



## Winter 2012

Dear Chamber Partner:

As the old adage says, "There is strength in numbers". That's why we invite you to renew your membership in the Westport Rideau Lakes Chamber of Commerce.

Our organization has a proud history of marketing and promoting Westport and the Rideau Lakes district. And from all reports, it seems to be paying off. We are slowly recovering from a severe recession and businesses in our region continue to be optimistic and are performing well.

Noteworthy to our region's success is our commitment to sustaining the Visitor Welcome Centre in Westport. Constructed in 1994, the building stands as a testament to our mandate to provide high quality visitor services.

In fact, for the last three years we have been able to keep the Welcome Centre open for a full 5 months of service. Nearly 7,000 visitors were served this year, and your membership dues helped achieve that milestone. The Chamber office is open year-round due to the magic of the internet, e-mails are answered regularly throughout the year.

We have applied for and were successful in receiving a grant from Valley Heartland to hire a Tourism/Marketing Coordinator as an intern. She has been working on your behalf to market the region through new promotional material and has organized the first ever Let's Talk Tourism session. We hope that the outcome of the discussions at this session will lead to clear future directions which we can move forward with for tourism in our region.

We continue to market and promote our region to travel and tour bus operators and have assertively positioned Westport and Rideau Lakes to media organizations all over Canada.

Chamber membership fees help us to create and sustain advertising and promotional programs such as the Vacation Guide and the popular web site [www.TheRideauCalls.com](http://www.TheRideauCalls.com).



We know our work advancing business and tourism is important to our community success; we also know your continued commitment to the chamber is a vote of confidence as we prepare for 2011 and beyond.

**To recap: as a member of the Westport Rideau Lakes Chamber of Commerce your business receives the benefits listed below.**

- The Welcome Centre in Westport is professionally staffed and provides valuable shelf space to display your promotional material. Hot showers, free Wi-Fi, clean washrooms and information on attractions, accommodations and services make our region a welcoming place.
- A listing in the annual vacation guide with a distribution of **20,000**
- A listing and link on the chamber website ([www.TheRideauCalls.com](http://www.TheRideauCalls.com))
- Access to Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Program for Life, Health, Disability and Travel Insurance; also available to businesses with less than 3 employees
- Visa or MasterCard merchant discount rates through the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. [www.occ.on.ca](http://www.occ.on.ca)
- As a member of the local Chamber, your voice is heard through the Ontario Chamber of Commerce who presents business concerns to all levels of Government

We enthusiastically invite you to renew your membership for 2012. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at [wrlcc@rideau.net](mailto:wrlcc@rideau.net).

Best Regards,

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Westport Rideau Lakes Chamber of Commerce



## 2012 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION FORM

Complete this business information form and return it with your payment to the Chamber address above. Please fill out the information in full even if you have given the Chamber all this information before. Please print neatly.

Please indicate which membership package you are purchasing:

Basic **\$125.00 + HST = \$141.25** or  Deluxe **\$175.00 + HST = \$197.75**  
(includes a customized webpage on Chamber website)

**Check off the membership package you are purchasing and enclose payment with this form.**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Toll-Free Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(This is important as we communicate primarily through e-mail to members)

Website URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Languages Spoken at Business Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours of Operation (Summer/Winter): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form with payment by January 15, 2012. For more information call the Westport Rideau Lakes Chamber of Commerce at 613-273-2929; email [wrlcc@rideau.net](mailto:wrlcc@rideau.net)**