

**Fredericton Chamber of Commerce
Minutes of Annual Meeting
Ramada Hotel Fredericton
May 23rd, 2006
2005-2006**

ATTENDANCE:

Kerry Atkinson	John Eddy	Ken Forrest
Ron Forsythe	Teresa Hatto	Anthony Knight
Dan Koncz	Peter Lindfield	Pam Lynch
Laura O'Blenis	Brianne Phillips	Marlene Heidman
Ron Sauntry	Joel Lapointe	Leigh Winchester
Suzanne Wood	Dale Dunphy	Andy Power
Wendy Southworth	Mike Toole	Kathy Watt
Jennifer Wishart	Wendy Williams	Kathy MacFarlane
Paul Martin	Don Barnett	Moe Arseneault
Mike O'Brien	Jason White	Ian Gavet
Paul Blanchard	Bruce McCormack	Trina MacDonald
Joel Richardson		

REGRETS:

Marie Embleton	Bob Hatheway	Darrin Lee
Stephanie MacDougall	David McMullin	James Mockler
Darcy McKillop	Christian Couturier	

1. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

President, Laura O'Blenis called to order the 2005-2006 Annual Meeting of the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce at 4:00 pm at the Ramada Hotel.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (May 31st, 2005)

Motion: Dan Koncz made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 31st, 2005 Annual Meeting, seconded by John Eddy. Motion carried.

3. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT—Ron Sauntry

Ron Sauntry stated that 2005-2006 was a successful year for the Chamber.

Revenues currently stand at \$388,742, which is slightly above budget, and expenditures are at \$373,800, which is also slightly above budget. Memberships are currently under budget due to the fact that membership renewal fees are sent in December for the following calendar year and fees for new members who join on or after February 1 are

calculated on a pro-rata basis from the date of membership to the end of the calendar year. Renewal fees are recorded as invoiced.

Special projects are under budget as the Chamber conducts a number of special fund raising projects on an annual basis. These projects provided gross revenues of \$209,021 and incurred direct expenses of \$106,682 resulting in a net contribution to operations of \$102,339.

Office expenditures are above budget due to the move to 270 Rookwood Avenue. Rent and expenses are higher than the former location.

There is still a balance of \$17,959 being held in trust for Delta Airlines. This money will be released to Delta within the next few months.

It was decided that \$5,000.00 would be transferred to a building fund and 50% of any remaining profit would also be transferred to this building fund. These funds may be used by a future Board of Directors to make premises investments.

Auditor Paul Martin of Grant Thornton noted the financial statements are a fair representation of the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce's financial position as of April 30, 2006 and congratulated the Chamber of a positive bottom line.

Motion: Ron Sauntry made a motion to approve the 2005-2006 audited financial statement, seconded by Teresa Hatto. Motion carried.

4. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2005-2006

Motion: Ron Sauntry made a motion to re-appoint Grant Thornton as the official auditor for the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce for 2006-2007, seconded by Dan Koncz. Motion carried.

5. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER – Anthony Knight

Anthony Knight said that former General Manager, Weldon LeBlanc left a great legacy and this made his transition to General Manager much easier. The Chamber has moved offices to 270 Rookwood Avenue during the past year and gave a special thank you to the Office Task Force for the great job they did.

The Chamber has enjoyed many successes during the past year. The Chamber received the Chamber of the Year award for the 6th time in 10 years and also received Accreditation with Distinction.

Anthony thanked Kerry, Brianne and Wendy for their hard work at the Chamber and welcomed aboard Marlene Heidman as Administrative Assistant.

Anthony also congratulated Laura O’Blenis on a tremendously successful year as Chamber President.

6. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT – Dan Koncz

Dan Koncz presented the list of the 2006-2007 Board of Directors as chosen by the Nominating Committee. They are as follows:

President:	Ron Forsythe
1 st VP:	Peter Lindfield
2 nd VP:	Lee Winchester
Past President:	Laura O’Blenis
Executive Members:	Jim Mockler Joel Lapointe
Treasurer:	Ron Sauntry
Remaining Directors:	Stephanie Macdougall Teresa Hatto John Eddy Ken Forrest Pam Lynch Bob Hatheway
New Directors:	Mike Toole Kathy Watt Wendy Southworth Christian Couturier Jenifer Wishart Andy Power Dale Dunphy Darrin Lee
Retiring Directors:	David McMullin Dan Koncz Suzanne Wood Marlene Embleton Darcy McKillop Shawn Quinlan

Motion: Dan Koncz motioned that the new board be approved, John Eddy seconded.
Motion carried.

7. REPORT OF THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT – Laura O’Blenis

Laura O’Blenis said that the year has just flown by for her. She is proud that the Chamber had another record-breaking year and received the Chamber of the Year Award once again. She is also very proud that the Chamber received it’s Accreditation with Distinction this year and that we remain the 2nd largest chamber in Atlantic Canada. Laura thanked the staff at the Chamber and thanked the Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication over the past year. There have been a number of great discussions and exchanges of ideas. She said it would be an experience she will always treasure.

8. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING DIRECTORS

Laura O’Blenis called on Dan Koncz and Suzanne Wood who were outgoing members of the board in attendance to come forward to present them with their certificates of appreciation. Laura O’Blenis also thanked outgoing board members who were not in attendance Darcy McKillop, David McMullin, Marie Embleton, and Shawn Quinlan for their dedication.

9. AFFIRMATION OF THE NEW ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laura O’Blenis called on Deputy Mayor Mike O’Brien to come forward to affirm the new Directors. All new Directors in attendance were called forward and asked repeat the Director's oath; following this Laura presented each with a Chamber lapel pin.

10. AFFIRMATION OF THE 2005-2006 PRESIDENT

Laura O’Blenis called on president elect Ron Forsythe to come forward to be affirmed by Deputy Mayor Mike O’Brien. Ron Forsythe was asked to repeat the President’s oath; following this Ron Forsythe chaired the remainder of the meeting.

11. REPORT OF INCOMING PRESIDENT – Ron Forsythe

Ron Forsythe thanked everyone for attending the Annual Meeting and thanked the new Board Members for agreeing to sit on the Board for the upcoming year. He thanked the outgoing Board members for all their hard work and commitment and thanked Laura O’Blenis for the energy she brought to the Chamber in her role as President.

Ron stated that becoming President of the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce is an exciting yet overwhelming feeling. The past Boards of Directors have done a tremendous job over the years and he wants to be able to follow in their steps.

Ron would like to see the Chamber's membership grow during the next year and feels that the Chamber needs these increased numbers to increase its work with advocacy issues. He wants to continue to work with community agencies for the betterment of our city. He feels that the Chamber should to focus on economic growth and creating a stable work force. He would also like to continue to work with Atlantica and improvements to the transportation infrastructure. He would also like to see the chamber foster and encourage the city's growth strategies as they are in the cusp of an economic boom.

12. NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business to report at this time.

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Forsythe and seconded by Teresa Hatto. Motion carried, meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.