

SOOKE HARBOUR (REGION) CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SUMMARY REPORT:

Dec.10, 2009 Annual General Meeting

- The Sooke Harbour Chamber of Commerce changed its official name to the Sooke Region Chamber of Commerce by a unanimous vote of members present at the organization's annual general meeting (AGM).
- The main objects of the new constitution are for the Chamber:
 - To promote commerce and business.
 - To co-ordinate the efforts of commerce, industry and the professions in maintaining and strengthening a sound and healthy business climate in the Sooke Region.
 - To provide creative business leadership and effective coordination of all interested parties in solving community problems and in initiating constructive community action.
 - To create broad understanding and appreciation of the opportunities in the Sooke Region, and to promote the advantages and assets of the Sooke Region.
- Other constitutional changes included reducing the term of office of President, Vice-President and Past President to one year each instead of two. Each new year the VP will move up to President as the President moves to the position of Past-President.
- The Treasurer and Secretary will each still serve for two years, with elections in alternate years.
- The incoming president for 2010 is Todd Olynyk, manager of the local RBC branch in Sooke. Past-President is now Gwen Fisher of Pure Elements Spa. The incoming vice-president is Rose Dumont.
- The Board of Directors for 2010 consists of: Todd Olynyk (president), Gwen Fisher (Past-President), Rose Dumont (Vice-President), Shelley Godin (Treasurer), Kathy Drover (Secretary), Mary P. Brooke, Marion DesRochers, Michelle Glanfield-Bohn, Deb Johnston, Karen Mason, Kari Osselton, Kel Phair, Frederique Phillip, Rod Sluggett, and Jeanette Wilford.
- The fiscal year for the Chamber was adjusted from a Nov.1 start, to a fiscal year that will now commence Jan.1, coinciding with the term of elected executive.
- A great deal of the constitutional amendment work in the past year was spearheaded by Jeanette Wilford.
- John Zarembo delivered some financial information, including that the net proceeds from the Nov.6 awards banquet totalled \$2,166. A sum of about \$27,000 will be issued to the Chamber via the Sooke Economic Development Commission.
- Karen Mason announced that the Sooke Chamber is in the running for a substantial federal employee training grant that focuses on skill development for the existing employees of tourism-related businesses; results will be known in January.