

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL
Chamber of Commerce



The Voice of Business in Windsor-Essex

ANNUAL REPORT
2009-2010

**WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LEADERS' MESSAGE**

Thank you for being a member of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce. Your ongoing support is something we never take for granted.

Your membership contribution is the working capital that keeps us going. It expresses your confidence in the value we provide to all of our members, large and small.

We are working hard, and are committed to continually improving the quality of our services to exceed your expectations. As well, we continue to make unique and significant contributions in shaping our regional economy and improving the quality of life in Windsor and Essex County.

The 2009-2010 year was one of significant accomplishments for our Chamber. We are proud of the attention our advocacy efforts had this past year and the positive impact we have made in influencing decisions that help your business.

Our affinity rewards programs continue to offer a compelling value proposition whereby the benefits of your Chamber membership often exceed fees.

We continued to serve and speak on your behalf. As we look forward, we will continue to find more ways to ensure Windsor-Essex continues to be all it can be. Please continue to help us communicate your ideals and thank you for your support.

Linda Smith
President

Jim Drummond
Past Chair

Jennifer Jones
Chair 2010-2011

**WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010**

Our Board of Directors and Executive Committee are charged with overall responsibility for the Chamber's strategic direction and policy.

Mr. Jim Drummond
Chair of the Board

Mr. Lindsay Boyd
Past Chair

Ms. Jennifer Jones
Chair Elect

Mr. Ed Miles
Treasurer

Ms. Carolyn Brown
Director

Mr. Dean Clevett
Vice Chair

Mr. Paolo Collavino
Director

Mr. Leo Deluca
Director

Dr. Janice Forsyth
Director

Mr. Gary Hillier
Vice Chair

Mr. Stephen Mattis
Director

Mr. Jeff MacKinnon
Director

Mr. Gordon Moore
Director

Mr. Dan Orman
Director

Ms. Linda E. Smith
President (Ex-officio)

Mr. Adam Davis
Director
Chair, Business
Excellence Awards
Committee

Mr. Paul LeFave
Director
Chair, Transportation
Policy Committee

Mr. Dave McGregor
Director
Chair, Environment &
Energy Committee

Mr. Robert Rea
Director
Chair, Finance &
Taxation Committee

Mr. Terence Toohey
Director
Chair, Membership
Services Committee

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE POLICY COMMITTEE YEARLY REPORTS 2009-2010

Environment and Energy Committee

- The Chamber sent a letter to John Gerretsen, Ontario Minister of the Environment to address the issue of proposed new wind turbine regulations.
- Chamber approved the Alternative Energy Policy developed by the Chamber's Environment and Energy Committee. The policy addressed the concerns about the growing cost of energy in the Province. The policy would serve as a guidepost in subsequent advocacy on energy issues.
- The Chamber's Environment and Energy Committee provided the Chamber's input into the City of Windsor's Brownfield Redevelopment Plan. The advocacy on the issue led to the City's first Brownfield Redevelopment Strategy and Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP would provide financial incentives to businesses developing identified brownfield sites throughout the City of Windsor.
- The Environment & Energy Committee helped promote environmental and energy initiatives and events taking place in the region, including the region's Enviro-Expo 2010.

Finance and Taxation Committee

- The Finance & Taxation Committee led the Chamber through the 2010 Municipal Budget process, providing submissions and opinion to the City's Budget Committee and 2010 City of Windsor Budget Submission.
- The Finance & Taxation Committee addressed both the Provincial and the Federal budget process, providing the Windsor-Essex voice of business to the budget deliberations as well as comments on budget day.
- The Chamber provided information to its members and commented on the 2009 Ontario Fall Economic Statement.
- The Chamber conducted an online opinion poll on the municipal budget as part of its 2010 Municipal Budget strategy.
- Under the leadership of the Finance & Taxation Committee the Chamber organized a number of HST related seminars and workshops. The HST was a topic of numerous Chamber communication articles and information sessions throughout the year.
- The Chamber developed its 2010 Economic Outlook in January 2010.

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE POLICY COMMITTEE YEARLY REPORTS 2009-2010

Government Relations Committee

- The Chamber provided the voice of business in City of Windsor deliberations on the new Five-Year Official Plan.
- The Chamber helped its members prepare for changes resulting from new Provincial legislation on accessibility and new customer service standards.

Transportation Committee

- On September 24, 2010, the Chamber hosted a Transportation Committee Breakfast event featuring the CEO and President of the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce. The topic: Leveraging our bi-national resources for economic development in Detroit and Windsor.
- The Transportation Committee led the Chamber efforts to advocate for the completion of the DRIC process. This past year the Chamber was pleased with the developments and the pace of progress by the Local, Provincial and Federal government on the new Border related infrastructure.

Membership Services & Development Committee

- **Network Navigators** The Navigators seek out new members at After Business events to provide membership and networking insight from a member perspective. This program continues to provide a personal touch to new members by providing an ongoing relationship benefit. Network
- **Committee Volunteers** The Membership Committee was reduced to 5 members with 2 members taking leave for personal reasons. A campaign to recruit new volunteers was begun in the Business Briefs and E-Update

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS SUMMARY 2009-2010

JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS – July 30, 2009

Hosted and sponsored by The Home Gallery



JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS – September 10, 2009

Hosted and sponsored by Windsor Yacht Club



TRASPORATION COMMITTEE BREAKFAST EVENT– September 24, 2009

TranslinkeD featuring guest speaker Richard E. Blouse Jr. at the Essex Golf and Country Club. Sponsored by GPSNet Technologies Inc. and University of Windsor.



JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS – October 07, 2009

Hosted and Sponsored by Caesars Windsor.



BAGELS 'n BANTER – October 16, 2009

The Honourable Sandra Pupatello, MPP Windsor West and Minister of Economic Development and Trade hosted this special luncheon with keynote speaker Tom Jenkins. Sponsored PCR Contractors.



10th ANNUAL ATHENA LUNCHEON – November October 30, 2009

Featuring guest speaker Dr. Anne Snowdon at St. Clair Centre for the Arts.

133rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & LUNCHEON – November 27, 2009

Held at Caboto Club featuring guest speaker the Honourable Dwight Duncan.



WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS SUMMARY 2009-2010

MULTIPLE BUSINESS HOLIDAY PARTY – December 4, 2009

Beach Grove Golf Club. Nearly 200 guests from 20 different companies had the chance to network with each other and enjoy a delicious meal as well as dancing. Guest emcees were Mitch & Mel from Windsor's 95.9 FM.



JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS – December 10, 2009

Hosted and Sponsored by Hiram Walker & Sons Ltd.



3rd ANNUAL WARDEN'S LUNCHEON – January 15, 2010

Held at Camoes Portuguese Club of Harrow, Warden Nelson Santos gave his third annual state of the County address. Sponsored by United Communities Credit Union.



BEA NEWS CONFERENCE – January 27, 2010

Hiram Walker & Sons was the location for the announcement of the 2010 Business Excellence Awards Finalists. Sponsored by Media Street Productions



JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS & VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION – February 4, 2010

Hosted & Sponsored by The Pour House. Committee volunteers were acknowledged and welcomed as guests of the After Business event held in the same location.



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK LUNCHEON– February 10, 2010

Peter Lawler, Senior Vice President Operation of Business Development Bank of Canada was the guest speaker of this luncheon that was held at the Caboto Club. Sponsored by Business Development Bank of Canada.



BAGELS 'n BANTER – March 05, 2010

The Honorable Sandra Pupatello, MPP Windsor West and Minister of Economic Development and Trade hosted this special luncheon with keynote speaker the Honorable John Wilkinson, Ontario's Minister of Revenue.

WINDSOR-ESSEX REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS SUMMARY 2009-2010

MINISTER OF FINANCE LUNCHEON – April 09, 2010

This event was held at the Caboto Club. A successful event with great turnout with the guest speaker, The Honourable Dwight Duncan.

20th ANNUAL BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS – April 14, 2010

Sponsored by The Windsor Star. Held at the Chrysler Building, the theme for this year was Windsor Essex Solutions for our Future. The Chamber's signature event presented 11 awards and the evening's speaker was Richard Peddie, President and CEO, Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER LUNCHEON – April 29, 2010

This event was sponsored by TD Bank Financial Group and held at the Caboto Club of Windsor. A successful event with great turnout with the speaker General Rick Hillier. Sponsored by TD Bank Financial Group.

JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS – May 6, 2010

Hosted & Sponsored by Beach Grove Golf & Country Club

15TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S LUNCHEON – May 14, 2010

Sponsored by Bell and OLG at Caboto Club featuring Mayor Eddie Francis annual state of the city address to our members. Sponsored by OLG & Bell.

JOHNSON INSURANCE AFTER BUSINESS – June 03, 2010

Hosted & Sponsored by Xanadu Health Club

74th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT – June 17, 2010

Beach Grove Gold and Country Club was the location for the 74th Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by Detroit Windsor Tunnel LLC, RBC Royal Bank, Johnson Inc. Insurance and more.

