



Kanata Chamber of Commerce to host community expo

Posted Jun 9, 2011

BY TIFFANY WILLIAMS-LEPACK

EMC Events - It's time for the businesses and community groups to come together to help each other.

The second annual Business Meets Community Expo hosted by the Kanata Chamber of Commerce will take place on June 15 at the Holiday Inn and Suites Kanata from 7:15 to 9 a.m.

The event will be a chance to showcase the non-profit and volunteer organizations that contribute to the communities of Kanata, Goulbourn and West Carleton.

"The Kanata Chamber recognizes the important role that these groups play in our community and the countless volunteer hours that are dedicated," said Megan Cornell, president of the chamber.

Rosemary Leu, general manager of the organization, says it is a chance to really work together for the community. "I've heard it said that if it is good for the community eventually it will be good for business. We are all part of the community, business, people, service groups, events, sports teams, it makes it such a great community to live in," said Leu. "We have some wonderful organizations and it's a chance for help them gain exposure."

Derek Antoine, communications and resource development advisor with Youth Services Bureau Charitable Foundation thought last year's event was a chance to tell their story and engage with other members of the community.

"It was great to see so many members interested in community services," said Antoine.

The Youth Services Bureau Charitable Foundation offers a 24-hour crisis line and a mobile team to go to people's home to assist them further. They have 36 programs across the city at 20 different locations and they serve 2,500 to 3,000 youth every month.

"I think an event like this is important because it is the old idea that it takes a community to raise a child with everyone working together," said Antoine. "It takes local businesses to work together on behalf of youth to make their lives better."

Leu believes it is their chance to help the community groups and businesses.

"I think for businesses it's 'what can I give back to the community' and it is a chance to make connections," said Leu.

At last year's event Leu, who is also a volunteer with the Relay For Life, connected with Torbram Electric who then sent staff to help with the set up of the cancer fundraiser.

She says it is a win-win situation for everyone involved because the community groups also need services, such as signage or web service, from local

businesses. Antoine says the business community really wants to get involved with local community groups and is excited for this year's event.

"An event like this helps make those connections that make our work possible," said Antoine.

Last year the chamber had 29 non-profit and volunteer organizations participate in the inaugural event. Thus far there are 23 confirmed. Leu hopes they have more than last year and notes there are only 40 spaces available in the room.

The criteria for organizations to participate are: being based in the Kanata, Stittsville and West Carleton area and beneficial to residents.

Some of the groups already confirmed for the event include: Canadian Diabetes Association, United Way, Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre, Friends of Hospice Ottawa, Furniture Bank of

Ottawa, Kanata Food Cupboard, Queensway Carleton Hospital Foundation. For a complete list of attendees visit www.kanatachamber.com.

Organizations that are interested in participating can contact Leu: manager@kanatachamber.on.ca. To register for the event the cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members and the cost includes a hot buffet breakfast.

Like

Add New Comment

Type your comment here.

Post as ...

Showing 0 comments

Sort by  [Subscribe by email](#)  [Subscribe by RSS](#)

Trackback URL

blog comments powered by [DISQUS](#)