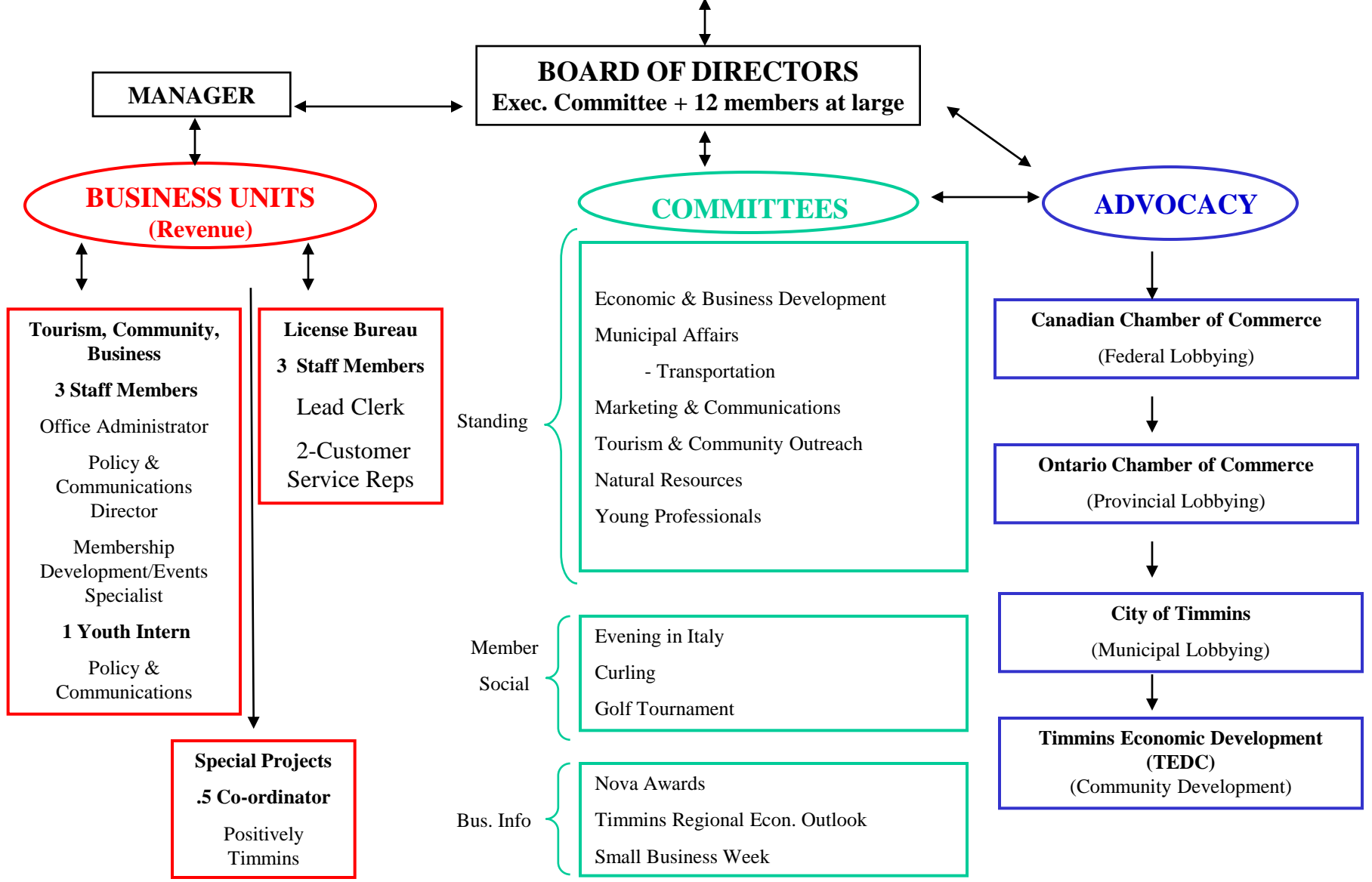


TIMMINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

758 Business Members



Timmins Chamber of Commerce Organizational Chart Definitions

Advocacy:

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce (CCC) “*The Voice of Canadian Business*”

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is the largest, most influential advocate for business in Canada. They are the only voluntary, non-political association with affiliates in every federal riding. Their mission is to foster a strong, competitive, and profitable economic environment that benefits all Canadians. They have developed a consultative process with their membership (Timmins Chamber of Commerce included) to act on policy resolutions, to research and develop strategies on "best practices" for business, and to communicate these viewpoints nationally and internationally

The Timmins Chamber of Commerce (TCOC), through its membership in CCC, has the opportunity to be an active participant in creating Canadian business policy. Any TCOC committee can submit a policy resolution (federal in scope) to the CCC for consideration. Policy submissions are due early in May for debate at the September CCC annual general meeting (AGM). If the CCC passes the resolution, the CCC will then lobby that policy to the Federal government.

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) “*The Voice of Ontario Business*”

Established in 1911, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce represents over 60,000 Ontario businesses through 160 local Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade. Their advocacy and policy initiatives focus on six areas key to the economic well-being of the province:

- health
- education
- energy
- finance and taxation
- transportation and infrastructure, and
- border issues.

The Timmins Chamber, through its membership in OCC, can participate in creating Ontario Business Policy. Any TCOC committee can submit a policy resolution (provincial in scope) to the OCC for consideration. Submissions are due early January for debate at their May AGM.

Standing Committees:

Economic & Business Development Committee: acts as the Timmins Chamber of Commerce “Voice of Business” by developing advocacy positions for all four levels of government, Municipal, Regional, Provincial and Federal.

Municipal Affairs: serves as the “*Voice of Business*” in lobbying, collaborating with and communicating with municipal agencies, elected officials and administration to improve the climate for business in Timmins.

Marketing & Communications Committee: provides overall guidance and direction for the Chamber’s marketing, fund-raising, sponsorship, membership services, and promotional programs.

Community Outreach Committee: provides overall guidance and direction in the Chamber’s outreach into specialized community segments such as Aboriginal and francophone business support issues.

Tourism Committee: provides overall guidance and direction for the Chamber’s Tourism Information Centre programs and services.

Natural Resources Committee: identifies, monitors, promotes awareness and addresses issues relating to the development, management and regulation of natural resources in our region.

Transportation & Infrastructure Task Force: develops policy and reviews plans for roads & transportation development affecting Timmins business.

Other Committees:

While Standing Committees are permanent and address the main business issues of the Chamber, other committees include Social Committees (Evening in Italy, Curling and Golf Tournament), Business Information Committees (Nova Awards, Timmins Regional Economic Outlook, and Small Business Week) and Community Development Committees (Santa Claus Parade). Committees are chaired by a member of the Board of Directors/Past President/or Chamber member appointed by the Board and membership is drawn both from the board and from the membership at large. Each committee is responsible for drawing up its Terms of Reference, a work plan for the year ahead, and a budget for carrying out that work.

From time to time, the Board may designate a Task Force to deal with specific issues such as the building committee.

Business Units (revenue and expense):

Tourism, Community, Business:

TCOC operates the Tourism Information Centre at no cost to the City, its residents, or the end users (and no revenue to the Chamber). We receive more than 3,000 visitor-related inquiries (phone, fax, e-mail, walk-in) per year. The budget to operate the centre (space, staff, supplies, postage) comes from general Chamber funds.

The Chamber acts as a community information portal (who to contact if...), offers free internet access (through an Industry Canada funded CAP site), and maintains a community calendar of events.

The Chamber acts as a business information center (who sells/does what...), maintains a resource library of programs to assist business, and operates as the Better Business Bureau in Timmins.

License Bureau:

For more than 30 years, TCOC has generated funds by operating a Drivers' and License issuing office for the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) on a fee per transaction basis, staffed by Chamber employees. We maintain a specified level of service under a Performance Management Program, and either party can exercise a 30-day "notice to quit" clause.

Membership Services:

The Chamber maintains a membership of 750 businesses. We actively solicit new members, provide member-to-member discount programs, and develop specialized member-only leveraged affinity programs (e.g. cell phone plan). We host a number of "member" social, networking and educational opportunities. We produce an annual directory of our membership to encourage the use of member services, host a Chamber website and produce a bi-monthly newspaper (distributed to all local businesses at no charge) to communicate our activities along with general business information. Each year the Chamber answers more than 3,000 business referral calls, using our "members first" policy. Through the work of our committees the Chamber produces pro-business policies to lobby at all levels of government based on the business concerns of our members.