

SNOWMOBILE TOURISM GETS BOOST

McGuinty Government Supporting Tourism Economy With \$3 Million Investment

April 14, 2008 - The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs will receive \$3 Million from the provincial government to help attract more sports and adventure tourists to use the province's 40,000 kilometres of snowmobile trails.

The funding announced at the Go Snowmobiling Campaign meeting in Barrie, will be used throughout the year to maintain trails across Ontario and promote the province as a prime snowmobile tourism destination.

Snowmobiling contributes \$1.2 billion annually to Ontario's economy. The federation estimates that snowmobilers rode over 150 million kilometres on its trails during winter 2008.

"Snowmobiling brings jobs and economic benefits to communities across Ontario. This investment will stimulate prosperity in rural and northern regions," said Tourism Minister Peter Fonseca at a meeting for the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs in Barry today.

"Thanks to the support of the Ontario government, we can step up our campaign to draw more people to Ontario's peerless network of snowmobile trails as well as provide safe, well-maintained trails for all to enjoy," said the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs' executive director Paul Shaughnessy.

The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs is a non-profit, volunteer driven organization comprising 250 local snowmobile clubs grouped into 17 districts.

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AND ALLIED BUSINESS MEMBERS OF THE NORTH

KDCA SPRING SOCIAL AND DANCE

Cook Your Own Steaks...Live Band
MAY 2nd AT THE WALDHOF HALL
TICKETS: \$25 EACH

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PLEASE RSVP FOR MEETING, LUNCH & DINNER

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MAL TYGESSON AT (807)755-2434

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SMOKE TRAILS NEWS

KENORA DISTRICT CAMP OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Your Local Tourism Lobby Association Representing the Federal District of Kenora.

NOTICES:

NEXT MEETING:
**Friday
May 2, 2008
Waldhof Hall**

IN THIS ISSUE:

- President's Message
- Tentative 2008 Spring Meeting Agenda
- Final Rule Announced For Border Crossing Documentation
- Sorbara Leads Study To Boost Ontario Tourism
- Snowmobile Tourism Gets Boost

President's Message:

Spring 2008

TO: KDCA Members, Allied Members, Colleagues & Interested Parties:

To each of you, **please keep Pat & Mal Tygesson in your prayers.** I have been informed Pat has encountered additional complications with her medical situation with the outcomes yet to be determined. Please keep her foremost in your hearts and minds. They need all of the help and support that this community of friends can offer.

Over the winter months we completed bulk newsletter mailings, attended sport shows, placed ads in newspapers and magazines, purchased "spots" on TV and radio and modernized our websites. In short, we have spent an amazing amount of money and expended an extraordinary amount of energy to invite our "guests for dinner" but we don't quite know if they will come. This doubt is underscored by the "doom and gloom" broadcasts on radio and television and the "chicken little" stories in the print media and on the Internet. Furthermore, gas prices are still rising, the US dollar continues to weaken, passport requirements are still confusing (not needed until June 2009) and some Ontario border crossings continue to be problematic.

In light of these problems what is a NW Ontario tourist or business operator to do?

Simple: look inward & look outward. Inwardly, each of us can control the majority of our business components (e.g., staffing, construction, purchases, expansion, etc.) so we need to begin doing so as quickly as possible. Stated somewhat differently, we need to do more with less. In looking outward we need to begin, or support, an organized effort to bring the plight of our industry to the attention of those decision makers that directly impact our lives and industry. The timber industry has had some effect in laying their case before these decision makers with a modicum of success. It is time for the tourism industry to stand up and be counted. I believe that KDCA can take a lead in this effort. Over the winter months the KDCA President has pursued meetings with policy makers, politicians, bureaucrats, government officials and community organizations and representatives to explain where our problems lie and what needs to be done about them. It is clear that more needs to be done; EVERY MEMBER OF KDCA needs to get involved with our efforts to shine a light on the needs of the tourism industry in NW Ontario. I challenge each of you to make your presence known - show up at the May 2nd Annual Spring Meeting (Waldorf Community Hall beginning at 9:00 a.m.) and offer your support for actions needed or underway. No one person can do it all - together all of us can!

Finally, do not forget the **ANNUAL SPRING DINNER & DANCE**, May 2nd at the Waldorf Community Hall. Be there! Be counted! Be seen! If you have any questions please call the Patricia Regional Tourism Council (807-223-6792) or Mal Tygesson at Evergreen Lodge (807-755-2434). I will see ALL OF YOU at the "DEW."

THANKS, again, for your support.
Harald Lohn, President



WE SUPPORT OUR ALLIED MEMBERS

P.O. Box 545, Dryden, Ontario P8N 2Z2 Phone (807) 223-3266 www.kdca.ca

visit www.kdca.ca today!

ISSUE FOR:
SPRING 2008

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Location: Waldhof Hall, Waldhof

9:00 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation
9:30 a.m.	Meeting Begins Welcoming - Harald Lohn, President Additions/Corrections to Agenda Fall 2006 Minutes - Review/Approval Treasurer's Report - Steve Hartle, Treasurer Announcements - Passport Requirements - GST Rebate Program - Elections at 2008 Meeting - Other Items KDCA/NWOTA Update - Jerry Fisher White-tail Deer Hunting - Gord Bastable, Jim Bullman, Jacqui Haukeness National Marine Manufacturers Assoc (NMMA) - Darren Envall
12:00 noon	LUNCH (Sponsored by Consumer Frosted Foods, Sysco and Evergreen Lodge)
1:00 p.m.	NOTO Update - Dave McLeod OTMPC - Jim Grayston Live Bait Regulation (HACCP) - TBA Canada Border Services Agency -TBA Roger Valley, M.P. Consulate General of Canada - Murray Hardie (tentative) Wrap-up Adjournment
5:00 p.m.	Happy Hour
7:00 p.m.	Dinner & Dance

Log-on to www.kdca for past Meeting Minutes.
Just click Links & Downloads.

Kenora District Camp Owners Association



Home Links & Downloads News Travel Information KDCA Members

www.kdca.ca

**PLEASE SUPPORT
KDCA ALLIED MEMBERS**

Alex Wilson Coldstream Ltd.	807-223-2381
B.Taylor Home Hardware Building Centre	807-223-3381
Bay Lakes Mktg/All Canada Show	920-983-9800
BDO Financial Services	807-223-5321
Best Western Motor Inn	807-223-3201
Bilsbarrow & Assocs/Darkwater Devs	807-938-6331
Bobby's Corner	807-227-2099
Border Bob's	218-283-4414
Brose Management Services	807-468-6471
Bush, Norm and Sarah	807-937-6250
Canada Borderlink Inc.	403-218-1300
Consumers Frosted Foods Ltd.	807-468-8995
Desmarals, Larry	807-227-2751
Dingwall Ford	807-223-2235
Dryden District Chamber of Commerce	807-223-2622
Dryden GM	807-223-7123
Eagle Junction	807-755-2226
Egli's Sheep Farm	807-755-5231
Flexfish Inc.	204-257-9671
Hawkins Taxidermists Ltd.	204-775-3384
Holiday Inn - Dryden	807-223-3000
Hook, Seller & Lundin	807-468-9831
Kantola Motors	807-468-8984
J.Webb & Son	1-800-465-5089
John C. Brose	807-468-6471
Kantola Motors	807-468-8984
Kenora Home Realty	807-468-4777
Kupper Contracting	807-227-2194
K-Sports	807-468-3308
McAuley & Partners	807-223-2254
McKinstry Chrysler	807-223-4214
Mercury Marine	204-349-3209
Northern Lights Credit Union Ltd.	807-223-5454
northwest design + communications	807-223-3691
Ontario's Sunset Country	807-468-5853
Patricia Area Community Endeavors	807-221-3293
Railside Sports & Marine	807-223-3517
Riverview Lodge	807-223-4320
Royal Bank- Dryden Branch	800-769-2511
Royal Bank - Winnipeg Branch	800-769-2511
Shewchuk, MacDonell, Ormiston, Richardt & Fregeau LLP Barristers & Solicitors	807-468-9828
Skillen-Squire Insurance Services Ltd.	807-223-2215
Standard Insurance Brokers- Kenora	807-468-3333
Standard Insurance Brokers-Dryden	807-223-3676
Steve Struk Ltd. Esso	807-223-2669
Sysco Foods	1-800-665-5090
Telesky Taxidermist Ltd.	204-775-6796
The Flower Forest	807-221-2121
The Magnes Group	905-889-4933
The Sam Group	1-800-860-4619
Timbermax	807-223-6699
TD Canada Trust	807-223-5237
Vermillion Bay Co-op	807-227-2183
Village Corner	807-227-2671
Weyerhaeuser Canada	807-223-2323
World of Water	807-468-4338
Yamaha Motor Canada Ltd.	807-468-7533

NEXT KDCA MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2008
WALDHOF HALL
DINNER AND SOCIAL
TO FOLLOW
IN THE EVENING!

**FINAL RULE ANNOUNCED FOR BORDER
CROSSING DOCUMENTATION**

MARCH 28th, 2008 CANADIAN TOURISM COMMISSION

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has released the Final Rule for the implementation of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI).

The WHTI Final Rule requires travellers "to present a passport or other approved secure document denoting citizenship and identity for all land and sea travel into the United States." The new requirements are effective June 1, 2009. This is expected to be the final set of requirements for the implementation of the WHTI.

At present travellers from Canada and the United States are able to (re)enter the United States with only a proof of identity (such as a driver's license) and proof of citizenship (such as a birth certificate). Enhanced Driver's Licenses (EDLs) have also been formally identified as acceptable documentation requirements for land and sea crossings (not air). Washington State and British Columbia have already begun issuing EDLs to the general public.

The rule also includes "provisions that allow school or other organized groups of children ages 18 and under who are US or Canadian citizens to enter the U.S. with proof of citizenship alone." DHS will be working with the Canadian government to inform US and Canadian citizens about the new requirements.

**SORBARA LEADS STUDY TO BOOST ONTARIO
TOURISM**

Increasing Competitiveness Will Drive Economic Growth

TORONTO — Minister of Tourism Peter Fonseca named Greg Sorbara, MPP for Vaughan and former Minister of Finance, to look at ways to increase Ontario's share of the multi-billion dollar global tourism market.

Working with tourism and business leaders, Sorbara will:

- * Study what Ontario's tourism industry does well and where there is room for improvement
- * Identify Ontario's best prospects for growth and best practices around the globe and
- * Develop an action plan, to be released in 2009, to ensure tourism continues to be a key contributor to Ontario's economic prosperity.

The three objectives of the competitiveness study are getting all Ontarians talking about the future of Ontario tourism; raising the tourism industry's profile; and designing a strategy that identifies clear actions for industry and clear roles for all levels of government.

Border Information Service

From outside Canada, call
(204) 983-3500 or (506) 636-5064
(long distance charges apply)
From within Canada, call
1-800-461-9999 (toll free)

Northwestern Ontario
Fort Frances Bridge - (807) 274-3655
Rainy River Bridge - (807) 852-3341
Pigeon River Bridge - (807) 964-2094
(long distance charges apply)

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"The tourism landscape is changing dramatically. The findings of this study will help ensure the province's tourism industry is prepared to take advantage of new opportunities emerging globally. We are prepared to think big, bold and out of the box to make Ontario the world's destination of choice," said Tourism Minister Peter Fonseca.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to grow a key economic sector for Ontario — a sector that is experiencing phenomenal growth world-wide. We want to ensure we are providing the right environment for the industry to succeed and prosper," said Greg Sorbara.

- * Tourism contributes more than \$20 billion to Ontario's Gross Domestic Product
- * Ontario welcomes more than 118 million tourists annually
- * According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization, the number of international travellers is expected to double to nearly 1.6 billion by 2020.
- * Tourism employs more than 200,000 people in Ontario