

Hello from The Duncan Chamber! If you don't want this e-mail [click here](#) and we'll fix it.

Duncan Chamber News Aug 27



Duncan-Cowichan
Chamber of Commerce

If you haven't had the chance yet, check out [Holmesdale House B&B](#) Located near the hospital, QMS and close to Duncan and the trails and parks of the Cowichan River: It's a perfect place to send your guests! Especially if they like waffles and strawberries! This is also the location of the **Sept 23 Chamber Mixer**. (see below for more info)

In this issue: Holmedale House B&B (Obviously!), Chamber Health Benefits Plan, Gourmet Gala, Affinity Guesthouse, Cowichan Sportplex, Made in Cowichan Marketing opportunity, Hospice Golf fundraiser, Cowichan Wine and Culinary Festival, Arbutus Ridge Winemaker's Dinner, Hockey is Life Event

(Monthly click-through sponsorship available for \$35/month. Call us for details 250 748 1111)

(New) Do any of you want to "hide" a treat in the newsletter? Although I don't recommend promising delivered chocolate chip cookies, it is an effective way to promote your business. Send me a quick e-mail if you have any clever ideas. dwright@duncancc.bc.ca



Chamber News and Announcements

Aug 24 Mixer at the Clifton was awesome!

Thank you **Eric and Sally** for hosting such a great event at **The Clifton**. Congratulations to Brian Roberts and Kathy Moore: winners of RiverBend Wine, and to **Gabriele at Shawnigan Lake B&B** and **Della at Dragonfly Dock B&B**, **Anne Broadley of Oil Check**, **Marjorie at Bellamy Learning**, and **Peter Fitzpatrick Coastal Pacific Forest Products** winners of Accommodation at The Clifton, prints from **Janet at Excellent Frameworks**, and Kayaking from **Cowichan Bay Paddle Sports**. Well done, Eric!

Next Chamber Mixer at Holmesdale House B&B Sept 23 (New Date)

Cassandra and Chris at Holmesdale House B&B are your hosts for the next chamber Mixer. Thursday Sept 23 5:30 PM-7:30 PM. One thing that you can be sure of is there will be some yummy food! RSVP to us here at the chamber@duncancc.bc.ca so we can make sure there is enough for everyone. More details to follow. <http://www.holmesdalehouse.ca/>

Next Chamber Lunch Thursday Sept 16th (New)

Presentations by Geoff Millar of Cowichan Economic Development and Paul Fletcher about the Return of the Swans festival. Cost is \$20 includes lunch and at "send" we are just finalizing the

venue. RSVP anyway..it will be great, no matter where we eat! chamber@duncancc.bc.ca

Chamber Benefit Reminder: Health Benefits..the best way to keep great staff (New)

If you have ever been pulling your hair out while trying to balance staff schedules and budgets and thought "there must be a better way!!!!"; you were right! Offering health benefits to your employees will attract the right staff to make your life easier. Employees with benefits (snicker snicker) could be the solution to your staff turnover and scheduling headaches. As a Chamber member, you have access to health benefits for you, your family and your staff. Bob Cringan is the local representative for The Chamber of Commerce Benefit Plan, contact him rcringan@shaw.ca to see if he can help you turn your business into the best place in the valley to work.

Gourmet Gala Oct 15, 2010 Great Wine, Great Food, Great Opportunity

The fifth Annual **Gourmet Gala**: a fun, delicious evening of food sampling and wine pairing, is October 15, 2010. The Gala showcases local products and talent...and is also a great way to showcase **your** business! Promotion of the Gala will start soon, and as a sponsor, your company will be widely recognized in several media. [Please click here for more information](#) on how you can participate, and gain exposure for your business. All funds raised at the Gala go towards building a new Visitor Centre for the region. <http://duncancc.bc.ca/chamber-events/gourmet-gala/index.htm>

We now have 5 Chefs (Quamichan Inn, City Square Grill, Satelite Bar and Grill, George Gates, Quw'utsun) and 7 Wineries (Cherry Point, Godfrey Brownell, Divino, 22 Oaks, Silverside, Deol) and also Makaria Farms, Saskatoon Berry Farm, Mayo Creek Gardens and Cowichan Bay Seafood

And from (or about) our members **(that's you, FYI)**

Affinity Guesthouse makes the Travel Section of Sunset Magazine (New)

Dwight (hey, that's me) and Vanessa at Affinity Guesthouse are featured in the Travel Destinations Section of Sunset Magazine's September Issue, along with members **Genoa Bay Cafe**, and a variety of other fabulous restaurants and destinations in the Valley. [Check out this great link.](#) or visit www.AffinityGuesthouse.ca/Cowichan.

Support Cowichan Sportplex and Showcase your business..Perfect!

Are you looking for a way to showcase your business in our community? The Presenting Sponsorship for the Cowichan Sportsplex Fall 4 Week Fitness Challenge is now available. This event runs for 4 weeks starting September 7 and offers huge visibility through posters, newspaper, radio, website and other print material, not to mention 16 nights of outdoor fun and fitness at the Cowichan Sportsplex. Contact Catherine at 250-746-5666 or ed@cowichansportsplex.com for more information.

Made in Cowichan? Check out this opportunity from Geoff at CVRD

This is a great initiative to clearly mark and identify products processed, made or manufactured in the Cowichan Region. The "Made in Cowichan" design labels incorporate a central style element from our Cowichan brand and provide a further association with our regional brand. EDC Cowichan will supply the first roll of 500 labels at no charge and further orders will be charged out at \$15.00 per roll of 500. [Click here](#) for more info about capitalizing on the Cowichan Brand. (editor's note: Thanks Geoff! This is a great opportunity! Well done)

Events and other fun happenings

Golf Fore the Cure Tournament for Breast Cancer Research Sept 7

Calling all ladies! This is your chance to do your part for Breast Cancer Research in BC. The first annual Golf Fore the Cure Tournament has been postponed until the 7 of September and changed to Cowichan Golf and Country Club. Enjoy an evening of fun, prizes, enter to win a Hawaiian Spa vacation. Get a team of 4 friends and **GO PINK! Golf 9 Holes with cart, Scramble, Shotgun 5:00pm, enjoy Appy's and have a blast.** \$30.00 Members, \$45.00 for Non Members. Space is limited you can register at the Pro Shop at Cowichan Golf Course, call Darcey or Cindy at Investors group 250-746-6734 or Online at www.rcgagolfforethecure.ca/participant_signup.aspx

Cowichan Wine and Culinary Festival Sept 18-19th

Check out <http://wines.cowichan.net/> for more info. This is a great opportunity to showcase Cowichan, and maybe your business, too!

Arbutus Ridge is hosting A Winemakers Dinner Sept 19th (New)

Part of the Cowichan Wine and Culinary Festival: Enjoy a four course dinner featuring the menu of Chef Rick Davidson and wine pairings of Alderlea Vineyard. Winemaker Roger Dosman of Alderlea will be speaking about each pairing and will be available to answer questions. Cost \$70 per person <http://wines.cowichan.net/>

Hockey is Life! Event Sept 18th (with Gordie Howe!)

Norm at Duncan Christian Academy wants you to know about this event on Sept 18th. A weekend of Hockey celebrations: Gala, Street Hockey Tournament, Gordie Howe public Signing and Gordie Howe night with the Capitals. For real! Mr Hockey will be there!! <http://www.hockeyislife.ca/events.php>