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CHAMBER EVENTS

Chamber Business Breakfast
Thurs March 19

2010 Business Opportunities
Workshop Thurs March 26

Next edition of the Fernie
Chamber News Bulletin:
Thursday, March 26, 2009

Deadline for submissions:
Wednesday, March 25 at Noon

Email plain text copy to:
office@fernierchamber.com

FEATURE STORY

2009 GRIZ DAYS FESTIVAL SUCCESS



Griz Days Winter Festival 2009 was by all accounts a huge success.

Over the past few years the Griz Days committee has worked very hard to incorporate activities for all ages, and this year we succeeded.

We have it on good authority that a good time was had by all in Fernie over the festival weekend.

A huge Thank You to our sponsors:

**Columbia Basin Trust
BC Hydro
Canadian Tire - Fernie
Nohels Group
The Free Press
Elk Valley Networks**

*Your support is greatly appreciated.
~ Griz Days 2009 Committee*

Griz Days Festival Events Winners:

Griz Parade Winning Entries:

- 1st Place: Knox United Church
- 2nd Place: Back Country Meats & Sausage
- 3rd Place: Fernie Wilderness Adventures

Scavenger Hunt Winners:

- 1st: Walker Racing Team (Jake and Victoria)
- 2nd: DK Boogie Team (Dave, Loren, Kristle)
- 3rd: Erika, Zack, Audrine

Extreme Griz Winners:

- 1st: Steve Ruskay - Pub Park Place
- 2nd: Steve Lepinski - Independent
- 3rd: Kevin Giffin - Griz Bar

Griz Days 2009 Photo Montage



FEATURE BENEFIT



**Chambers of Commerce
Group Insurance Plan
AT WORK FOR
SMALL BUSINESS.**

Covers all industries including one person firms, home businesses and farms. Benefit options include life, health, dental and travel care insurance, vision care, short and long-term disability, business overhead benefits and many others. Guaranteed renewable contract and fully pooled price stability.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL:
HADDAD FINANCIAL SERVICES
828 Baker Street
Cranbrook , BC, V1C 1A2
Phone: 250-426-4221 ext 2208**

DANCESTREAMS

**Tuesday, March 17 at 7:30pm.
At Fernie Community Centre**
Youth Dance Company – Vancouver island (with guests Rhythm Incorporated)
Not to be missed! One performance only! Highly acclaimed Pre-Professional Dance Company, with Original works by leading choreographers.
Tickets at: The Arts Station & Rays music, Fernie; Sparwood Chamber & at the door.
\$10/ea; \$30/family of 4 cash only.
dancestreams.ca
For more information please contact the Fernie Arts Station: 250.423.4842 or info@theartsstation.com Or email Denise Baughan direct at db107@hotmail.com.

MEMBER SPECIALS/PROMOTION



**March at Curves is
Food Drive Month.**

Sign –up is a bag of groceries for our local Salvation Army. Come in and check out our new Weight Management Plan

Hours:
*Mon to Thurs 6 am to 7 pm
Friday 6 am to 6 pm
1561 10th Avenue*

Phone: 250-423-3105

**Knox United
Church**

Don't miss the Knox United Church
Irish Stew Dinner
(and wonderful pie desserts)
**Wednesday, March 18th
6:00 pm**

Adults: \$15.00
Seniors: 65+ \$12.00
Children: 6-12 \$12.00
Under 6: FREE

**The Knox United Church
is celebrating the 100th
anniversary of their
building.**

Celebratory events will be happening all year long, with a grand reunion of members and past ministers on October 10th and 11th.

**Watch for more 100th
Anniversary information.**



Do we still need Travel Agents?

In this day and age of internet, Expedia, on-line booking, and economic downturn, some of you may be asking, "Do we really need travel agents?" Of course the answer to that question is, "Yes," we may need them more than ever! Why, you ask, read on!

When you book a trip with a licensed travel agent located in B.C. you can be confident that these businesses have obligations under B. C. law. They are required to have certain experience and knowledge of travel services, hold consumer money in trust accounts and file regular financial reports and provide security.

When checks and balances fail the Travel Assurance Fund (TAF) is available for travelers who have not received compensation from their travel insurance or credit card company. The travel insurance fund compensates consumers who did not receive the travel services they purchased. This program is only available in two provinces in Canada, B. C. and Ontario.

As well as being insured your local travel agent may often find flights and services that are either better priced or suit your needs better. We can arrange cruises, bus tours, all inclusive holidays, and provide you with a comprehensive travel protection plan with unlimited medical coverage. It is also possible to book hotels, rent cars, book event, sporting and concert tickets and much much more! All of our service providers provide safe websites for all your personal information including your credit card number. They have a long standing good reputation in the travel industry, proven track records, as well a top information storing and security systems.

We also can issue travel Visa's, provide travel information unique to each area, have a large information base and the ability to customize your specific travel and vacation planes unique to yourself and your needs. We are a local community business working, providing professional services, and meeting the needs of our community. Come in and see all that we have to offer!

Book with us at Mountain High Travel and Tours and see how having a travel agent on your team makes your vacation or trip a stress free and relaxing time!

**Mountain High Travel & Tours
Ensemble Travel Group
IATA 61744502
Box 149/652 2nd Ave
Fernie BC V0B 1M0 CANADA
Ph: 250 423 6916
Toll Free: 1 877 448 7285
www.mountainhightravel.com
info@mountainhightravel.com**



~ Upcoming Courses ...

Qigong

Fee: \$70 & GST
Date: Mar. 18 – Apr. 22 (Wed.)
Time: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

H2S Alive

Fee: \$179
Date: Mar. 21 (Sat.)
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm

Body Mind Analysis

Fee: \$575
Date: Mar. 21 - 23 (Sat. – Mon.)
Time: 9:00am – 6:00pm

Microsoft Access

Fee: \$150
Date: Mar. 25 – Apr. 8 (Mon. & Wed.)
Time: 6:30pm – 9:30pm

OFA 1

Fee: \$100
Date: Mar. 26 (Thu.)
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm

St. John Standard First Aid

Fee: \$179
Date: Mar. 27 & 28 (Fri. & Sat.)
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm

Mining Supervisor Safety

Fee: \$100
Date: Mar. 27 (Fri.)
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm
Location: Sparwood

Forklift Safety

Fee: \$225
Date: Mar. 28 (Sat.)
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm

AirBrakes

Fee: \$225
Date: Mar. 28 – Apr. 5 (Sat. & Sun.)
Time: 9:00am – 5:00pm

OFA 3

Fee: \$695
Date: Mar. 30 – Apr. 15 (Mon. – Fri. & 1 day exam)
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm

Winter Wines

Fee: \$80 & GST
Date: Mar. 31 (Tue.)
Time: 7:00pm – 10:00pm

For more information on these and other courses, please call the College of the Rockies at 423-4691.



FERNIE SUMMER FIX

Don't miss out on a cost effective and proven advertising method this spring and summer! The Fernie Summer Fix is in production, and will attend numerous trade and industry shows this spring as well as be heavily distributed at key tourism locations in Calgary, Edmonton and toher Alberta hot spots. The Fernie Summer Fix will also be distributed alongside the monthly Fix from Cranbrook through the Crowsnest Pass, hitting the stands APRIL 1st, 2009.

For more information please email Krista Turcasso at Krista@clarismedia.com or call 250-423-4062.

THE PUB at Park Place Lodge

March 14th: A Whiskey Kiss - The Pub's Scotch tasting session Savour the superb, complex flavours of four premium Scotch Whisky's and an Irish Whiskey, along with tasty appetizers. This event will be hosted by a knowledgeable spirit educator: Scotch whisky connoisseur Lee Hanson of J. Webb Wine Merchant in Calgary, AB. Door prizes drawn throughout the night!
\$25/person (\$20 for Wine Club & 330 Club Members)

The Free Press

The Free Press is looking for news stories from the local business community.

Is your business organizing a charity event? Do any of your staff have an interesting story to tell?

Would you like to start a discussion on an issue affecting Fernie?

If you have any article ideas please call editor Rebecca Edwards or reporter Angela Treharne

at 250-423-4666 or email freepress@shawcable.com

For advertising call Linda Johnston at 250-423-4666 ext 101 or email ferniesales@shawcable.com

FernieCHAMBER OF COMMERCE News

The Chamber News Bulletin is published by the Fernie Chamber of Commerce and distributed bi-weekly to Chamber Members, and to the general public through Community Link. Non-members and the general public can sign up for Community Link at: www.ferniechamber.com

Chamber Members may submit business promotions and specials, and event information for publication. Deadline for submitting copy is the Wednesday at Noon prior to Thursday distribution.

Member's copy should be submitted in a *plain text format (no PDF's please)* and emailed to: office@ferniecechamber.com, by deadline to be included in Thursday distribution.

Please include "For Chamber Newsletter" in the subject line of the email, as we receive a large volume of email and wouldn't want your submission to be inadvertently missed.

The editor reserves the right to edit submission for clarity and length.



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ FERNIE ALPINE RESORT

Please check our daily snow report for updates on weather and conditions –
www.skifernie.com

GRIZ BAR PHOTO CONTEST

Attention all shutterbugs! The Griz Bar will be hosting the 1st Annual Photo Contest this March.

Submission deadline is MARCH 13th!

ENTRY DETAILS:

Entry Fee: \$15 + gst (1 entry per person, must be 19 yrs of age or over)

Theme: Winter in Fernie / the Elk Valley

Grand Prize: Skis & bindings

Drop Off Photo Submissions @ Guest Services

Entry form must be submitted with photo entry along with the attached release form.

Visit www.skifernie.com for contest details.

POWDER 8 CHAMPIONSHIPS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14th

Skier's pair up to make perfect figure 8's in untracked POWDER snow. Competitors will be judged on their skiing synchronization, distance spacing and style as well as their track roundness, symmetry and fall line. There are great prizes to be won including the grand prize of the ultimate skiing experience...**a day of Cat Skiing for 2 at Island Lake Lodge!!** Island Lake Lodge Catskiing is located in Fernie, BC and has been an industry leader for 20 years!

Entry Fees: Early Bird Registration (until March 11): \$75+gst per team Late Registration (on/after March 12): \$85+gst per team

Register at Guest Services! Limited spots available!

ROCKSTAR ROCKBAND COMPETITION

SATURDAY, MARCH 14th

Battle it out for the Ultimate Rockies' Rock Band title! Win great prizes and have a rockin' time at Fernie's Ultimate Rockies' Rock Band event.

FREE team entry to the Ultimate Rockies' Rock Band Contest

Sign up your Rock Band band (Original game, Wii platform) to take part in the Ultimate Rockies' Rock Band contest.

To register, email the following info to media@skircr.com:

1. Band Name
2. Band Member Names (must be 19+ yrs)
3. Lead Band Member contact email/phone # (Email registration confirmation along with contest details will follow)

SCHEDULE:

11:00am – 3:00pm Live DJ

1:30pm – 2:30pm Rock Star Fun Challenges & Games:

Best Retro-Rock Star Hair – Natural hair only!

Best Rock Star Holla! – Judged on longest note, quality of sound, personal flare

Rock Star Dance Competition – Best High Kick, Best Microphone Stunt, Best Splits!

2:30pm – 3:30pm **ULTIMATE ROCKIES' ROCK BAND CONTEST – Griz Bar**

4:00pm – 6:00pm Live Music from the Surf Dragons in the Griz Bar

9:00pm – 11:30pm Live Music from the Surf Dragons in the Griz Bar

WINTER SPORTS SCHOOL PROMOTIONS

Special Offer to Local Businesses!

Spend a fun day on the mountain with your co-workers!

Last year, we ran the 1st "Interior Health Day" – employees of IH came out for a fun day of riding and they will be coming again this spring.

Our Winter Sports School can provide you with a quote to meet the needs of your business.

Contact us at snowschool@skifernie.com or call 250-423-2406 for more information. We'll ensure that everyone has a great day!

FERNIE CAREER CONNECTIONS

designed to connect employers with high school students.

The times they are a changing, and that is especially true in today's job market. Where once upon a time employees used to compete for jobs, these days employers often find themselves competing for employees, So what to do about the labour crunch?

Career Connections 2009---an event sponsored by Kootenay Business magazine, along with Fernie Senior Secondary High School---is there to help connect employers and potential future employees, and get students thinking about future career possibilities.

Career Connections takes place Tuesday, April 7th at the Fernie Senior Secondary. The day runs from 10:30 to 2:30 p.m. The theme is Make the Most of Your Skills. Both high school students and their parents are invited to be in the attendance.

While geared mainly to Grade 12 students, some Grade 10 and 11 students are invited to attend as well. Kootenay Business magazine publisher Keith Powell said Career Connections 2009 is designed both as a job fair and an opportunity to facilitate career development contacts between students and employers.

"We want to get high school students thinking about the lines of work that might interest them," Powell said. "We want students to formulate plans for when they do leave school. It brings the business community in to the schools to display and interact with students.

The event is a proactive, very visible way for local businesses to connect with hundreds of local teens, Powell added. The students will benefit from seeing the many work and career opportunities that are available locally, while businesses will be able to connect with potential future employees from the more stable local population.

"If we help businesses succeed, we all succeed" said Powell.

For more information contact Kootenay Business at 1 800 663 8555



Business Breakfast

Thursday, March 19

8:00 a.m.

Red Tree Lodge

Topic: Crime/Loss Prevention, Graffiti Prevention

Guest Speaker: Dave Dubnyk
RCMP, Elk Valley Detachment

Chamber Members: \$17.

Future-Members: \$20.



Reservations required. Limited seating.

Call the Fernie Chamber now to reserve your space.

Tel: 250-423-6868

Visa/MasterCard accepted

2010 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES WORKSHOP

Get ready for 2010 business

Learn More About:

- > How to identify 2010 business opportunities
- > How to interpret and respond to bid opportunities
- > Where the bids are posted
- > How to create successful bids
- > Where to go for information and support



The 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games offer **\$4 billion** in business opportunities, **\$3 billion** in major infrastructure projects and **244,000 full-time jobs**, and BC business needs to know how the Olympic bidding process works. The 2010 Business Opportunities Workshop is your place to start.



2010 Commerce Centre
BC Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Secretariat



Thursday March 26
10:00 a.m.
Park Place Lodge

REGISTRATION:
Call the Fernie Chamber
at 250-423-6868

Cost: \$20.10