

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

Mission Statement

The mission/objective of the Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce shall be to promote an environment which fosters economic development, works in partnership with our civic agencies, and provides value to our members through education, networking and cultural interests thereby enhancing our region for work, play, raising families and doing business.

We are grateful to be part of this community with all the volunteers who partner with us from:

- The RMs of Piney and Stuartburn
- Sunrise Corner
- Borderland School Division
- East Borderland Community Housing

And many others who contribute to the success of the activities we are a part of!

Fourth Annual Piney Regional Chamber of Commerce Year in Review.

The year 2021, despite all of its struggles and challenges, was a very busy year for the PRCC.

Our focus this year continued building on the theme of “Supporting Local”, as we looked for opportunities to highlight Local Businesses and meet the needs of the business community, and community in general.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome those new members who have joined in the past year!

Apart from our membership fees and sign rentals for income, the PRCC relies on the cooperation and support of our many partners as we pursue grant applications to fund many of the projects that we are involved in. Support from the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce and New Horizons grant applications have been key to the success of a number of our initiatives.

As we had experienced in the previous year, various levels of meeting restrictions were put in place by the Province of Manitoba, so the PRCC went virtual for most of 2021.

With restrictions trending in the right direction, we really look forward to

gathering together again as soon as it is safe to do so. We also look forward to experiencing community through all the incredible Local events and activities our area is known for.

At this time, we would like to thank two specific members, and acknowledge the support from the organizations they represent, the RM of Piney, and Sunrise Corner.

Martin Van Osch and Monique Chenier continue to promote the vision of the PRCC through their hard work and dedication, putting in many extra hours to make our Chamber as successful as it has been. We would like to say Thank You!

Of course, they are not alone. Our region is filled with so many incredible businesses and individuals just like them.

We need to build on the skills and gifts of all of our members, and if you think you would like to contribute by participating in any of the initiatives that we are involved in, please let us know.

Or, if you know of a business who is not yet part of the PRCC, invite them to consider becoming a part of our Vision.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

Summer Student:

The PRCC was successful in applying to hire a student through the Canada Summer Jobs Grant.

Arabella Rookley was hired to fill the role, and she quickly found herself immersed in PRCC projects. Her dedication was a large part of the successes that we experienced in the 2021 projects.

Youth Initiative:

A plan was developed and adopted along with the necessary changes to by-laws in order to reach out to young people who will be our future PRCC leaders.

We welcome our youth to join us in guiding our business community!

Beyond The Pandemic Video Series:

The PRCC received a grant through Manitoba Chamber of Commerce to fund the development of a series of three videos.

The videos will be used to both shine a spotlight on Local Businesses, as well as highlight the challenges and successes of navigating a two year long pandemic.

Website Updates:

The PRCC website committee did an incredible job as they worked hard to build and add content to the website which had been launched in the previous year.

Member profiles were developed and shared through social media as they were added to the site.

Hello Neighbour:

The Hello Neighbour program has continued development partnering with the Woodridge Community program to be able to welcome new residents to all of our communities.

A full launch of that program is expected in the coming weeks.

Library of Things:

The Library of Things project was funded entirely by grant funding and has continued to progress over the past year, but has been difficult due to the pandemic.

As we finalize equipment purchases, we look forward to launching the program in 2022 with an event to showcase the program to our community!

Career Symposium:

The annual career symposium has been the flagship event of the PRCC and supporting partners. The event is used as a way to connect students and residents with local opportunities. A number of PRCC members worked diligently with Sunrise Corner in planning the creation of a soon to be released Virtual Career Symposium, showcasing potential Career paths in the region.

Christmas Initiatives:

Local Businesses, Organizations, and residents stepped up to do a record number of food hampers (56), through the PRCC Christmas Hamper Program.

A grant through Manitoba Chambers of Commerce was received to facilitate a Shop Local Gift Card initiative, with more local businesses coming on board and raising funds for the Piney Area Food Bank.

Housing Initiatives:

South East Community Services Coop has continued to have representation from the PRCC board in the direction and progress of the planned housing project. The project continues to inch forward with a tentative plan to be operational in 2025.

Visioneering Committee:

Our Visioneering Committee continues to meet monthly to seek out and evaluate the potential for new opportunities for the PRCC and its members. Keep an eye out for some new initiatives being reviewed for 2022!