



# Lake of the Woods

BUSINESS INCENTIVE CORP.  
A Community Futures Development Corporation



## THE LOWBIC LAKER

SUMMER 2012

*Finding  
Solutions for  
Small Business*

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**LAKE OF THE  
WOODS  
BUSINESS  
INCENTIVE CORP.**

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**LOWBIC STAFF (L TO R):** *Jon Johnson, Ted Couch, Crystal Mousseau-Kast, Ryan Reynard, Louise Tresoor, Brian Vroomen*

The Lake of the Woods Business Incentive Corporation held its Annual General Meeting on April 13th at the Days Inn Kenora. The event was very well attended and all those present enjoyed the very positive results highlighted from the LOWBIC 2011 operating year!! I would like to thank all those who attended and helped make the event another great success.

The 2011 loan portfolio statistics once again displayed the significant importance of the Lake of the Woods Business Incentive Corporation and our services – the corporation approved loans totaling nearly \$1.5 million dollars. This money assisted 14 small businesses and had a direct effect on nearly 148 jobs. Small businesses are critical to our local economy and I am very proud of the high level of service provided to our clients by the LOWBIC staff. I am also very excited to announce that 61% of the loans approved in 2011 were in partnership with at least one other lending institution. This is very significant as it shows the cooperation and partnerships we have forged with the traditional lenders to provide the best product for our client. The LOWBIC staff continued to provide one-on-one assistance to nearly 67 clients in 2011. This is a free & confidential service that LOWBIC provides to small businesses, regardless of their lending requirements.

As always, the board and staff at the Lake of the Woods Business Incentive Corporation are available to assist with all your small business needs. You can call, email or drop by the office for a confidential discussion about your business needs.

At LOWBIC we provide: ***“Solutions for Small Business”***

Ryan Reynard, MBA  
Executive Director

# AGM Notes

- Held at the Sunset Room - Days Inn, Kenora
- Over 40 in attendance (including media, bank personnel & politicians)
- Door Prize Winner - Theresa Stephens



(Insert) Special guest Katherine Turner, FedNor Northwest Manager, addresses the audience. Katherine spoke about the discontinuation of the Local Initiative Fund (LIF) from all CFDC's within the next 2 years as the program is phased out.



(Pictured Left to Right)  
 DAVE CANFIELD -  
 RICHARD FINDLAY -  
 RYAN REYNARD -  
 ANITA WEBB -  
 KATHERINE TURNER -  
 PAMELA BRYSON -

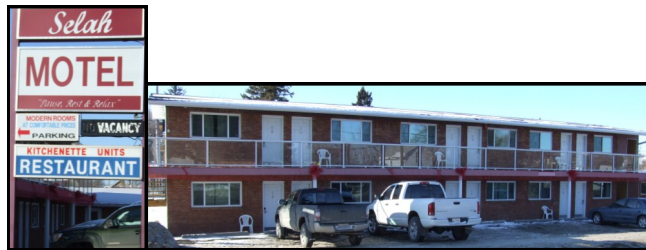
Mayor of Kenora  
 Board Treasurer  
 Executive Director  
 Board Chair  
 FedNor Manager  
 FedNor Rep



HEAD TABLE

Speeches included "Report of The Chair" by Anita Webb (above) and LOWBIC's 2011 financial review by BDO partner, James Corbett. Anita Webb also introduced three new members to the LOWBIC Board of Directors; Fred Wright, Tracy McDonald and Shawn Roulette.

# KDCC BUSINESS AWARDS



## Winner: Business Improvement Award!

Honors a business that has taken steps to improve their company image in some way. Selah motel was refurbished in the summer of 2010 which included renovations to 11 rooms and added amenities.

## Winner: Youth Entrepreneur Award!

Recognizes outstanding youth entrepreneurs.

"I took over Silk Satin & Lace in July 2011. Since then I have expanded the lingerie and added footwear. I wanted to create a unique boutique where women of all ages and all sizes could come and shop together. This year has been challenging as well as rewarding and it was a great honour to receive the "Youth Entrepreneur" award for 2011."

- Michelle Livingston, Owner



## Board Member Recognition



Departing director Randy Nickle thanks fellow members for making LOWBIC's board a great experience. Directors Nancy Tulloch and Sylvia Altmann were also recognized for serving on LOWBIC's board.



## Winner: New Business Award! (under 2 years) -

Awarded to a company or individual who has been in business for less than two (2) years and demonstrates creativity in the spirit of business development.

# Upcoming Events

## May 2012

- Please contact LOWBIC (467-4630) to register for seminars/workshops
- Most of our events are free or require a small fee. Registration is required for all events and fees, if due, are payable at registration.
- “VC” indicates Video Conferencing session.
- Self-Employment Benefit Program Information Sessions are held on the last Tuesday of the month (subject to change). Individual Information Sessions are available on request. Please call Crystal Mousseau-Kast SEB Coordinator at 467-4642 or e-mail [cmousseau@lowbic.on.ca](mailto:cmousseau@lowbic.on.ca) to schedule your appointment.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 	14	15 Basics of Exporting VC: 1pm-3pm	16	17	18	19
20	21 	22	23	24 Branding Basics VC: 10am-12pm	25	26
27	28	29 Self-Employment Benefit Program Info Session Brdrm: 2pm-3pm	30	31		

## June 2012

- Please check with our office frequently for upcoming events or schedule changes. We offer seminars, information sessions, training courses, etc, on an ongoing basis.




### Website Promo Winner!



Congratulations to Charlene Everett and thanks to all who participated in the launch of our new website!!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 Positioning Your Business for Success - Two Day Power Class VC: 10am-12pm (Both Days)	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Effective Employee Orientations VC: 1pm-5pm	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20	21 GRAND OPENING! “Northern Ontario Sportfishing Centre” Ribbon Cutting @ 2pm	22	23
24	25	26 Self-Employment Benefit Program Info Session Brdrm: 2pm-3pm	27	28	29	30

# Special Notes

- Please visit <http://events.ebsc.ca/Default.aspx> for a description of listed courses as well as others that are offered via video conferencing. If you are interested in a particular course please check with our office for availability.
- Local Initiative Fund (LIF) is being discontinued! Unfortunately FedNor is not renewing the LI Fund. We are still accepting applications for 2012.
- If you have a suggestion or idea for a course topic please let us know. We're always looking to better serve our clients. 

# July 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 	2 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	3	4	5 Starting a Home Based Business VC: 10am-12pm	6 <b>Summer Hours Closed</b>	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>Summer Hours Closed</b>	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 <b>Summer Hours Closed</b>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 <b>Summer Hours Closed</b>	28
29	30	31 Self-Employment Benefit Program Info Session Brdrm: 2pm-3pm				

# SEB News



On April 27, 2012 the Kenora District Services Board hosted an Employment Outreach event at the Kenora Legion. This event brought together various employment service providers, potential employees and nearly 150 local job seekers - both adults and students. The morning agenda saw a number of short presentations on a wide range of topics including education and skills upgrading options, resume writing and interviewing skills and current and future employment opportunities.

Our SEB Coordinator gave an overview of the SEB Program for anyone thinking of starting their own business. The booth was well attended with approximately 40 people stopping by looking for information. The Employment Outreach was a very successful event.

**FYI** - Former SEB Coordinator Crystal Mousseau-Kast will be returning to LOWBIC later in May from her leave of absence. Everyone at LOWBIC is excited for Crystal's return and would like to thank current coordinator Louise Tresoor for her dedication and hard work over the last year!

- (Above) Louise Tresoor at the SEB Booth which included two draws entitled "work" and "play."
- **WORK** - consisted of business related items, won by Jennifer Blackman.
- **PLAY** - consisted of golf related items, won by Kienan Fobister.



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