

## Port Sydney/Utterson & Area Chamber of Commerce

### PRESS RELEASE

At the Chamber AGM on September 22, 2009 a new Executive and Board of Directors was formed.

**Gord Haig, President:** Gord, of RE/MAX New Lifestyles Inc., Port Sydney is the returning President of the Chamber. Gord has been actively involved with the Chamber for three years as a Director and is looking forward to continuing in his role as President. The first Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 and at that time the future direction of the Board will be set. As always, this Board will continue to promote businesses in the area and will actively seek new business members. Gord says he is looking forward to working with a great group of people who are committed to this Chamber and work extremely hard for the community.

**Wendy Patriquin, Acting Vice-President:** Wendy, of Patriquin Virtual Office (est. 1996), moved to Port Sydney from St Catharines, Niagara, five years ago with her husband of eighteen years and their two children Zachary and Allura. In addition to operating Patriquin Virtual Office, while in St. Catharines Wendy spent 9 years as a City Councillor and 15 years as a volunteer driver with Family & Children's Services Niagara. Wendy and her family also opened their home to children in need and spent 8 years as foster parents for FACS. Continuing her commitment to helping others in her community, in addition to her involvement with our Chamber, Wendy is presently a volunteer driver for Family Youth & Child Services Muskoka and also for The District of Muskoka Community Services. We are pleased to welcome Wendy to the Board again this year.

**Karen MacInnes, Secretary:** Karen is a local resident of Port Sydney and is returning to the position of Secretary of the Chamber. Karen joined the Chamber three years ago as a volunteer to help out in the office. Karen very quickly became an important member of the Board and brought with her the knowledge of the area and the local community. Nothing is too much trouble for Karen and she picks up the slack in so many areas – helping in the office, shopping and more shopping! We are fortunate that she has agreed to be Secretary of the Board and look forward to a continued relationship.

**Karen Prince, Treasurer:** Karen is also a local resident of Port Sydney and is returning to the position of Treasurer for the Chamber. Karen is extremely committed to the Port Sydney and Utterson community and works hard to promote the members of the Chamber at all the Chamber events. Karen was instrumental in organizing a great Silent Auction event at the winter carnival last year. We welcome Karen back to the position and look forward to another successful year.

**Bill Chantler, Returning Director:** Bill, of Muskoka Window & Door, became a director of the Chamber two years ago and we are pleased he will be staying on. Bill has

a Chamber background from Cobourg, Ontario and we welcome his experience and expertise. Bill and his wife, Diane, volunteer many hours of their time at Chamber events and are also very active in the Rotary Club, Bracebridge.

**David Furlonger, Returning Director:** David became a director of the Chamber last year and has been extremely involved in Chamber events. He is an active member of the Port Sydney and Utterson community and also spends many hours working with the Stephenson District Lion's Club. David has been busy at Chamber events and we depend on his BBQ expertise to feed the hundreds who turn out for events. We also depend on him (and his truck) for all the event shopping needs!

**Tom Nichols, Returning Director:** Tom, of Moore Propane, also became a director of the Chamber last year and has been a welcome addition to the team. Tom has been the one to organize getting a BBQ for the beach area at both the winter carnival and the Canada Day event. He not only gets it donated for us but he delivers, sets up and returns it as well! Tom enjoys working with the Chamber team to promote the Port Sydney and Utterson area.

#### **NEW DIRECTORS**

**Chris Clelland, new Director:** It is our pleasure to welcome new director Chris Clelland of Christian Clelland Photography. Chris has lived in the Port Sydney area for 14 years. Her business includes weddings, family portraits etc. She is looking forward to working with the Board and getting involved in the community. We know she has some great ideas to promote the members of the Chamber. Welcome to the Board Chris.

**Brad Gondos, new Director:** It is also our pleasure to welcome Brad Gondos of Trio Village Grill. Brad and his partner, Meghan, are the new owners of Trio Village Grill in the heart of downtown Port Sydney. Brad is really excited to be joining the Board of Directors and has a great interest in the Port Sydney community. He is really enthusiastic about the area and has some great ideas for the community. Welcome to the Board Brad.