

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**Carman and Community Chamber**  
**of Commerce**  
**December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022- 12:00pm**

**Present In Person:**

Jodi Winkler, Dale Reimer, Kelly Dyck, Sheena Nakonechny, and Carmen Fotheringham

**Via Zoom:**

Brian Maxwell, Dean North, Tyler Russell, Ashley Froese, Mark Summers, Trish Middleton, Nancy Swain, Jean Karlenzig, Faye Harms and Trevor Klassen

**1. Call to order:**

Marni Harrison called the meeting to order at 12:00pm

**2. Introductions:**

Introductions were made to all in attendance.

**3. Presentation by the Carman Collegiate Robotics Club**

**4.**

**5. Approval of Agenda**

Kelly Dyck moved to accept the December agenda as circulated – Dale Reimer Seconded – Carried

**6. Community Reports:**

**Community Groups- No Reports**

**Town of Carman- Erin Lemky- No Report**

**RM of Dufferin- Tyler Russell- No Report**

**Director of Economic Development – Tyler King – No Report**

**Carman and Dufferin Recreation- Sheena Nakonechny**

-Hall Walking- Last day will be Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> and then will continue into the New Year Starting January 10<sup>th</sup>. This program will go until the beginning of April.

-Drop-in Basketball has been happening on Monday Evenings at the Carman Collegiate from 8:30 - 10:00pm. December 19<sup>th</sup> will be the last session before the school break. This program will be continued in the new year.

-Snowshoes lending program is back – 4-day free loan Friday to Tuesday. Reserve to pick up at Memorial Hall.

Aquafit will have new sessions in the new year.

The Rec is hosting the annual 3 on 3 Tournament on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The tournament is full with 12 teams.

-Raising a Calm Canine Puppy Class starts Jan 4<sup>th</sup> for 4 weeks with Instructor Elaine Bruewer.

Registration is open online at [carmandufferinrecreation.com](http://carmandufferinrecreation.com). For more information on the class visit Elaine's website at <https://www.calmcanine.ca/puppy-classes>.

**7. Approval of Minutes:**

Carmen Fotheringham moved to accept the minutes of the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting as circulated. Dean North seconded – Carried

**8. Financial Report:**

The balance in the ACU chequing account as of December 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 is \$24615.68. The Chamber buck account balance is \$16229.46 and the Business Support Fund account balance is \$13291.29. Kelly Dyck moved to accept the December financials as circulated. Dale Reimer Seconded- Carried

## 9. Chamber Committee Reports:

### Business Awards:

The Awards Ceremony was held at the Bell Aura Bed and Breakfast on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Congratulations to all of the nominees and award winners for 2022.

## 10. President's Report- Marni Harrison

- December Report Attached

## 11. Executive Director's Report – Jodi Winkler

- December Report Attached

## 12. Chamber Business Old and New

- **Career Fair**- This event was held on November 16<sup>th</sup> at Carman Collegiate and was a great success. Thank you to all of businesses that took part in this event and a special thank you to the Carman Collegiate for their assistance in hosting the Career Fair.

- **Business Awards**- Were held on December 1<sup>st</sup> at Bell Aura Bed and Breakfast.

- **Holiday Hoopla**- Took place on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. The event proved to be very well attended and the businesses that were involved were very pleased with the traffic in their business on this day. Congratulations to Erica Donley as she was drawn as the winner of \$1000 in Chamber Bucks with her purchase at this event!

- **Keep The Cheer Here Campaign**- Will run through the month of December on both social media platforms. Please contact Jodi if you are interested in sponsoring Chamber Bucks for this campaign.

- **Breakfast with Santa**- Hosted by Homestead Co-op was held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Community Hall and was a very successful event. Thank you to Co-op for their efforts to make this event happen again after a short break during covid.

## 13. Round Table Discussion

-Dufferin Ag Society is pleased to announce that they have reached a deal with the Carman Golf Course and will be constructing a driving range in the north end of the fair grounds. More information on this will be provided in the coming months.

## 14. Next Meeting – January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Memorial Hall and Zoom

## 15. Motion made by Carmen Fotheringham to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 pm

### President's Report- December Meeting

Hi everyone,

I hope you all are enjoying the hustle and bustle that has returned with a no restrictions holiday season!

Congratulations to all of our Chamber award nominees, it is wonderful to have so many businesses and individuals recognized. The event to honor our winners at Bell Aura was beautiful, and the spread was fantastic. If you ever need a venue for 40 or less, licensed or not, we could not recommend Barb and staff more. It was a beautiful setting, and allowed for plenty of visiting in a cozy environment.

Thanks to all the businesses who are making the holiday shopping season so fun, with many having "12 days of Christmas" specials, activities. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. My children and I are looking forward to shopping on Holiday Hoopla – and we are so grateful the cold snap should be over by the 8<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to thank all of you for your efforts with your own business, and within our Chamber Community through 2022.

I hope you take the time to enjoy Christmas with whomever brings you joy.

Merry Christmas to everyone! See you in 2023....

Marni

### Executive Director Report- December Meeting

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like CHRISTMAS!

And I think that the FEELING of Christmas will be in our downtown business district today, as we host HOLIDAY HOOPLA!

I hope that you plan to shop late tonight, as many of our storefront businesses will be open until 9pm with instore specials, draws and the chance to win \$1000 in Chamber Bucks! Thank you to all of the businesses that are participating in this second annual event!

The onboarding of our new membership platform is complete you have all received log in information and membership invoices for 2023. Thank you for your patience as I work through the kinks and get this new platform up and running. I am excited about the features that it includes and will work to utilize this very powerful database and membership platform as we move into the new year.

Thank you to those business that attended Career Fair at the Collegiate on November 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success and we are already planning on bigger and better for next year.

The Chamber Business awards were held at the beautiful Bell Aura Bed and Breakfast on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. This was an amazing evening and I would like to thank Barb and her staff at Bell Aura for their hospitality. The venue and food were outstanding and all in attendance were overly impressed with this hidden gem in our community. Thank you to the sponsors of this evening. MMJS Law Office, Homestead Co-op, Rural Buds Cannabis Store, and Community Futures Heartland. We appreciate your continued support of the Chamber.

Congratulations to our award winners. New Business of the Year- Blue Crescent Hotel, Outstanding Business of the Year- Leanne Doell, Community Builder, Mayghan McEachern, and Chamber Member of the Year- Royal LePage Legacy Realty. Your contribution to our Chamber and our community does not go unnoticed and we appreciate each of you.

As 2022 draws to a close and I look back on the year, I am overwhelmed at the growth in our Chamber and attribute that to the small-town strength that is shown through our members.

In the past year we Survived February with our very popular gift card promotion, hosted our second annual Poutine and Burger Week, held two VERY successful golf tournaments, held not one, but two Career Fairs at Carman Collegiate, hosted an amazing parade during the Carman Country Fair, co-hosted meet and greets, and collaborated with the Boyne River Keepers for our, now annual World River Day.

All of these events were very successful, but I would say the highlight of the year was the Car-wo-man event that was held at Ryall Park in September. This event was magical, to say the least.

We celebrated the retirement of two long time business owners, Alice Veenendall and Larry Stout and welcomed new owners to a staple business in our community, Evensong.

As we head into the holiday season, our shop local campaign has started and through Keep the Cheer Here and Holiday Hoopla, we hope to keep dollars local.

All of these events and activities keep our Chamber active and I thank you for your participation and attendance throughout the year.

Thank you for being involved. Thank you for engaging. Thank you for sponsoring events. Thank you for replying to my NUMEROUS emails, and thank you for being a member of our growing chamber. Without you the members, none of this would happen. We appreciate every one of you and the contribution you make to as we work to build our business community.

Thanks for all you do to make our community one to be proud of!

Sincerely, Jodi Winkler, Executive Director, Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce