themselves to developing and leading the special events the Chamber hosts each year: Showcase Milton, Annual Golf Tournament, Sports Celebrity Dinner & Auction, Farmers' Market, and our Community Awards Gala. These events are sponsored by local businesses who see value in contributing to a community event.

#### Membership has its privileges

What are the main reasons why our members join? Our members enjoy many privileges including reduced Group Health/Life, Home/Auto Insurance, reduced advertising rates in our many Chamber publications, Visa/Mastercard merchant discount rates and incredible networking opportunities just to name a few. For those of you who haven't joined us, I would welcome you to attend one of our Business After Hours events. Be our guest!

**Invest in your business by joining the Milton Chamber of Commerce – it's an investment in your future success!**

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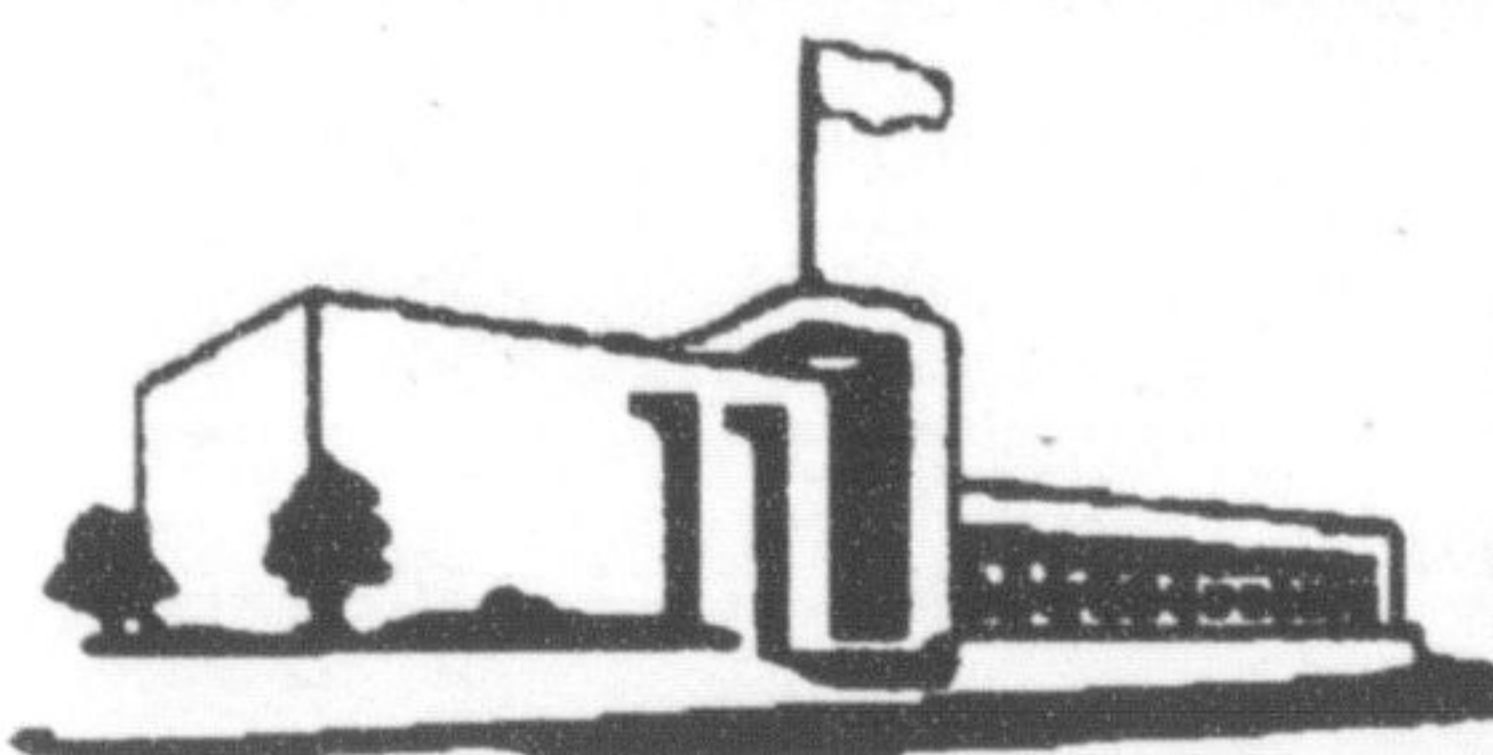
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