



Media Release

For Immediate Release
Thursday, October 16, 2008

October 20-24 officially proclaimed Small Business Week

Timmins – Yesterday the week of October 20-24 was officially proclaimed *Small Business Week* in the City of Timmins. Throughout the week, events will be held to highlight and celebrate the expansive contributions of small business. Events of the week are geared towards small business owners, and include informational sessions and networking opportunities.

With small business being defined as any business with fewer than 500 employees, 99% of businesses in Ontario fit into this category; in fact, 29% of Ontario small businesses have 49 employees or less. These businesses make substantial economic contributions in the form of job creation, investment, trade and innovation.

Each year, the Timmins Chamber of Commerce along with the Business Development Bank of Canada and numerous community business groups jointly host Small Business Week events. As well, many other local businesses sponsor the events of the week to provide the events at little or no cost. According to Rob Galloway, President of the Timmins Chamber of Commerce, “Small Business Week provides the opportunity to celebrate small business and its ability to be an economic driver in our city, our province and ultimately the country.”

Throughout the week, the Timmins Chamber of Commerce will be hosting six events. On Monday, October 20, the week kicks off with the *Mayor’s State of the City Address*, hosted by the Chamber and the Business Development Bank of Canada. The event takes place at the Days Inn and Conference Centre, and will feature Mayor Tom Laughren addressing the advances in Timmins throughout 2008, and providing a vision for the future.

[For a full schedule of events, click here.](#)

The media is encouraged to attend and report on all Small Business Week events. We ask you to RSVP the Chamber if you plan to attend Chamber-hosted events. For all other events, please RSVP to the host organization listed in the schedule of events.

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Pictured in accompanying photo: Chamber President Rob Galloway, Mayor Tom Laughren, Marc Dinel of the Business Development Bank of Canada.

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About the Timmins Chamber of Commerce

With over 750 members, the Timmins Chamber of Commerce is the largest accredited chamber of commerce with distinction in northeastern Ontario. As the “Voice of Business in Timmins” since 1949, our advocacy and policy initiatives focus on ensuring a positive business climate in the City of Timmins.