



# SOUTH QUEENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PRESENTATION TO THE  
COUNCIL OF THE REGION  
OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY  
20 JUNE 2011

# MISSION STATEMENT

*“The South Queens Chamber of Commerce shall promote and improve trade and commerce, and will work to foster the economic, civic and social welfare of the district.”*

# WHERE WE FIT IN

We are a member of the Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce, the chief advocacy group for more than 6700 business owners province-wide. It is comprised of 32 Chambers of Commerce across the province.

We currently have **62** members, ranging from Home Based Businesses upwards. This is a **54%** increase from 2010.

# WHAT WE ARE

- A Business Group working for businesses, and therefore both the voice of the business community and a network
- A Lobby Group (*Between Business and Government*)
- Advocates (*Publicly support our local business and make recommendation on their behalf*)
- A Facilitator (*Music Nova Scotia*)
- The conscience of the business community.
- Partners with the Region of Queens and other authorities/agencies in fostering economic development

# WHAT WE ARE NOT

We are **not** a:

- Social Group
- Community Representative
- Catch All Group
- Revenue Generator
- Business Saviour
- Problem solver

# OUR CHALLENGES

- Key challenge is to position ourselves, whether as an individual organisation or in partnership, so that we add value
- Secondary challenge, within that, is identifying issues that are within the ability of a volunteer organisation to tackle
- Overcoming apathy and achieving the engagement necessary to make a difference

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Work in progress, but drawing from the above, and in broad terms, our strategic objectives are to:

- Be effective advocates for businesses in the South Queens area in order to bring their issues to the attention of the appropriate organisation
- Achieve partnerships both within and out with government in order to contribute to the Region's economic development
- Improve the added value resulting from Chamber membership in order to facilitate business development and a sense of shared ownership

# INITIATIVES

## **ONGOING:**

- Recruit Home Based Businesses
- 10 to 20 Project (RQM/SQCoFC/NQBoT).
- Raise the profile of, and value added by, the CofC
- Sponsor Workshop series to educate and inform business owners and staff
- Improve partnerships with RQM, LQRDA, etc
- Facilitation of the Music Nova Scotia bid

## **COMPLETED:**

- Facilitate the Federal Election debate

# DISCUSSION