

# Business Achievement Awards

Volume 5 Issue 6

September 2012

## 2012 Chamber Business Achievement Awards

The Pontiac Chamber of Commerce recognizes the importance of highlighting the outstanding achievements in our business community. In effort to publicly acknowledge the superior efforts of these businesses and individuals, the Chamber of Commerce, with financial support from the CLD, the SADC, and Emploi Quebec, has created an annual Awards Gala Ceremony. This semi-formal event will take place during "Entrepreneurship Week" on October 19th.

We are requesting that the public nominate a business or businesses to receive an award. Nominations will be accepted until September 28th, for the following 9 categories:

- Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- Self-Employed Business Person
- Small Business
- Medium Business
- Large Business
- New Business of the Year
- Farm Enterprise of the Year
- 2012 Feature Award – Skilled Trades Employer of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award

For information and forms please see the Chamber web site ([www.pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca](http://www.pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca)).

**Deadline extended to October 5th.**

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(fax) 819-648-5761  
(phone) 819-647-2312



[www.pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca](http://www.pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca)  
[info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca](mailto:info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca)  
[bizdev@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca](mailto:bizdev@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca)  
819-647-2312 or 1-866-861-0509

## Chamber Events

### Entrepreneurship Week Business Breakfast

**October 15**

7 h 30

Bateau Royal – Portage-du-Fort



### 2012 Chamber Business Achievement Awards Gala

**Friday, October 19**

Norway Bay Golf Club

Awards in nine categories – see web site for criteria and forms. Deadline for nominations is October 5th.

Tickets are available – see page 2 for more details.



### Christmas Shopping in the Pontiac

Saturday, November 10

We are holding an "Open-Door" on Saturday, November 10th. Local businesses in the Pontiac will offer special discounts on that day.

See page 2 for more details.



### 2012 Chamber Holiday Party

**Saturday, November 17**

Watch for further details.

## Business Events

### Monthly SADC Business Breakfast

**First Wednesday of the month**

7:30 am

SADC Office – Campbell's Bay

If you have a business or Pontiac event you would like advertised, please contact the chamber.

## Useful Links of Interest to Business Owners

Canada Export Development offers free web seminars on market diversification.

<http://www.edc.ca/events/EN/Pages/upcoming-events.aspx>

## 2012 Chamber Business Achievement Awards Gala

You are invited to attend the Chamber's first annual **Business Achievement Awards Gala** – to come and celebrate the nominees in the 9 categories. This semi-formal event will be held on Friday, October 19th at the Norway Bay Golf Club.

Doors open at 6 pm for cocktails giving you time to network with other business people. There will be a cash bar throughout the evening.

Dinner will be served at 7 pm – the menu for the evening is:

- Garden Tossed Salad with choice of dressing
- Roast Beef au jus or Chicken Parmesan
- Homemade Carrot Cake

**You will need to decide on your main course selection when ordering tickets.**

Following the dinner we will have an intuitive and inspired speaker, Ken Godmere, a renowned human communication specialist.

The evening will end with the presentation of the Business Achievement Awards.

Tickets for the event are available for \$30 per person. There are only 120 tickets available, so order yours early. **This is an event not to be missed!**

For tickets or additional information, please contact Ginger à 819-647-2312 ou bizdev@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

## Christmas Shopping in the Pontiac

One mission of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce is to promote and increase Buy Local.

A new initiative is **Christmas Shopping in the Pontiac** where we are holding an "Open-Door" on Saturday, November 10th. Local businesses in the Pontiac will offer special discounts on that day.

An ad will be placed in both local newspapers displaying which businesses are taking part in the promotion and what discount they are offering. Posters will also be put up around the Pontiac to advertise the day, listing the businesses and their discounts. Posters will also be given to the businesses involved so they can advertise that they are participating.

We hope the public will take advantage of these savings and do some of their Christmas shopping locally. The advertisements will also serve as



a reminder of what consumers can buy locally in the Pontiac!

The cost to be included in the promotional advertising would be \$20. It includes your business name and discount listed on the ad in the local papers and on the posters to be distributed throughout the Pontiac.

The wording for your discount needs to be kept to under 15 words. Payment is required in advance of production of the advertising.

If your business would like to take part in this promotion, please contact us as soon as possible.

## Pontiac Events

### Pontiac School of the Arts

Fall and winter courses

Fall/winter co-ordinator:

Kate Aley: aleykate@bellnet.ca  
819 455 2601

Courses take place at the Stone School in Portage-du-Fort

For the full 2012 Fall and Winter schedule and to register visit the web site at [www.artpontiac.com](http://www.artpontiac.com)

ALL courses are \$60/day, plus any fees for materials

### Workshop – Seasonal Flower Arranging for Thanksgiving Saturday, October 6, 2012

9:30-10:30 a.m.

Cafe 349, Shawville

Claudia Eggemann-Fleming – certified floral designer

Workshop is \$35 including all materials/instruction/tax and finished take-home arrangement.

To register or for information, please use the contact form at <http://flowers4events.weebly.com>, send a facebook message to /claudiaflemingfloraldesign or call Claudia at 819.682.6892.

Registration is mandatory. Space limited.



**The deadline for advertising in advance is November 1st.**

Contact Ginger Finan, Business Coordinator à bizdev@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca ou 819-647-2312

**SMALL BUSINESSES MAKE  
SMALL TOWNS WORK!**

## Pontiac Mentoring Cell

The Chamber is presently implementing a mentoring cell in the Pontiac.

### What is Mentoring?

Mentoring is pairing an experienced entrepreneur, with a minimum of 8 years of experience, with an entrepreneur who is either just starting out, or who may need “support” for one reason or another.

The Pontiac Chamber is working on becoming accredited with “Réseau M”, which has a protocol for the mentoring experience. They describe their approach as:

“The type of mentoring that we practice is defined by the FDE program and by the NC. It differs from other mentoring practices in many ways—it is aimed at mentoring entrepreneurs, not businesses; it focuses on sharing experience, not expertise; and finally, our practice chooses to accompany entrepreneurs, not direct them.”

Through years of statistics, it has been found that 68% of businesses have “closed their doors” within the first 5 years of opening. That

number of failed businesses can be reduced to 28% by supporting the entrepreneur with a mentor.

Typically, we do not tend to pair entrepreneurs in the same domain/industry as the type of business doesn’t matter, since it is about the individual as a person, not what business they are in. We also match from different domains to avoid conflict of interest.

Presently, the Chamber has 8 active pairs and will be adding 2 more pairings shortly. Two of the current mentorees are under the age of 35 as are some of the next few mentorees, although, this program is open to all ages and disciplines.

Why would a successful business person volunteer to become a mentor? Most want to give back to the community that helped in their own success.

If you would like to be involved in this program as either a mentor or a mentoree, or require more information, please contact Ginger at 819-647-2312 or bizdev@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

## Welcome to the Chamber!

Businesses who have joined the chamber since the last newsletter.

Oktoberfest Ladysmith  
Dépanneur Ben  
Benson Auto Parts

*Check the chamber web site for links to these businesses.*

### Support your local businesses!

*News, article suggestions and letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. Content will be edited to fit the space available. We welcome press releases and news from our local business community.*

## Chamber Benefits

Being a member of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce means that you are also affiliated with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce (CCC) — www.chamber.ca and the Quebec Chamber of Commerce (FCCQ) — www.fccq.ca. You and your business can take advantage of benefits listed on their web sites.



## Group Insurance Benefits

Visit the new web site / view the video!  
<http://www.chambers.ca>

## Would Like to Join the Chamber?

Membership fee of \$100 entitles you to all chamber benefits. Membership valid from April 1st to March 31st.

Contact info:

Pontiac Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 119  
Campbell’s Bay, Quebec, J0X 1K0  
1-866-861-0509 or 819-647-2312  
www.pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca  
info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

*If you received this newsletter via regular mail and would like to receive it via email, please let us know a valid email address. We do not share our lists.*

## Member Business Profiles on the Chamber Web Site

The Chamber would like to spotlight your business on the web site. If you would like to have the ‘spotlight’ on your business, please send a write-up of 250 to 500 words with a photo of you and/or your business. You can submit it in either English or French, we will

provide the translation required. The chamber would like to have a different member business profiled each month. **We need your assistance to complete this goal.**

Send your profile to info@pontiacchamberofcommerce.ca

**Think Global ... Buy Local**  
**Support Those Who Support You**  
**Small Businesses Make Small Towns Work!**  
Consider this when you’re buying ...  
**As business operators, our actions shape our communities.**