

New OCC Web Site

Monday, June 9th is the day that the **OCC** switches over to its newly designed web site; the first phase in what will be an ongoing enhancement of our on-line presence. In addition to the new look users will find a number of new features, links and content as well as a new site map for fast and easy navigation to the various sections. The expanded content includes a corporate members' directory, a section on Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and a complete listing of the OCC's board of directors, including biographies. There's even a section where you can give us your comments and suggestions. We encourage you to take a look and give us your feedback.

Send us your OBAA Nominations

The **Outstanding Business Achievement Awards (OBAA)** is set for **October 16** at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, and we are looking for your nominations. Excellence is the only qualification, and no company is too large or small. Among previous winners are **Ford Motor Company of Canada, Wardrop Engineering Inc., Zenon Environmental** and **Jane's Family Foods**. Nomination details will soon be available on the OCC web site at <http://occ.on.ca/2obaa.asp>

Pending Legislation

The following list is the status of bills currently before the Ontario Legislature;
(Courtesy of Legislative Highlights)

Bill	Title (and Sponsor)	Purpose	Status	Key Contacts
1	<i>SARS Assistance and Recovery Strategy Act</i> (Hon. E. Eves)	Protect the jobs quarantined workers; strengthen the province's ability to curb the spread of infectious diseases.	RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT	
20	<i>Road Safety Act</i> (Hon. F. Klees)	Implement road safety reforms, including tougher penalties for street racing and mandatory booster seats.	Second Reading	Hon. F. Klees 327-9200 P. Hoy (L) 325-9099 G. Bisson (NDP) 325-7122
23	<i>Ontario Energy Board Consumer Protection and Governance Act.</i> (Hon. J. Baird)	Overhaul operations of the Ontario Energy Board and eliminate long-term retroactive charges on consumers' energy bills.	Second Reading	Hon. J. Baird 327-6758 M. Bryant (L) 325-7292 H. Hampton (NDP) 325-8300
25	<i>Smart Transportation Act</i> (Hon. F. Klees)	Protect future transportation corridors; create agencies to deliver transit services across jurisdictions.	Second Reading	Hon. F. Klees 327-9200 D. Caplan (L) 325-3607 M. Prue (NDP) 325-1303
28	<i>Back to School (Toronto Catholic Elementary) and Education and Provincial Schools Negotiations Amendment Act</i> (Hon. B. Clark)	Legislate an end to a lockout of Toronto Catholic teachers and prohibit work-to-rule campaigns by teachers not in a legal strike position.	Second Reading	Hon. B. Clark 326-7600 D. Ramsay (L) 325-7173 P. Kormos (NDP) 325-7106
41	<i>The Right Choices Act (Budget Measures)</i> (Hon. J. Ecker)	Implement tax measures in the 2003-04 Provincial Budget.	Second Reading	Hon. J. Ecker 325-0400 G. Phillips (L) 325-3628 D. Christopherson (NDP) 325-3188
43	<i>Ontario Home Property Tax Relief for Seniors Act</i> (Hon. J. Ecker)	Reimburse eligible senior homeowners and renters for property-taxes on their principal residence.	Second Reading	Hon. J. Ecker 325-0400 G. Phillips (L) 325-3628 D. Christopherson (NDP) 325-3188
53	<i>The Right Choices for Equity in Education Act (Budget Measures)</i> (Hon. J. Ecker)	Restore the private school tax credit's original implementation schedule.	Second Reading	Hon. J. Ecker 325-0400 G. Phillips (L) 325-3628 D. Christopherson (NDP) 325-3188
57	<i>Rural Red Tape Reduction Act</i> (Hon. E. Hardeman)	Remove barriers to rural economic development.	Second Reading	Hon. E. Hardeman 585-6681 J. Cleary (L) 325-8300 H. Hampton (NDP) 325-8300
68	<i>Mandatory Retirement Elimination Act</i> (Hon. C. DeFaria)	Outlaw age-based retirement policies.	Second Reading	Hon. C. DeFaria 325-6200 M. Brown (L) 325-6134 S. Martel (NDP) 325-9203

Upcoming Events

Listed below are some upcoming events that may be of interest to local Chambers and Boards:

- **Finance & Taxation Committee Meeting,** June 12, 2003
- **Energy Task Force Meeting,** June 17, 2003
- **Border Crossings Task Force Meeting,** June 18, 2003
- **Health Policy Committee Meeting,** June 18, 2003
- **Board of Directors Meeting,** June 19, 2003
- **Queen's Park Liaison Forum (QPLF),** Kitchener-Waterloo, June 20, 2003

For more information on all committees, please contact **Atul Sharma** at (416) 482-5222, ext. 235.

Submit Your Nominations for the Outstanding Business Achievement Awards for 2003

COMMUNITY EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AWARD

The Community Export Development Award recognizes a community – as represented by a chamber of commerce, board of trade, or business development organization – that has successfully created an environment which fosters business and export development.

BELL INNOVATION TECHNOLOGY AWARD

The Bell Innovation Technology Award recognizes Ontario businesses that have demonstrated excellence in innovation, adaptability, and the successful application of new technology to the development & growth of their products and/or services.

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR'S AWARD

The Young Entrepreneur's Award will recognize business excellence exemplified by an entrepreneur under the age of 30. As with the OBAA, companies may be of any size and in any field, with the only qualification for nomination being that the nominator believes that the company/entrepreneur has achieved excellence over the past year.

RICHARD A. DOLPHIN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Established in honour of the late OCC Past Chair, the Richard A. Dolphin Community Service Award recognizes the energetic spirit of a chamber of commerce volunteer who has displayed excellence in community leadership and business development. The individual must demonstrate their community involvement and contributions to the chamber of commerce movement.

NOMINATIONS

Eight individually bound copies of all nomination materials must be submitted on a non-returnable basis. Submissions should be made on 8 ½" X 11" paper, and submitted to the address below.

Regan Clarke, Events Coordinator
Ontario Chamber of Commerce
2345 Yonge Street, Suite 808
Toronto, ON M4P 2E5

Information must include the name, address, telephone, fax number, and email address of both the nominee and the nominator; a summary of the achievements for which the company is nominated; a brief history of the company; the company's most recent annual report; figures relative to the company's profitability, sales, and exports (where appropriate), expressed either in absolutes or percentages (the Ontario Chamber of Commerce undertakes to protect the confidential nature of this information); a statement outlining any financial assistance received from government sources; and information relative to employer/employee relations. Clear, concise submissions prepared jointly by the nominator and the nominee are the most effective.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominations may only be made by member chambers of commerce/boards of trade or by corporate members of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce. Nominees need not be members of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, but they must be headquartered in Ontario.

Nomination for the Award will be taken to mean that the nominator and the nominee, in the event of selection as an Award recipient, agree to participate in the Awards dinner and work with the Ontario Chamber in public relations initiatives for the dinner.

THE PRESENTATION

The Awards presentation will be made at a dinner to be held on Thursday, October 16, 2003 at the Metropolitan Toronto Convention Centre. As in past years, 1000 members of the Ontario business community, as well as senior political leaders, are expected to attend this event to celebrate Ontario's entrepreneurial vitality.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information about the nominations process or about reservations for the OBAA Awards Dinner Presentation, please contact Regan Clarke at 416-482-5222 ext 222 or by email at reganclarke@occ.on.ca. You can also visit the events page on our website at: www.occ.on.ca

OCC Welcomes New Board Members

The OCC Board of Directors meeting took place on June 19 with a strong turnout from incumbent members, along with members newly appointed. **Susan Houston**, the newly elected Chair of the Board, convened the meeting which was held at the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario in Toronto. New members welcomed to the board are: **Robert (Bob) Armstrong, President, Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters Inc., Andrew Barnicke, Senior Vice President, Investment Group J.J. Barnicke Ltd., Ron F. Habijanac, CEO, Janes Family Foods Ltd., Gary W. Jarosz, V.P. Operations, Sharp Electronics Canada, Steven K. Jones, Senior Vice President, Corporate Relations, Siemens Canada Ltd., Donald Mackinnon, President, Bell Gateways and Lisa Novak, Senior Vice President, Administration and Business Affairs, Rogers Blue Jays Baseball Partnership.** (A complete list of all Board members is available on the OCC web site).

A number of items were on the agenda, including the Treasurer's Report, a review of the OCC's Policy Committees and Task Forces, the consideration of another Board appointment and reports from the OCC's Director of Membership Development and the Vice President of Communications. OCC President **Len Crispino** also provided updates on other key OCC initiatives including the **Outstanding Business Achievement Awards (OBAA), Ontario Business Advisory Council (OBAC)** and preliminary plans for a major Ontario economic forum to be held in 2004. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 11, 2003.

Peterborough's Doug Armstrong Retires (Again)

The Peterborough Chamber lost one of the good ones recently when General Manager Doug Armstrong announced his retirement from the position he had originally signed on to for two years back in 1999. It was a second retirement for the popular Peterborough resident, who initially retired from his job as CAO of Peterborough County in 1996 following a long career in municipal administration.

After dabbling in some consulting work for Municipal governments across Ontario he signed with GM of the Peterborough Chamber, and in the ensuing four years contributed to a number of significant developments in the chamber's operations. He streamlined internal systems, including an improved financial reporting system, assembled a first class and dedicated chamber team, grew and enhanced the quality and number of chamber events, contributed to the overall growth of the Chamber membership, and stayed on the job two years longer than he anticipated.

He'll be missed as he heads into his second retirement, but he'll be remembered for all his contributions.

Louise Verity Moving on from Board of Trade

Louise Verity, former Director of Policy at the **Toronto Board of Trade**, has left the BoT and taken a new position as head of communications at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Louise spent 6 years at the BoT, steering its policy group and in addition she also served as Vice Chair of the **OCCE**.

Welcome New OCC Corporate Members

- ✍ Acklands Grainger Inc.
- ✍ Alcon Canada Inc.
- ✍ ALTANA Pharma Inc.
- ✍ AR Fabrics
- ✍ Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters
- ✍ Ceridian Canada Ltd.
- ✍ Harmony Printing
- ✍ Inter-Transport Ltd.
- ✍ Medisys Health Group Inc.
- ✍ Organon Canada Ltd.

2003 Interim Economic Outlook Survey

Thank you to all OCC members who have already taken a few moments to participate in the 2003 Interim Economic Outlook Survey.

The survey was launched on Monday, June 23, 2003 and will continue to run until Monday, June 30, 2003 at 5:00pm.

The purpose of this survey is to follow up on members' expectations for Ontario's economic performance and business performance for 2003 and 2004. Since the beginning of the year, the economy has been affected by the uncertain geopolitical climate caused by the war in Iraq, the SARS outbreak and a rising Canadian dollar.

You can participate in the survey by visiting the following web site address: http://www.occ.on.ca/cgi-bin/2_2003InterimEconomic/

Your contribution is greatly appreciated and supports OCC policy development and advocacy activities.

Upcoming Events

Listed below are some upcoming events that may be of interest to local Chambers and Boards:

- ✍ **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Meeting**, July 2, 2003
- ✍ **Education Committee Meeting**, July 3, 2003
- ✍ **Finance & Taxation Committee Meeting**, July 10, 2003

For more information on all committees, please contact **Atul Sharma** at (416) 482-5222, ext. 235.