

# Neepawa & District Chamber of Commerce

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124<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting, Monday January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7 pm

Dinner and meeting held at the Neepawa Royal Canadian Legion Branch #23

Ally Potrebka, 2023 Executive Board Member, Chaired the Chamber meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 8:16 pm.

<p>Adoption of the Agenda</p> <p>Approval of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 AGM Minutes</p> <p>President's Report:</p> <p>Summary of report given for the year 2023 by Ally Potrebka</p> <p>The Neepawa &amp; District Chamber of Commerce enjoyed a 2023 full year of events and we were very thankful to support our business community and bring a number of meaningful events to our community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ We kicked off the year with the 123<sup>rd</sup> annual AGM, in partnership with Neepawa Tourism. We presented the Neepawa Vet Clinic with the 2022 Business of the year award and welcomed local guest speaker Rob Wolfe from Northstar Seeds to share their local and now global success story.</li><li>➤ In February Chamber attended the RMED conference.</li><li>➤ In April we held our first joint cyber security webinar with chambers in Carberry and Minnedosa. The event was presented by Manitoba Chambers affinity partner Winnipeg based Castellan Information Security Systems Managing Director, Azhar Laldin.</li></ul>	<p>M. Marilyn Crewe S. Brian Hedley Carried</p> <p>M. Jordan Luhowy S. Kristine Loomis Carried</p>
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*President's Report (cont'd)*

- In May we held our fair with help from retuning green team summer student Lance Llagas. With new midway company Select Shows providing new rides, amusements, fun and food selections. We also had the "Hair of the Dog" social hosted by The Neepawa Vet Clinic. We also had a new feature on Sunday afternoon with a reptile exhibit.
- Through the summer months, we celebrated our local restaurants, through our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "restaurant showcase". With an increased participation from our restaurant community, this event was a huge success. 11 chamber members participated including restaurants, bakeries and food trucks.
- The Neepawa & District Chamber supported our community by hosting an electoral forum for the 2023 Provincial election. Amanda Naughton-Gale moderated the event held at the Neepawa Library.
- October saw a new event formed the "Celebrate Harvest Open Late" shopping event. Local retailers stayed open to 8pm to enjoy some post-Thanksgiving sales and chamber hosted a hot chocolate fundraiser at the courthouse. There were kids' activities, free movie at the Roxy and a charity BBQ that evening as well.
- We once again hosted the annual Santa Parade of Lights. Thank you to Kinley Thompson Chartered Accountants for once again hosting the annual free movie at the Roxy Theatre. We had over 35 floats participating and the chamber provided candy bags to the attendees.
- Jennifer Wiebe represented the Neepawa Chamber and our community at Chamber Advocacy Day at the Manitoba Legislature. A full day of learning and discussion with Chambers from across the province, and she represented our community well. Neepawa was a focus of the conversation, including our continued population and community growth, the new hospital and our newcomer support.

Treasurer's Report:

- Pam Miller did an overview of the 2023 Financial Position.
- Motion to Accept the financials
  
- Pam presented the 2024 Budget.
- Motion was made to accept the 2024 Budget as presented.
- Pam asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

M. Pam Levandosky  
S. Sherry Francis  
Carried

M. Sherry Francis  
S. Marilyn Crewe  
Carried

Election of Officers of the Board:

- A slate of directors was presented.
- A call for nominations from the floor was made three times. There were no further nominations. We declared nominations closed.
- The slate presented was 6 directors short of the 15 allowed according to the by-laws, the slate of directors was acclaimed.
  
- 2024 Board of Directors are:
  - Pam Miller, MNP
  - Marilyn Crewe, Economic Development Officer
  - Jordan Luhowy, Hylife Foods
  - Ally Potrebka, Neepawa Gladstone Coop
  - Kristine Loomis, Stride Credit Union
  - Matthew Beech, RBC
- Mayor Brian Hedley extended greetings on behalf of the Town of Neepawa.
  - The Board of Directors was sworn in under Oath by Mayor HedleyOffices for the Board of Directors will be decided at its first meeting on Monday February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Chamber Meeting adjourned: 8:37 pm

**Additional Comments:** Amanda Naughton-Gale was emcee. Our guest speaker was Chuck Davidson from Manitoba Chambers of Commerce. The Neepawa Tourism portion of the AGM was chaired by Pam Brown. Jennifer Wiebe presented the "2023 Business of the Year Award" to: It's Time Fashion and Gifts.