



UXBRIDGE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Voice of Business

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kung hei fat choi!

Less than two weeks ago, people worldwide celebrated Chinese New Year, welcoming the Year of the Dragon. At festivals and dinners, street corners and shops, friends wished one another *kung hei fat choi* -- in English, *wishing you prosperity and wealth*.

The Board of Directors for Uxbridge Chamber of Commerce didn't have Chinese New Year or the Year of the Dragon in mind as we planned this year's programming. We did have prosperity and wealth for all Uxbridge businesses as our purpose though.

For many weeks The Board has been putting together ideas to rejuvenate Chamber events, and offer more opportunities for members to thrive and prosper because of their involvement in the Chamber.

If you are a Chamber member and attended the first breakfast meeting of the year on January 31, you heard about the opportunities. Hopefully you even took advantage of the chance to sign up for a new promotional activity while you were there.

If you missed the meeting, this article will fill you in on what you can do to

make the most of Chamber membership this year.

And, if you aren't a member yet, but have thought about joining, here's your chance to find out a bit more about Chamber activities.

Share your skills

Don't be afraid to show what you know. Members of the Chamber can write an article for this new Chamber of Commerce feature, appearing every three weeks in the *Cosmos* in 2012. Share skills, knowledge and news that affects business in our town – be the voice of business this year.

Learn something new

Take advantage of a Lunch'n'Learn opportunity – either teach one, or sign up to attend. Either way, you're bound to learn something new.

Share the Chamber experience

Invite a friend to a Chamber event by offering them a "compliments of" card. They'll enjoy their first Chamber monthly breakfast meeting for free, and you'll get a discount on yours.

Lead through sponsorship

When you sponsor a Chamber breakfast or become an annual sponsor, you position yourself and your business as a leader in the

community, and gain the exposure that sponsorship offers.

Get more out of meetings this year

Participate in selecting formats for meetings – request speakers, request topics, and make sure you attend the first of the new discussion forum meetings on February 28.

Take advantage of your benefits plan

Remember that being a member of the Chamber means savings – including a health benefits package at group rates and discounts on items like fuel. If you haven't been taking advantage, now's the time to start.

It doesn't matter whether you are a large company in Uxbridge, or a small home-based business, whether you are an employee or an employer. Chamber membership is inexpensive and can offer you free opportunities to

grow your wealth and prosperity in 2012 – just by being a member and coming out to meet others.

Wondering how to get started? Visit the Chamber website at www.uxcc.ca, email info@uxcc, like us on Facebook, or call us at 905-852-7683.

We look forward to seeing and speaking with every member this year. In the meantime, *kung hei fat choi* to all in 2012, from Uxbridge Chamber of Commerce.

Katharine Gebhardt of Signpost Communications (www.signpostcommunications.ca) is a member of the Uxbridge Chamber of Commerce, sits on the Board of Directors, and runs a marketing communications company in Greenbank.