

## How We're Amplifying Your Voices

As both a member-centric organization and a leading community influencer, it's critical to The Winnipeg Chamber that we hear directly from our members what they think about important public policy issues at the civic, provincial and federal levels.

During the peak of the pandemic, we launched a regular series of member surveys so we could get feedback from our members on how their organizations were coping with public health restrictions, labour market pressures and other business challenges.

Moving forward, we've rebranded these surveys as The Quarterly Check-In, and we'll be asking for your opinions on a broader range of policy issues that impact the business community.

Our latest survey focuses on city issues as part of our preparation for this fall's civic election. Which civic issues matter most to your organization, and how easy do you think it is to start and run a business in Winnipeg? We want to hear from you.

For those wanting to get even more involved in The Chamber policy and advocacy process, our Policy Pools provide an opportunity to engage in more in-depth conversation on specific issues and help us identify members who might want to serve on a working group or task force to prepare a submission for government.

Issues we're currently working on include reducing red tape and embracing more innovative practices in government, reforming the provincial tax system, and developing a provincial climate change plan.



## Happy One Year Anniversary, Bizzz!

It has been a year since we launched Bizzz, the Chamber's new and improved online business directory. Over 1800 local businesses are now listed on Bizzz with about 100 of them being non-members.

Our goal for Bizzz is for it to be a one-stop-shop - where our local business community can promote their business and future customers can search for credible goods and services at their fingertips.

Let's hear what members have to say about Bizzz!

"Great site, love the photo gallery feature so that everyone can understand and see what we're all about. I would definitely recommend anyone to use Bizzz to list their business."

– Rossbrook House Foundation

"A great resource for local businesses."

– The Seniors Moving Company

### Most FAQ:

**Q: What is a banner image? What is the profile image? It doesn't fit!**

**A:** We recommend using your business logo as the profile image and a high quality photo that captures the essence of your business for your banner image. After uploading the images, you can resize it to fit the frame by zooming in or out using your scroll wheel. You can also resize the image by using your preferred photo editing software. For reference the dimensions of the profile photo is 1:1 ratio, 1080 x 1080 px and the banner photo is 16:9 ratio, 1920 x 1080 px.

**Still having troubles with the text limit or photo upload?** Send it to [jlam@winnipeg-chamber.com](mailto:jlam@winnipeg-chamber.com) and we'll take care of it.

We're continually working towards improving the website and providing more value to our members and future members. Please contact us if you have any questions or feedback on your Bizzz profile.

Looking forward to seeing your updated profiles!



## Membership Newsletter Spring/Summer 2022



### Message from your Winnipeg Chamber Chair

**Liz Choi**  
CEO of Education  
Canada Group

As I reflect on what this past year has meant to me, I have really connected to The Chamber's tagline: Lead. Connect. Grow.

Throughout my time as Chair, I've been able to explore different facets of leadership and discuss leadership, which is a passion of mine. I've made so many connections with all of you, networking, sharing meals once again, sitting with you, learning about our city's diverse businesses, and having conversations. And growth is an understatement with the lineup of experts and special guests we've had to share their knowledge and perspectives.

This season we also hosted the CODE Conference: Take Conversation to Action. Within my own workplace, we work to integrate tangible action towards diversity, equity and inclusion, and there is always more to learn. I hope you find pathways towards action within this conference.

Thank you for an illuminating year, and I look forward to what the next few months have in store with the Winnipeg Chamber.

Feel free to stay connected with me on Instagram at [@Liz.Ferocious](https://www.instagram.com/Liz.Ferocious) and find me on LinkedIn!



### Message from your Winnipeg Chamber President & CEO

**Loren Remillard**

As is true for any membership-based organization, there are those who want to get something from their membership and those who want to get something done through their membership. At your Winnipeg Chamber, we provide you both!

Whether it's attending our in-person events and programs, becoming a Chamber Ambassador, or being a part of our Policy Pools— it's all about engaging with other leaders and entrepreneurs, being in the know, and serving the needs of your business and your community. It's programs like these that empower you to be competitive, learn and grow your perspective.

We know the entrepreneurial journey is a rewarding, yet tough endeavour, but we hope you know you are not alone. The Chamber is here to be the stepping stone between you and other entrepreneurs within our membership who are going through the same struggles you are or have overcome the challenges you are currently facing. It's time to get out there and your Chamber is here to help you do just that.

Here at The Chamber, it is our promise that we will continue to deliver value to our members by helping connect you with one another, as well as with resources to help you do business better.

As we look ahead to 2023 we can't help but look to our community as we celebrate 150 years as a Chamber. This celebration is going to echo the feeling of gathering and growing together as a community.

As Manitoba's largest and most diverse business association, there's so much in store for you as a Winnipeg Chamber member. Make this year, the year of reconnection and reengagement with your Chamber. It's good for your business AND your community.

## CODE Update

Manitoba is attracting an increasing number of skilled workers and their families," said Linda Bulka, Program Manager, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries, "Newcomers have worked in international contexts and bring cultural, linguistic and market knowledge to many positions."

So, why are businesses facing recruitment and retention challenges? And, why do newcomers face the challenge of finding long-term employment which best fits their skillset?

To answer all these questions (and many more!), alongside our partners we conducted a feasibility study to understand how we could bridge this gap. That's how we imagined and created the newest program within CODE: The Newcomer Employment Hub.

The Newcomer Employment Hub (the Hub) is an innovative online job tool that creates quality job matches between newcomer job seekers and Manitoba employers.

Initiated by The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and Immigration Partnership Winnipeg (IPW) The Hub brings together the business community and newcomer service agencies to address one of the top challenges facing businesses today- talent recruitment and retention, ensuring economic prosperity for both newcomers and businesses. The Hub's smart AI technology provides organizations with top newcomer candidates which best fit the job description and organization's needs.

If you are an employer, jobseeker or newcomer service agency and wish to learn more about the Hub and how to get involved, contact Sanjana Vijayann, Manager of Diversity and Inclusion at [svijayann@winnipeg-chamber.com](mailto:svijayann@winnipeg-chamber.com).



Sanjana Vijayann  
Manager, Diversity and Inclusion

## Events Update

What a busy season the 2021/2022 year was! With cancellations, postponements, return to in-person, return to virtual, and back to in-person, our team has sure learned to pivot.

With that said, we're thrilled to be putting together an exciting, in-person 2022/2023 season for our members to get back to the networking you know and love at Chamber events. You can expect to see some inspirational and thought-provoking speakers on stage for our membership luncheons, great conversations and workshops for our Small Business events, the opportunity to get out and visit our member businesses for Member Meetups and more exciting events to fill your calendar.

Purchasing your Season Seats now will save you 20% on tickets to our luncheon series as well as stand-alone additional tickets, offer you preferred seating at our events and you'll be the first to hear about our upcoming VIP events! Season Seats are limited so get yours today!

We look forward to seeing all our members back out doing what they do best – networking – next season!



Riele Bailey  
Events and Program  
Manager



**Newcomer Job Portal with 100+ jobs available**

The Hub is a **FREE** online job tool that **matches you with quality jobs at inclusive workplaces.**

Get matched at [winnipeg-chamber.com/neh](http://winnipeg-chamber.com/neh)

NEWCOMER EMPLOYMENT HUB

The Chamber  
The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

Integration, Religion, and Citizenship Centre

The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce  
**Healthy Workplaces**

Johnston Group, WCA, CPHR

Dogs are called our "Best Friends" for a good reason: they are incredibly good for your health and tend to be irreplaceable members of our families. Not to mention, they often go above and beyond in making us happy and helping us deal with any mental health issues and concerns we might be going through. So it's not surprising that St. John Ambulance Manitoba absolutely love working with them!

The program continues to grow, boasting more than 3,500 volunteer dog teams providing over 275,000 hours of their time visiting hospitals, retirement residences, care facilities, schools and universities. The friendly attention and acceptance of these four-legged volunteers are always greatly appreciated.

The St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Program reaches out to thousands of people across Canada on a daily basis bringing comfort, joy and companionship to members of the community who are sick, lonely, reside in long-term care and mental health facilities; are in hospitals, schools and library settings. Program participants reap the therapeutic benefits of the unconditional companionship of a four-legged friend.

For more information on the therapy dog program, visit the St. John Ambulance website: <https://sja.ca/en>

St. John Ambulance's Therapy Dog Program takes a volunteer and their dog into hospitals,

Healthy Workplace Tip  
Provided by Johnston Group

THE WINNIPEG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**SPIRIT OF WINNIPEG**

AWARDS 2022

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Presented with **FillmoreRiley**

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