



## Didsbury & District Chamber of Commerce

# TGIT Newsletter

December 2, 2006

Your source for up-to-date information about your Chamber, Chamber members and the activities the Chamber undertakes on your behalf.

### Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic

Winter has certainly arrived with very frigid temperatures and a layer of powdery snow. While the wintry conditions are looked upon with distain by most in the area, the Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic committee is beaming from ear to ear.

The Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic sprint races are scheduled to take place in the Rosebud River Valley immediately east of Didsbury on January 13 and 14, 2007. Warm climatic conditions in January of 2006 forced organizers to postpone the races three times before they were finally held in mid-March. Organizers are optimistic Mother Nature will cooperate this year with freezing temperatures and a heavy blanket of snow.

So far this winter, much to the delight of the organizing committee, Mother Nature has cooperated with temperatures dipping to the mid-twenties below zero and a blanket of, albeit skimpy, snow covering the fields.

"We're already miles ahead of where we were last year" comments organizing committee Chair Bill Windsor, "the river is already frozen stiff which puts us 3 months ahead of last year. The river didn't freeze until February last year."

The Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic committee enjoyed a variety of successes in its 2006 hosting of these sprint races. Forty-Seven mushers entering sixty-six teams of dogs participated in the races. Over three hundred dogs, dog trucks and handlers congregated in the re-located staging area of the races. Eleven hundred spectators braved the elements to get a viewing of this unique and exciting event. Four television stations aired footage of the races and a multitude of radio stations carried announcements and interviews throughout the two-day event.

#### Chamber Office Hours

9 am to 3 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays.  
Office Manager: Bill Windsor

### Noteworthy Dates

Wednesday, December 13, 2006  
CPR Holiday Train, 7:30 to 8 pm  
6 to 8 pm free Hot Chocolate & Cider  
Didsbury Train Station  
Thursday, December 14, 2006  
General Membership Meeting  
Chamber Office at 7 pm  
Thursday, January 11, 2007  
General Membership Meeting  
TBA  
January 13 & 14, 2007  
Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic  
March 31/April 1, 2007  
Didsbury Trade Show

Some of the successes the 2006 edition of the sprint races weren't evident to the organizing committee as they struggled with postponements and challenging weather conditions to conduct the races. Following the first edition of the Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic, the Ma Mow We Tak Sled Dog Association of Saskatchewan unanimously named the Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic sprint race as one of the sanctioned points races for its members. The Alberta International Sled Dog Classic held in Canmore is currently undergoing reconstruction and organizers of those races have indicated they will be fashioning their races after the Rosebud Run structure.

While recognition of the success of the 2006 Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic is certainly gratifying to the organizing committee, every committee member is still cognisant of the fact that the hosting of the races is entirely dependent on the weather.

"While things are certainly looking good right now, river frozen, snow on the ground and freezing temperatures" Windsor said, "this is Chinook country and we know how fast the snow can disappear."

Possibly even more gratifying than any of the other successes the committee enjoyed in the 2006 edition of the Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic sprint races is the way the local community has embraced the races.

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"I am utterly amazed by the excitement and support the Didsbury community has and is lending to these races" Windsor added. "It is a testament to community spirit and foresight that makes our committee proud to be hosting these races in Didsbury."

Sponsorship packages are still available for those wishing to be involved in the hosting of these races. For sponsorship information and information on the races in general, see the Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic website at [www.rosebudrun.ca](http://www.rosebudrun.ca). For those without Internet access, call Bill Windsor at 335-9445 or Dena Wannamaker at 335-3170.

The Rosebud Run Sleddog Classic sprint races are just over a month away. Be sure to mark your calendars for January 13 and 14, 2007, when the races come to Didsbury and "The Fur is Going to Fly".

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### Trade Show Plan Underway

With Council's approval of the Trade Show budget this week, plans are underway for the Chamber's biggest event of the year. For the fourth year in a row, the Trade Show will be chaired by Greg Poirier and Kathleen Windsor, with Bill Anthony heading up the art show and sale. Joelle Fournier has been hired as Trade Show Manager, and will handle all the booth bookings and exhibitor requirements. If you have any questions, give Joelle a call at 335-2046.

The committee always likes to introduce something new each year to help promote Chamber members and the local business community. In the recent past, this has included the Prairies to Peaks Tourism Trail and A Taste of Didsbury Food Court. This year, the committee is very excited to announce the introduction of A Walk in the Park, two fashion shows, a bridal and special occasions fashion show featuring gowns from Cameo & Cufflinks on Saturday, and an introduction

#### ACC Group Insurance

Didsbury Chamber of Commerce members are eligible to enroll in the Alberta Chambers Group Insurance Program. The program itself is far too extensive to cover in a medium like the TGIT, however, if you are interested in obtaining more information about the ACC Group Insurance Program, please contact the area representative, Kieth Fordyce, at (403)932-7846 or e-mail him at [questfinancial@shaw.ca](mailto:questfinancial@shaw.ca).

of the spring lines and outfits from our own local fashion stores at Sunday's fashion show. We are continually hearing how people wish there was a bridal show between Red Deer and Calgary, or a place where high school and college students could check out the new lines for their own grad dress purchases. "A Walk in the Park" will be "the spring fashion show" in Mountain View County!

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### Exhibitor's Package Available

The Exhibitors packages for the 2007 Didsbury Trade Show will be hand delivered or mailed in the next few weeks. If you would like to receive a package, please contact Trade Show Manager, Joelle Fournier, at 335-2046.

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### Sponsorships Available

The Trade Show Committee is now accepting sponsorships for various programs. If you are interested in participating in the Trade Show as a sponsor, please contact Gerard Fournier at 335-4843.

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### Food Court Returns to the Trade Show

If you are a local restaurant and would like to buy a space in this year's food court, please contact Greg Poirier, 335-9595 for details. Space is limited.

The next Trade Show meeting is at 7 pm on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 at the Chamber office. If you would like to volunteer, or have ideas you would like considered, you are more than welcome to attend.

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### When Are You Open?

The Chamber is starting to get calls from residents wanting to know store hours during the month of December. Are you open late on Thursday nights? How late on Christmas Eve? Please send us your store hours as soon as possible so we can pass on the message.

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### Christmas Greetings

The Council and staff of the Didsbury & District Chamber of Commerce wish each and every one of our members, and their families, the very best of the Christmas season. Happy holidays!

