

## ABOUT US

- Since 1908, the Renfrew & area Chamber of Commerce has been an active and progressive
- non-profit voluntary organization promoting the civic, commercial, industrial and tourist development progress of this great community.
- The Chamber is a catalyst and a volunteer organization where business and professional people work together for the common good.
- Year-round promotion of Renfrew and the area as a destination for tourist and business is a priority.



*On the first day of her vacation, a woman fell and broke her leg. As the doctor examined her, she moaned, "Why couldn't this have happened on my last day of skiing?" He looked up. "This IS your last day of skiing."*

## SPOTLIGHT ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP



### Chris Ye

Co-Founder

Uken Games, Toronto

Employees: 45 | Age: 25

Chris Ye likes to stay ahead of the curve. Sometimes, he admits, a little too far ahead.

Ye's penchant for jumping on the next big thing might have its drawbacks, but it has helped shape Uken Games, the digital game-development company he co-founded with partner Mark Lampert, 30, in 2009. Uken was one of the first to offer cross-platform games, which allow users to continue playing the same game as they move from device to device. Today, Uken builds games that run on the iPhone, iPad, Android and BlackBerry platforms, as well as on Facebook, and Uken has created a number of top-ranked titles among social and mobile gamers, including Forces of War, Crime Inc. and Dark Galaxy.

"Our users love to play our games in a seamless fashion," Ye explains. "Whether they're using their phones on a train or loading up Facebook on their home computer, they have the ability to access the same player account."

For those game-changing achievements and more, Ye has been named FuEL Entrepreneur of the Year as part of the second annual [FuEL Awards](#), which honour Canada's Future Entrepreneurial Leaders.

# Let's Applaud Our Local Award Winners of 2012



**deslaurier**  
CUSTOM CABINETS INC.



The companies celebrated on the list of Profit 200 make up a fast growing super-elite group of businesses. Among those to make the list in 2012 is our very own My Broadcasting Corp. operating s MyFM Radio and run by Chief Executive Officers Jon Pole & Andrew Dickson.

Canada's Fastest-Growing Companies face the same challenges that every firm encounters whatever its sector and growth rate, such as how to manage HR, sales, finance and marketing. The PROFIT 200's success at solving these challenges deserves the attention of all entrepreneurs with an interest in growing their businesses.

As a group those noted on the Profit 200 list have created 14, 943 jobs between 2006 and 2011. This earned them the title of "Massive Job Creators" in Profit Magazine. MyFM has had a 304% growth rate during this period going from 17 employees in 2006 to a staggering 65 in 2011!! Another impressive feat is to remain on the PROFIT 200 for an extended run—because the hill becomes ever tougher to climb when you're being ranked based on percentage growth. This is the second year running for MyFM. My Broadcasting Corporation can now boast 14 stations across Ontario since its beginnings in 2004. Now that is impressive! Congratulations we are proud to call this company part of our local economy!

Deslaurier Custom Cabinets was started as a family business in Renfrew over 30 years ago. It designs, manufactures, installs and services high quality custom kitchen and bathroom cabinets and millwork. DCC employs 125 people between their Design Centre in Ottawa and their state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Renfrew. Serving Ottawa and the region, the company also has a network of dealers across Ontario.



Better Business Bureau: Deslaurier has received the 2012 Torch Award for marketplace trust in the home improvement category.

The GOHBA has awarded Deslaurier in the following categories:

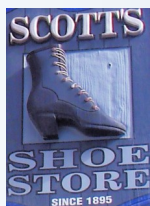


**Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association**

- 1) Production Bathroom
- 2) Production Kitchens (129 sq. ft. or less)
- 3) Production Kitchens (130 sq. ft. and over)
- 4) Best Marketing Innovation
- 5) Best Industry Representative

Congratulations on your outstanding achievements! Your contribution to the Renfrew economy has been incredible.

## Renfrew & Area Chamber of Commerce Awards



### Scott's Shoe Store — 2011 Outstanding Business of the Year

The recipient of this award is chosen from public nominations and is presented to a business that has demonstrated leadership, entrepreneurship and/or is celebrating an operating success story.

### Yemen Electric — 2011 Lifetime Business Achievement



**YEMEN ELECTRIC**

This award recognizes a business that has successfully innovated and adapted during changing economic times. They will have been actively involved in the social, cultural and economic life of our community for over 25 years.

You could be the next Award Winner.

Tap into your entrepreneurial spirit and showcase your ingenuity!!

Finally we have a platform for you to share all those great ideas, let go of your inhibitions....you could be the next Jon Pole, Jim Deslaurier or even Bill Gates!!



ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
RENFREW STYLE

# PITCH YOUR BUSINESS IDEA

## GRAND PRIZE INCLUDES

- Start Up Business Support
- Professional Services
- Access to Business Mentors

[www.renfrewareachamber.ca](http://www.renfrewareachamber.ca)

for applications and contest information  
deadline for submission is April 5, 2013

**LIVE, JUDGED EVENT MAY 17, 2013**

**AT HISTORIC O'BRIEN THEATRE**

**Hosted by:**



[www.facebook.com/wolvesdenrenfrew](http://www.facebook.com/wolvesdenrenfrew)

Help  
promote The  
Wolves' Den!  
Like us on  
Facebook

We are  
looking for  
sponsors  
to get  
involved in this  
event

Visit the  
website or call the  
office at  
613-432-7015

## Phasing Out the Penny

In Economic Action Plan 2012, the government announced The Royal Canadian Mint will stop distributing pennies to financial institutions as of Feb. 4, 2013.

The government said in its March budget it would eliminate the penny, describing its costs of production as excessive relative to its face value and the significant handling costs imposed on retailers, financial institutions and the economy in general.

It costs 1.6 cents to produce every penny.

A 2008 report by Quebec-based bank Desjardins estimated the penny's existence cost Canada's economy about \$150 million in 2006. Canada's big banks alone handle more than nine billion pennies a year, which costs \$20 million annually to process.

Ottawa estimates the decision will save taxpayers \$11 million a year.

With the elimination of the penny, the government is recommending the value of cash transactions be rounded to the nearest five-cent increment.

Originally, the government said the mint would stop circulating the coin in the fall, but now it said that waiting until after the holiday shopping season would allow banks and businesses ample time to train staff and better inform consumers.

Credit, debit and cheque transactions will be unaffected, so one cent will still be the base unit of Canadian currency.

Over time, the penny will effectively become extinct, although the government says one-cent coins will always be accepted in cash transactions for as long as people still hold on to them.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January 9th-12th

Renfrew Curling Rink is hosting the 2013 Tim Hortons Masters Men's and Women's Provincial Championship, for more info [www.2013masters.ovca.com](http://www.2013masters.ovca.com)

### February 2nd

Cobden Civitan Fundraiser Annual Ice Fishing Derby on Muskrat Lake Boat Launch from 12noon-3pm  
Buy your tickets before Jan 10th to win early bird prizes



# Ontario

The Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat is now accepting nominations for the Ontario Medal for Young Volunteers between the ages of 15 and 24, presented by the Lieutenant Governor.

Through their actions and dedication, young volunteers have improved the quality of life in their communities, their province, their country, and even around the world. This honour recognizes Ontario's finest youth who understand the importance of volunteering and who demonstrate leadership, initiative and perseverance as well as inspire others.

Do you know any young volunteers? Nominate them by January 31, 2013

Nomination forms and additional information available at [www.ontario.ca/hoursandawards](http://www.ontario.ca/hoursandawards)

## Reminder...get yours now!



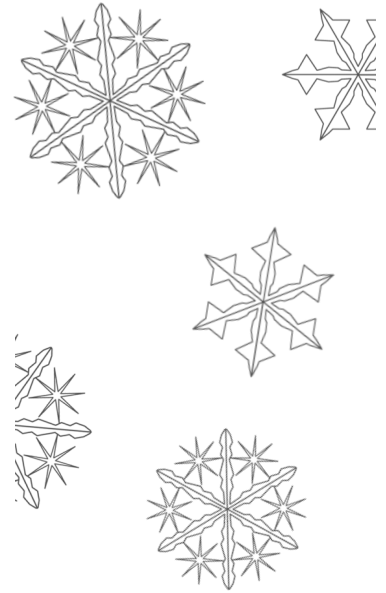
## 2013 CHAMBER MEMBERSHIPS

- local networking events
- frequent newsletters keep you in the loop
- company profile on the Chamber website
- high visibility through advertising opportunities
- save money with reduced merchant fees and gasoline discounts
  - group insurance plan available for small businesses
- receive business referrals from the Chamber Office and Information Centre
  - display your promotional materials at the Chamber Office and Information Centre

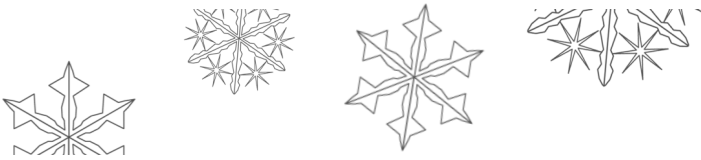
# HOME SHOW & Leisure



March 22-24, 2013



APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE  
[WWW.RENFREWAREACHAMBER.CA](http://WWW.RENFREWAREACHAMBER.CA)



## Canada's Tourism Industry Welcomes New Airfare Advertising Rules

**OTTAWA, December 18, 2012** - Canada's new all-inclusive airfare advertising regulations will promote fair competition among airfare advertisers and help consumers make informed purchasing decisions, according to the Tourism Industry Association of Canada (TIAC).

The new regulations require air service advertisers to display the total price a consumer must pay in order to fly, including all taxes, fees and charges. They also ensure that customers can access a breakdown of the taxes, fees and charges that make up the total cost of their fare.

### For more information, please contact:

David Lauer  
Director, Communications  
Tourism Industry Association of Canada  
[dlauer@tiac.travel](mailto:dlauer@tiac.travel)  
(t) 613-238-9400

# Tim Hortons 2013 MASTERS



January 9-12, 2013

## OVER 1,100 FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR CANADIAN NON-PROFIT SECTOR

One of the most important activities for non-profits and charities is securing funding to support their operations, however too many end up applying to the same programs year after year. New data from The Funding Portal reveals that non-profits should consider expanding their horizons as governments and private funders across Canada offer no less than 1,104 different funding sources for the sector.

Overall, Canadian non-profits and charities draw funding from four different sources: the government, donations and gifts, earned income, and transfers from businesses.

Government funding is an important source of financial support for non-profit organizations—the government accounts for as much as 45 per cent of total revenues for non-profits in Ontario, and as much as 60 per cent in Quebec, according to Imagine Canada.

In order to improve awareness and access by charities and non-profits to federal, provincial and municipal government funding programs, as well as to charitable foundations, The Funding Portal has created a searchable online database of these different sources of funding. According to the Portal's latest statistics, governments across Canada make over 1,000 funding and support programs available to non-profits, in addition to over 100 private sources of funding specifically pegged to this sector.

Some of these most recognizable sources of funding include: the Ontario Trillium Foundation, a provincial government agency with an annual budget of \$120 million; FedDev Ontario's Youth Stem program, which supports educational science outreach programs for children; and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's Skills Link program, which provides funding for organizations that offer activities for youth facing barriers to employment.

The Portal also offers expert services to assist non-profits throughout the application process—these include a one-hour consultation to determine an applicant's optimal sources of funding, and Score It, an expert evaluation of a draft funding application prior to its submission to funders.

# Think Summer Fun

*Wilderness Tours: EJ Clinics, 2-For-1 Deals, & More!*

**Summer 2013: Prime weeks & accommodations are filling up quickly. Call 1.888.723.8669 to check availability!**

**EJ Signature Sessions:** Four-time world freestyle champion, [Eric Jackson](#), graces OKS once again for his signature kayak clinics - July 14-28. Weekend and week-long sessions are available.

**2-For-1 Kayak Clinics:** OKS kicks off summer with a screaming deal on coaching, meals, and the down-home resort hospitality that put us on the map. The June 23-28 week-long clinics are 2-For-1! (100% payment due upon reservation)

**Adult Keeners:** Several adults have complained, "Why should the kids have all the fun?!" In response we have proclaimed Sun. June 9 - Sat. June 15, 2013, our official Adult Keener week!

**Family Kayaking:** A growing trend is to take the whole family kayaking together. Join OKS for one of our Family Weeks - either the week of July 7th or Aug. 11th. We offer one-week packages for adults, teens, and kids. It's a family affair!

**Email the ultimate paddling Dad, Joe Kowalski ([joe@wildernesstours.com](mailto:joe@wildernesstours.com)) for more information. Join us in 2013!**



# Launch of the 2013-14 EnAbling Change Program

The 2013-14 EnAbling Change Program will launch in January 2013. Starting January 14,

Applications will be accepted from non-profit organizations that want to be leaders in accessibility.

The EnAbling Change Program is an initiative of the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (ADO) that provides financial support and expertise to organizations to educate an industry or sector across the province on its obligations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

The program funds a limited number of large-scale projects that have an impact across the province. The program also funds projects that meet additional goals such as developing innovative approaches to increasing accessibility awareness and that promote Ontario as a world leader in accessibility.

Any projected funded will require an evaluation component to measure the outcomes against the objectives.

## Priorities for the 2013-14 EnAbling Change Program

Proposals for projects focused on:

1. The Design of Public Spaces — engaging planners, engineers and developers in accessibility for the design of public spaces
2. Healthy Living, Leisure and Recreation — increasing access and awareness of healthy living, leisure and recreation opportunities for people with disabilities.

## More Information on the EnAbling Change Program:

For complete details about the program, please visit our website at:

English: [www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/accessibility/partnerships/EnablingChange/index.aspx](http://www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/accessibility/partnerships/EnablingChange/index.aspx)

## Also:

Sat. Feb. 2nd 2013

### A Junior Fishing Derby

for children 12 and under  
(with paid participant max 2 children).

The Junior Derby is different from the Adult Derby and will have separate prizes!



## Cobden Civitan Club will be hosting the third annual Charity Ice fishing Derby

with over

**\$10,000 in cash and prizes.**

Sat. Feb. 2nd 2013. Ticket's \$100 each  
Fishing Time 12-3.

**Buy early to win one of ten early bird prizes of \$100.00 each if tickets are bought before Jan 10th, 2013.**

For more information go to [www.cobdencivitanclub.com](http://www.cobdencivitanclub.com)



## How to measure your fish

## New for the 2012 tax year:

### mandatory electronic filing for tax preparers

If you are an individual, a corporation, or a partnership, and you accept payment to prepare more than 10 income tax returns per year, you are considered a tax preparer and you have to file those returns electronically.

### 2013 indexation adjustment for personal income tax, benefit amounts, and the annual dollar limit for Tax-Free Savings Accounts (TFSA's)

Each year, certain personal income tax and benefit amounts are indexed to inflation using the Consumer Price Index data as reported by Statistics Canada.