



BIA Update

A Message from your President!



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With summer just around the corner there is a flurry of activity up and down the street with several businesses getting ready to open their doors. I would like to welcome these new members to the BIA and I look forward to meeting with each of you soon at one of our BIA members meetings or at one of our BIA walkabouts.



On an exciting note, the BIA held its first social networking seminar last month. It was a very successful evening with over 20 members participating. I would like to thank Ken Newman from Sweet Aroma and Jenny Thomas from Applause Toy Store for their excellent tutorial on how to set up your Facebook and Twitter accounts. Copies of the tutorial are available at the BIA office. The BIA would like to hold another evening for those members who have already jumped into the social networking world but wish to learn more. Please contact the BIA office if interested. Furthermore if you have a facebook and or twitter account please follow us. at Bracebridge BIA (facebook) and BracebridgeDtnw (twitter). The BIA will be providing regular updates on both of those social networks. Furthermore if you have something special going on, in-store specials or programs that you want the public to know about please contact us and we can get it out there for you. Together we can spread the word about how great Downtown Bracebridge is.



Lastly the BIA held its 1st ever BIA walkabout on May 5th. It was a great night with 9 businesses participating. Thanks to Lilibird, The Corner Cabinet, Jacquie's Boutique, Worth Repeating, The Creative Cook, Simply Cottage, Signature's Eatery, Applause Toy Store & Silverbridge Gallery for the fun night. The food and wine were terrific! The walkabout is a great opportunity to network and show off your business and to get some valuable information about the other businesses on the street. If you wish to participate in the next Walkabout it will be held on Thursday June 2nd starting at approximately 6 pm please contact the BIA office if interested.

Sincerely

Mae Brazier



REMINDER

Next BIA WALKABOUT

Date: Thursday
June 2nd
6 pm

Please contact the BIA office if you are interested participating
705 646-5590

DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?



The easiest way for the BIA to contact each member is thru email. It is fast and immediate. If you have an email address or if you have recently changed it and are no longer getting our updates please let us know a.s.a.p. so we can get you added to our distribution list. Our goal is to be able to reach each and every BIA member regularly and quickly. Also if you have a Facebook page or Twitter account please let us know so that we can get connected to you.

GENERAL INFORMATION



GARBAGE COLLECTION

I am happy to announce the weekly collection of garbage has commenced. However with that being said we have encountered several issues with unsightly garbage on the street.

Garbage is picked up on Friday mornings. We ask that all garbage be out no later than 7:45am on the day of pick up. If the deadline is missed it is up to the landlord/business to remove this garbage immediately. It is not to sit on the street until the next pick up.

The BIA has spoken with the Town of Bracebridge and will be implementing the littering by-law. We have all worked extremely hard to keep our streets beautiful and clean. A clean town is not only a matter of pride, it's a key measure of the town's livability and is directly connected to its economic and business success. While some things in life are out of our control, we can control the cleanliness of the place we work, live and play.

Lets all do our part and ensure our streets stays clean. If there is an issue with garbage bags on the street or the garbage bin near your business is overflowing please contact the BIA office—705 646-5590. We will look into each concern.

PUBLIC WASHROOMS

Location: Visitor's Center/Riverwalk Restaurant
1 Manitoba Street

Monday 9 am—5 pm
Tues—Thursday 9 am—5 pm, 5:30 pm until Riverwalk closes

Location: Bracebridge Public Library

Mon & Fri 9 am—6 pm
Tues to Thurs 9 am—8 pm
Saturday 9 am—4 pm
Sunday closed

Location: Senior Citizen Activity Centre
54 Dominion Street

Location: Bracebridge Arena

Please refer to the BIA brochure when giving directions to these locations as all the washrooms are clearly marked.

Community Calendar

If you are aware of any upcoming tournaments or events that are being held within Bracebridge please let us know.

May 28

Muskoka Men in Song in Concert

First Baptist Church—541 Cedar Lane
7:30 pm—Free Admission everyone is welcome.

July 1

Canada Fire Works

Bracebridge Bay Park
www.bracebridgefireworks.com

July 8-10

Muskoka Pioneer Power Association

J. D. Lang Memorial Park
www.bracebridgechamber.com/mppa

July 9—August 7

(Saturdays & Sundays)

Art in the Heart

Downtown Bracebridge
www.artintheheartbracebridge.com

July 15—17

49th Annual Muskoka Arts & Crafts Summer Show

Annie Williams Memorial Park
www.muskokaartsandcrafts.com

August 6-7

Muskoka Model Railway Show

J. D. Lang Activity Park
www.muskokamodelrailwayclub.com

August 9-13 / August 16-18 (7pm)

PRISM presents "The Taming of the Shrew"

Annie Williams Memorial Park
prismtheatre1@gmail.com

August 12-13

Cottage Country Comedy Festival

Rene M. Caisse Memorial Theatre and Club One
www.cottagecomedy.com

August 20

Bracebridge Highland Games

Annie Williams Memorial Park
www.bracebridgehighlandgames.com

August 20-21

Reggae Muskoka Bob Marley Festival

J. D. Lang Activity Park
www.reggaemuskoka.com

August 22&26

Muskoka Opera Festival

Rene M. Caisse Memorial Theatre
www.muskokaopera.com

August 27

Muskoka Beer Festival

Annie Williams Memorial Park
www.muskokabeerfestival.ca

EVENTS

Father's Day Car Show

Sunday, June 19th
10 am—4 pm

Planning for the Father's Day Car show is well underway and with that being said we are happy to announce that the Town of Bracebridge and the District of Muskoka has approved our request to have the car show area expanded. The road closure will now extend along Manitoba Street from Ontario Street to Anne Street which triples its size from previous years. With the increased size the BIA is looking for more volunteers to help manage the road closure area. Which includes set up, tear down and registration. Please contact the BIA office immediately if you are able to assist or if you know of some students that will be able to assist. The car show road closure will commence at 7 am and remain closed until 5 pm. The extended time allows for set up and removal of the cars.

In addition to the new size of the event the BIA is looking to offset the cost of the trophies, plaques and entertainment for the day. The following sponsorships are available; 1—Presenting Sponsor, 2—On-Site Sponsor, 14-Trophy Sponsors, Unlimited—Friend Sponsors. If you are interested in becoming a featured sponsor and would like to discuss the benefits of the above options please contact the BIA office immediately for details; 705-646-5590 or info@downtownbracebridge.com or go to the BIA website www.downtownbracebridge.com for the sponsorship details.

Also the BIA is putting together 200 welcome packages for the participants of the car show. We are looking for items that can be placed in these bags. If you are interested in being featured in the "grab" bag please notify the BIA a.s.a.p. All items must be dropped off at the BIA office on or before June 13th to be included.

Lastly we are looking to collect again for the car show door prizes. Please have your door prize and a business card ready to be picked up no later than June 3rd. Tracy will be around the following week to gather all the door prizes.

This is our biggest car show to date and it will be a great opportunity for us to show off our great downtown. We are asking that all members be open on Father's Day which is Sunday June 19th from 10 am until 4 pm. Please contact the BIA if you have any questions regarding the car show or if you would like to become a featured sponsor.

BIA 2011 Events

Father's Day Car Show

Sunday, June 19th
10 am—4 pm

Block Party

Uptown members—Sidewalk Sale

TBD—Meeting is scheduled to discuss

All welcome to attend—Date: May 18—8:30am @ BIA office

Midnight Madness

Friday July 29th
6 pm—Midnight

Colourfest

Sidewalk Sale
Saturday, October 1
10-4 pm

Santa's Moonlight Shopping Party featuring

Festival of the Lights

Friday December 2nd (tentative)

Volunteers are needed to assist with the planning of the above events. If you are interested in volunteering please contact the BIA office. 646-5590 or info@downtownbracebridge.com

WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST

Date: June 17

Theme: Celebrate Summer

Get your creative juices flowing as the next scheduled window decorating contest is fast approaching. Please have your windows ready by June 16th for judging



Welcome to the BIA!

**Please take a moment to welcome
our
new members.**

- Cut-R-Brats Family Salon
9 Monck Road

UPCOMING MEETINGS

General Members Meetings

To ensure you are available, please keep the below dates open for our General BIA meetings. It is important that we all try to attend these meetings as it is a great opportunity to share ideas and/or concerns. Location and start times will be provided in upcoming newsletters. To assist with planning please RSVP if you are able to attend the meeting. You may do this by sending us an email at info@downtownbracebridge.com or by contacting the BIA office (705)646-5590.

Upcoming General Members Meeting

Date: June 2nd

Location: *BIA Walkabout*

Start Time: Approximate start time 6:00 pm Starting location TBD based on participants

This is an opportunity for each business to get to know the other businesses within the BIA and become familiar with what you sell or what services you offer. This is open to all BIA members (retail, restaurants/café and professional businesses). It is a great way to get to know your neighbors. The number of walkabouts done will depend on the number of members who indicate they are interested in participating. Each store will have an opportunity to talk to the members about their business. Cross selling within the BIA is extremely important and this will give everyone a chance to become familiar with what is currently being offered within the BIA.

BIA Board of Management Meetings

The Board of Management meets on the last Tuesday of every month. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers (1000 Taylor Court). All members are welcome to attend and share their input. If you have an issue you would like added to the agenda, please contact the BIA office in advance.

Next Board of Management meeting

May 17 , 2011

6:30 p.m.

Contact List

Mae Brazier	President	645-3131
Cindy Rushton	Vice President	645-9990
Glenn Gordon	Treasurer	645-5255
Mark Gauthier		646-2274
Christine Marshall		645-6451
Beth Kelly		645-0027
Liz Mitchell-Duran		646-2142
Cheryl Kelley	Appointed by Town	645-5264
Liam Cragg	Appointed by Town	646-8122
Tracy Larkman	BIA Coordinator	646-5590

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