



Membership Newsletter

Winter 2022



Message from your Winnipeg Chamber Chair

Mark Jones
Olafson & Jones
Chartered Professional
Accountants Inc.

It is an honour to be sworn in as Chair for The Chamber's 150th year. When asked often what I want for my year as Chair each time my answer has been the same...this isn't my year, this is our year.

It will be a year for us to celebrate our perseverance and resilience through the pandemic as we return to the next normal, take advantage of the opportunities ahead and continue to punch above our weight as a business community and as a city.

I am honoured to represent all our members as we celebrate the Chambers' 150th anniversary together and will be guided by the three pillars that make up the Chamber's motto...Lead, Connect, Grow.

Lead – I look forward to us leading the way together to recovery and emergence from the pandemic as a business community and a city. We have many challenges still ahead of us but together as a Chamber community, I am confident we can lead the way.

Connect – Actually, I'm changing this one to RE-connect. I look forward to reconnecting as a community to meet new people and drive new opportunities.

Grow – I think my favourite of all three is growth. As a lifelong Bomber fan, I have to get some football analogies in, so after the past three years, I am happy to see us taking our defence off the field and getting back on offence. I am so excited to get back to that sense of optimism and opportunity.

I look forward to leading, reconnecting and growing side by side with you all... and I look forward to celebrating all that is our Chamber and our city as we kick off the next 150 years.



Message from your Winnipeg Chamber President & CEO

Loren Remillard

Recession. From board tables to kitchen tables across Canada, seems the looming cloud of recession is weighing in on everyone's minds. Interest rates are on the rise and talk of a recession has left many business owners uncertain as to what the next 12-24 months will bring.

But we have been here before.

Too often, be it a recession or other difficult times, the natural inclination of business is to lean back on expenses, such as marketing and business development. Yet, as so many studies have shown, now more than ever, we all need to lean in. And, that's where your Chamber membership, valuable during good times, becomes even more so during challenging times.

An investment in your Chamber is really a direct investment in your company– helping you save money while growing your business to get you through, be it a recession or market downturn.

We create opportunities for you to connect with existing and new clients at our events. We provide services and program offerings from small business programming to cost savings programs and more. We provide business advisory services - finance, human resources, legal - through Canada's largest small business group benefits plan. We help market your organization to hundreds of thousands of visitors to our online resources and so much more.

We know there is a lot of uncertainty, but your Winnipeg Chamber membership is your one certainty in navigating your organization successfully. So let's do this together. I encourage you to reach out and ask how we can help you, because your success is our business.

CODE Update

Commitment to Opportunity, Diversity and Equity

As we enter the second last month of 2022 (sounds daunting, doesn't it?), it is time for another CODE update!

First things first - we celebrated CODE's first birthday!

The first half of this year was marked with many milestones as we launched multiple programs and hosted a variety of CODE events.

So how did we celebrate?

We released our first Annual CODE Report and re-launched the CODE Resource Hub!

Annual CODE Report

During our AGM, we released the first CODE Report, highlighting how and why an initiative like CODE has been launched by The Chamber, an in-depth summary and analysis of the data we have collected and how CODE aims to respond in accordance with new, diverse talent entering the workforce rapidly to ensure organizations are equipped to hire and retain this talent.

CODE Resource Hub Re-Launch

Our main aim behind the re-launch? A more user-friendly and digitally accessible hub for all! We introduced a list of changes with the re-launch: the CODE Quiz, CODE Kickstart Guide and Accessibility Tools.

Mahrukh Ali Aziz
DEI Coordinator



Introducing the CODE Kickstart Guide

Download the how-to guide to begin your organization's DEI journey, utilize essential tools, templates & sample self-identification survey for internal HR use. Utilize this document to learn the need and how to collect data around DEI. We hope these changes advance your personal and professional DEI journey and contribute towards sustainable growth!

A friendly reminder for you: Register now for the second annual CODE Conference on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at RBC Convention Centre. This is a full-day event filled with exciting opportunities to learn, network and engage with our breakfast keynote speaker, Anne-Marie Pham, CEO of Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion and DEI subject matter experts!

Learn more about CODE and access the documents and resources mentioned above at winnipeg-chamber.com/code.

**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

The Chamber
The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

Funding: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Funding: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada



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Download the digital copy.

How We're Amplifying Your Voices

Chris Minaker
Vice President, Policy and Engagement



Scott Gillingham was elected Mayor on October 26. Almost all the city councillors were re-elected, except for new councillor Evan Duncan (Charleswood-Tuxedo-Westwood) and returning councillors Shawn Dobson (St. James), and Russ Wyatt (Transcona).

The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce was very active during the campaign and helped to shape the issues in the municipal election by publishing our Performance Playbook, which contains five major goals and 28 recommendations.

The Chamber President and CEO Loren Remillard and Chris Minaker met with all the mayoral candidates and The Chamber published articles on our website outlining their platforms and commitments. We held a well-attended debate featuring the five leading candidates for mayor in October.

Mayor Gillingham's platform is closely aligned with the recommendations in our Playbook, such as making Winnipeg the easiest city in Canada to do business, working towards the elimination of the business tax, focusing on downtown revitalization, and growing the economy. The Chamber will seek to build on our relationship with Mayor Gillingham and councillors and we will ensure that your concerns and ideas are at the forefront of their consideration.

The Manitoba government recently announced the creation of a new Premier's Economic Advisory Council that will examine Manitoba's competitiveness towards supporting job growth, investment, and economic growth. The Chamber Board Chair Mark Jones has been named to the Council. Mark will also serve as a member of tax competitiveness working group. Manitoba's competitiveness with other jurisdictions is a long-standing issue that The Chamber has been leading.

As part of The Chamber's provincial advocacy work, Loren Remillard and Chris Minaker met with Manitoba NDP Leader Wab Kinew in October to discuss economic growth and workforce development. The meeting was a productive exchange of ideas. By law, the provincial election must occur before October 3, 2023.

Events Update

Shawn Yuan
Events Coordinator



This fall, we launched our first-of-the-season membership luncheon, where we welcomed Mick Cornett, former 4-Term Mayor of Oklahoma City. Chamber members and some mayoral candidates in attendance had the chance to discuss the future of Winnipeg's downtown with Mick Cornett.



In October, The Chamber hosted our first VIP luncheon of the season. We welcomed US Ambassador to Canada, David

Cohen, to talk about the future of North American trade. The following day, we hosted our most-anticipated Mayoral Debate with the top five mayoral candidates. Candidates pitched their visions on Winnipeg's fiscal position, revitalizing downtown, and why they are the right person for the job ahead of election day on October 26.



In the upcoming months, we're excited to welcome Chrissie Arnold from Slack to explore how employers can win the battle for talent in the new post-pandemic world. Then in December, we will welcome the Honourable Heather Stefanson for her second State of the Province address to share more about the province's approach and priorities for the coming year. Keep up to date on our upcoming season by subscribing to our weekly LineUp email on our website at winnipeg-chamber.com/upcoming-events.



State of the Province Address

With Hon. Heather Stefanson, Premier of Manitoba
Thursday, December 8
RBC Convention Centre Winnipeg

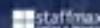
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Sustainability Update



Casey Clair
Energy and Climate Advocate

My name is Casey Clair, and I am The Chamber's new Energy and Climate Advocate. My position was created through Efficiency Manitoba's Community Energy Efficiency Program to connect our members with the right programming to help make your business more sustainable and energy efficient.

I work alongside Efficiency Manitoba to promote sustainability through energy and cost-saving retrofits, rebates, project funding, and Energy Efficiency Assessments. Efficiency Manitoba offers many programs, such as the Small Business Program, Custom Energy Solutions for custom installations and our newly launched Solar Rebate Program. Check out our Top 3 Efficiency Manitoba Programs for Your Business blog post on our website! There are programs available for every type of business to become more energy efficient and I am excited to help find the program that is right for you and your business.

I would love to help business owners who are seeking green initiatives and/or want their sustainable work noticed in the Chamber community through our Sustainability Spotlight blog series— stay tuned! I'd love to chat with you at our Chamber events so come on by and visit my booth or contact me by phone (204) 688-1304 or e-mail cclair@winnipeg-chamber.com.



MEMBER TESTIMONIAL

MIA DUNN

Fund Development Officer,
Children's Rehabilitation Foundation

"The Chamber is a valuable asset for Winnipeg organizations to make connections, keep up to date on important issues and know we have a voice advocating for business interests. Children's Rehabilitation Foundation is pleased to be a part of the Chamber network as working together, we make our community great."



Build a wellness wall for employees to post upcoming company and community activities, recipes, book recommendations, workouts, and more.

*Healthy Workplace Tip
Provided by Johnston Group*



Regardless of your company's size, your team deserves to feel secure that their insurance needs are taken care of. For over 40 years, the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan has been protecting businesses and their employees.

GET A QUOTE AT WINNIPEG-CHAMBER.COM/EMPLOYEE-BENEFITS