

#### **AGENDA**

# Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee (METC) Thursday March 6th, 2025, 9:00am Ahmic Harbour Community Centre

#### **OPENING BUSINESS**

- 1.1 Call to Order
- 1.2 Adoption of the Agenda
- 1.3 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest
- 1.4 Adoption of Previous Minutes

#### **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

- 2.1 South Algonquin Feedback from networking
- 2.2 Wrap Up Almaguin Official Results

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 3.1 Focus Groups Further Planning Events
- 3.2 Draft Agenda
  - Brainstorming further development of "wall paper" exercise
  - Event Planning further conversation
  - Draft Invite list
  - Draft invitation
  - Draft Presentation
- 3.3 Almaguin Chamber of Commerce 2024-5 Media Kit

#### **FOR INFORMATION**

- 4.1 AHCC Newsletter March 2025
- 4.2 Social Media and Marketing in a Crazy World; Zoom Presentation Video Link: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1t03-iA OsIWN7ZjbIJ9e5nOTsaNFs3FnUczmKXyTzBg/edit?usp=sharing

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

5.1 Confirm the Proceedings of Committee and Adjourn



## Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee (METC) Meeting Minutes February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The meeting of the METC was held on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 1:00pm at the Ahmic Harbour Community Centre with the following present:

Rachel Sullivan (Chair)
Angela Ramsay (Vice Chair)
Joan Lewis
Rob Ross
Erica Kellogg (Secretary)

#### **OPENING BUSINESS**

1.1 Call to Order Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 1:00pm.

#### 1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

RESOLUTION 2025-06 Ross - Lewis

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee adopts the agenda as presented.

Carried

## 1.4 Adoption of Previous Minutes

RESOLUTION 2025-07 Lewis - Ross

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee approves and accepts the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee Minutes from the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting as presented.

Carried.

#### **ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

#### 2.1 Draft Recruitment Package

Members discussed the draft recruitment package. A recommendation to include a statement for interested parties to contact the Municipal Office to learn more about the Committee and the expected commitment was approved. The date for letters of interest to be returned was extended until April 7<sup>th</sup>, to coincide with the regular meeting of Council April 16<sup>th</sup>.

RESOLUTION 2025-08 Ramsay - Ross

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee receives and approves as amended the Draft Recruitment package and requests that the Municipality of Magnetawan circulate the advertisement on Municipal platforms.

Carried.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### 3.1 Almaguin Tourism Forum - ACED

Member Lewis provided an overview of key take aways and connections made at the Forum. Member Lewis felt the Forum was well attended by area businesses and a worthwhile event.

#### 3.2 Focus Groups – Planning Events

Members discussed at length the stakeholder engagement event. Members agreed the ideal timeframe to host the meeting would be Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-4pm at the Magnetawan Community Centre. The event will be open to all members of the public with personal invitations going out to businesses to encourage participation from stakeholders.

All Members participated in a brainstorming whiteboard exercise, specific goals, priorities and engagement areas were identified.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

## 5.1 Adjournment

RESOLUTION 2025-09 Lewis - Ross

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee adjourns this meeting at 4:15pm to meet again on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 9:00am.

Carried.

Approved by:	Chair, Rachel Sullivan	Socrotary Frica Kallogg
Approved by:	Chair, kachei Suilivan	Secretary, Erica Kellogg

## **Erica Kellogg**

From:

Angela Ramsay <

Sent:

January 30, 2025 8:21 AM

To:

Rachel Sullivan; Joan Lewis; Rob Ross; Erica Kellogg

Subject:

Discussion with Angela Pollak - South Algonquin

## Good morning,

I wanted to share a brief write-up with regards to my discussion with Angela at South Algonquin.

The reason I was interested in meeting with her was due to the comparisons of the regions in size and resources.

Their population is just a bit higher than half of ours.

Our discussion started really based on avoiding some pitfalls early as they have had their committee together much longer than we have.

The key takeaways of this discussion were:

- -when it comes to recruitment, aim for diversity, creative thinkers, committed vs. involved, try for at least one local business owner (good to confirm we are on the right track)
- -you need community buy-in to get anywhere. There is always a level of NIMBY (not in my back yard) that you will fight against, but working collaboratively can mitigate a lot of that.
- -phone trees and in person will get you further than posts and emails to the community
- -keep council closely involved as they are needed to move things forward and that relationship will be key
- -be disruptive when necessary

Angela and I have agreed to continue the discussions on a regular basis. She is very well versed in applying for grants that can help to build tourism attractions to the area. To date she has managed to get \$2M in grants to refurbish area trails and has volunteered to join one of our meetings by Teams to discuss and support our efforts anytime we would like.

In all, it was great to confirm that we are starting out in the right direction and have some great support behind us. They were a bit more contentious and to date still are as their committee was very community driven when established due to inactivity of council.

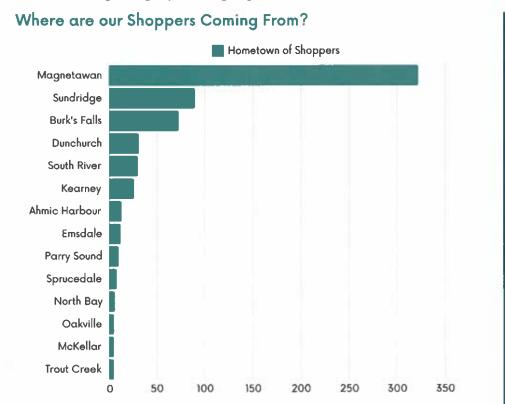
See you all soon,

Ang

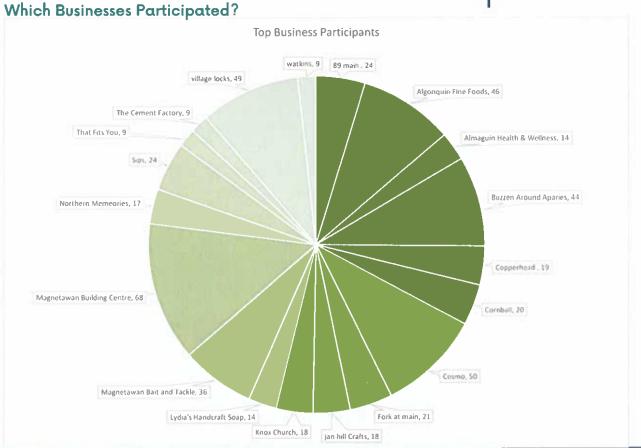


## **WRAP UP 2024**

The following infographics highlight some of the key findings from the Christmas Shop Local Campaign.









## **MAGNETAWAN ECONOMIC TOURISM COMMITTEE (METC)**



## Stakeholder Engagement

March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

- 1. Welcome and Introductory Remarks METC Chair Rachel Sullivan
- 2. Ice Breaker METC Member Joan Lewis
- 3. METC Mandate and Efforts to Date
- 4. Stakeholder Engagement Exercise explanation prioritize exercise
- 5. Refreshment Break
- 6. What we Heard
- 7. Adjournment Networking

## <u>Draft Agenda for Focus Group Session - March 22 - 1-4 pm</u>

- 1. Welcome and Introductory remarks Rachel (1-2 mins)
- 2. Icebreaker Joan Getting to Know You (15 mins)
  - As participants enter, they'll receive a coloured slip of paper with a number on it
  - There will be two sets of numbers, and as the icebreaker starts, they need to find the person who has the same number as them
  - Once all partners are found, they are given 2 minutes to introduce themselves to each other and share some information: why they're here, background, family, hobbies, interests etc.
  - After the two minutes are up, we go around the room and have everyone introduce **their partner**, telling who they are, why they're here and **ONE** piece of information they've learned
  - This format allows for two things: people to mingle and get to know a new person, AND it prevents anyone from going on two long, as people sometimes do when they're talking about themselves
  - When passing out the numbered slips, all of one colour will be passed out first, then the second colour to prevent people getting paired up with someone they might have come with
  - Committee members could be included in this, or we could introduce each other with the same format, as an example for them
- 3. Presentation of Committee work thus far Angela and Erica (5 mins)
- 4. Walk around and Explanation of Wallpaper Categories Rachel, Angela, Erica, Joan (10 mins)
- 5. Brainstorming by participants to add to categories Committee members to be available for further explanation, discussion etc. (20-30 mins)
- 6. Prioritizing Exercise using dots, participants place them on the ideas they want to see coming to fruition first are we giving them a certain number of dots? (15 mins)

\*\*\*Refreshment Break\*\*\*

## (15 mins)

-during the break, Committee members will organize the dots

- 7. Identification of priorities and next steps Committee members (10 mins)
- 8. Additional information from displays, from James Murphy, Call to Action re: opportunities for involvement with the committee and upcoming projects (10 mins)
- 9. Adjournment

## METC Brainstorming Session February 4, 2025

## **Summary Notes for Different Categories (aka 'Wall Paper')**

#### **Events / Activities**

- Activities for kids (rainy day)
- Promoting existing events
- Experiential focus (e.g. maple syrup, tours with experts, unique to Magnetawan)
- Self-guided with map and / or audio app
- Contests (e.g. photo, talent)
- Partnership Packages
- Karaoke in the Park
- Shoulder Seasons (?)
- Theme events (e.g. Camo Days, Plaid days)
- Fishing Derby
- Food Truck Festival

### **Training / Industry Support**

- Food Handlers Course
- Using social media; developing websites
- Accessing grants, funding and programs (e.g. employment, student workers, marketing)
- Estate and succession planning
- Training of summer staff to promote the community
- Developing experiential business

#### **Arts & Culture**

- Art walk
- Photo show and sale

#### **Tourism Infrastructure**

- Party tent
- Missing community assets
- '4 Corners'
- Maximize 'empty' spaces
- Library hours
- Watercraft facilities
- Crown land can we capitalize on it?

### Market / Municipal Awareness / Communication

- Signage
  - Visitor Information Centre

- o Directional Signage
- Social Media
- Website increased web presence (target page on municipal site)
- Destination Map (maps / brochures)
- Capitalize on existing promotional vehicles (e.g. Great Canadian Wilderness, booth at summer Farmers' Market)
- Post cards with local images
- Welcome packages coupons, info, maps, event notices
- Multiple venues
- Swag
- Capitalize on Magnetawan shirt share photos from around the world

#### **Events and Activities**

With 164 responses to the Magnetawan Tourism Attraction Survey, many new and existing events were suggested for Magnetawan.

Can you suggest new events not identified on this list that might further Magnetawan as a year round place to visit?

#### **Training/Industry Support**

Knowledge is power and the tourism industry is constantly evolving. Equipping our stakeholders with the right skills, resources and support is essential for sustainable growth.

Can you suggest training courses, information sharing sessions, partnerships that would support Magnetawan staying competitive and sustainable?

#### **Arts and Culture**

Arts, culture and tourism create powerful opportunities for growth in economic development.

Can you suggest ways that Magnetawan can support and enhance the arts and culture community through events, marketing or other means?

#### **Tourism Infrastructure**

Often times, hosting tourism events can be challenging when hard infrastructure (physical infrastructure) and soft infrastructure (services/systems).

Can you suggest gaps in their infrastructure type that could be addressed to support more visitors to the area?

#### Market/Municipal Awareness/Communication

Knowing what draws a visitor to a community is just as important as knowing where that visitor finds information about that community.

Can you suggest how the tourism industry can optimize publication platforms while also creating engaging content?

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The Magnetawan Economic Tourism Committee (METC) would like to hear from you!

SATURDAY MARCH 22
1:00PM - 3:00PM
MAGNETAWAN COMMUNITY
CENTRE
4304 HIGHWAY 520

PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 14TH PLANNING@MAGNETAWAN.COM OR 705-387-3947 Share your ideas, experiences, challenges and more. Your input helps to establish priorities and opportunities for future projects.

Established in 2024, the METC is a Committee of community volunteers, mandated to market and promote Magnetawan as a tourism destination for long term, year round growth.

Please join us for an informative group discussion with community stakeholders.



# 2025 Focus Group Input on Future Direction



## Agenda

- METC Mission and Mandate
- Background and input received to date
- Work to date
- Proposed Budget 2025 submission
- Feedback on Project Ideas & Prioritizing
- Next Steps

## **METC Mission & Mandate**

## Mission Statement:

 To market and promote the Municipality of Magnetawan as a tourism destination for long-term, year-round sustainable growth within the Municipality's visitor economy. By working collaboratively with and with support from accommodation providers, local businesses, tourism operators, community service organizations, retail establishments, food and beverage providers, the Committee will actively research, develop and implement destination and promotional programming that will support and grow Magnetawan's tourism industry.

## Mandate:

• To promote tourism in Magnetawan (which includes the development of tourism products)

## METC Background & Input received to date

- 2024 Survey Respondents indicating an interest in participating in a committee were invited to submit application for METC
- · High level survey results
  - 163 surveys completed
  - 39.5% primary residents; 58% seasonal residents; 2.4% other (work in Magnetawan / transient tourists)
  - 74% between the ages of 55-64+
  - 73% would like to see tourism sector grow; although cautionary approach noted (e.g. calls to maintain "quiet small-town atmosphere" and "without ruining the natural environment and small-town charm"
  - Local tourism information sources: Facebook (66%); word of mouth (59%); Municipal website (58%)
  - Many felt summer months reasonably busy; focus on shoulder season
  - Project ideas noted: refrigeration unit for ice surface; increasing hiking trails and add snowshoeing on trails; kayak rentals; sidewalk chalk art; rubber duck races over the locks; fishing derby; 'rainy day' activities for children; expansion / support for current businesses; development of downtown core ('four corners') and the 'island'

## METC Work to date

- Initiated Tourism Asset Inventory (evergreen document)
- Wrap Up Almaguin
- Networking (e.g. Tourism Summit; Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce; Explorers' Edge; FedNor; etc.)
- Review of previous studies
- Budget 2025 Submission

## Proposed Budget 2025: Project Ideas

- Language was specifically kept vague to allow for flexibility
- Signage
- Event Participation
- Publication Advertisements
- Focus Groups

## Feedback on Project Ideas & Prioritizing

- Factors to consider:
  - Projects vary in size and scope
  - Some projects are longer term in nature
  - Limited resources
  - Looking for early wins to help build momentum
- Roundtable on project ideas
- Any other ideas to consider?

## Next Steps

- Collaborative Team approach needed
  - METC is volunteer committee
  - Cannot do it alone
  - Opportunity for sub-committees with external participation
- Recruiting new members
  - Municipality to put call out seeking additional volunteers

# 2024-5

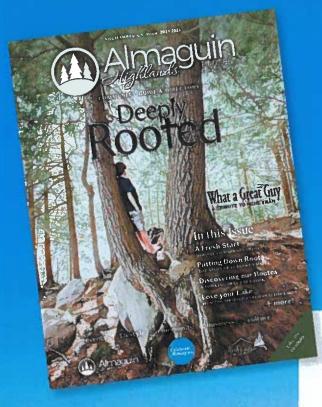
# MEDIA KIT

Almaguin Highlands Community Guide Details and Rates 2024-2025





Almaguin Highlands Community Guide
Details and Rates 2024-2025



## **ABOUT THE GUIDE**

FORMAT: Magazine Style (Colour)

SIZE: 8.5" x 11"(Approx) PAGE COUNT: 80-100

# OF COPIES: 10,000 (Minimum)

FREQUENCY: Annual (Year round circulation)

DISTRIBUTION: Local high traffic areas and information centres. Quantities will also be delivered to provincial information centres (Barrie, North Bay, Parry Sound).

## Benefits:

- Serves and promotes the entire Almaguin Highlands Region
- Will be made available Online as a digital issue & on multiple websites
- Chamber specific price savings
- Low advertising costs for year round visibility
- Targeted advertising space
- Wide distribution area



## Features:

- Full color map of the area
- Local information and service hours
- Local points of interest
- Driving tour and activity ideas
- Business directory via QR Code (AHCC Members highlighted)
- Local stories and personal accounts
- Designed to be a 'Go-To' guide for residents and visitors

For more information please contact:
Emilio Foffano at
ahccguideads@gmail.com or 705.788.6553

For more information please visit: AHCHAMBER.CA



## RATE CARD

## **Advertising Pricing & Specifications**

Discount pricing is effective until March 15th, 2024.

Ad must be ordered and paid in full by March 15th, 2024.

Artwork/ad submission deadline is April 19th.

Please keep a copy of payment receipt for your records.

## **BOOK ONLINE!**



AD SPACE	MEMBER/NON-MEMBER	SPECS/SIZE	QUANTITY
1/8 Page	\$220 / \$315 + HST		
(Business card size)	After March 15th: \$255 / \$365 + HST	Size: 3.5" 2.25"	
	\$350 / \$505 + HST		
1/4 Page (Vertical)	After March 15th: \$405 / \$580 + HST	Size: 3.55" x 4.85"	
	\$600 / \$825 + HST		
1/2 Page (Horizontal)	After March 15th: \$690 / \$950 + нsт	Size: 7.5" x 4.875"	
Full Page	\$1100 / \$1440 + HST	Size w/bleed: 8.625" x 11.125"	
	After March 15th: \$1265 / \$1660 + HST	Live area: 7" x 9.5"	
Testimonial Ad - Full Page	\$1300 / \$1600 + HST	Please provide article/content	
(Promotional article/content)	After March 15th: \$1500 / \$1800 + HST	as per guidelines	
	PREMIUM SPACE (Limite	ed Availability)	
Inside Course	\$1515 / \$2080 + HST	Size w/bleed: 8.625" x 11.125"	
Inside Covers Front or back	After March 15th: \$1745 / \$2395 + HST	Live area: 7" x 9.5"	
	\$1705 / \$2530 + HST	Size w/bleed: 8.625" x 11.125"	
Back Cover	After March 15th: \$1960 / \$2910 + HST	Live area: 7" x 9.5"	
Centerfold (One page - Left or right)	\$1870 / \$2940 + HST	Size w/bleed: 8.625" x 11.125"	
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spread)	After March 15th: \$2955 / \$4220 + HST	Live area (per page): 7" x 9.5"	



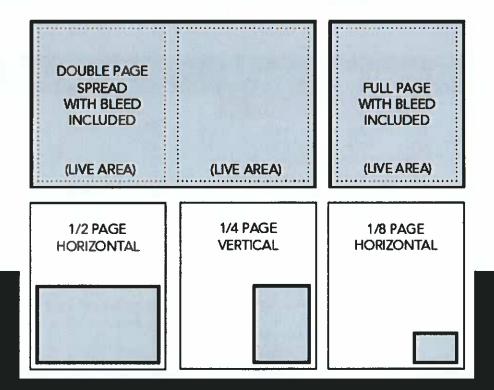
## AD SPECS

## **Technical Requirements**

Artwork to be supplied as press-formatted, PDF file with all fonts and hi-res images (300dpi) embedded.

Failure to embed hi-res images will reslut in pixelated output.

Only high quality, correctly sized, digital files will be accepted.



#### The following digital file types are accepted:

• Press-formatted PDF with fonts and hi-res images embedded, InDesign (INDD or IDML files with accompanying links and fonts included), Illustrator (EPS or Al files), Photoshop (JPG, PNG, TIFF, PSD).

#### The following formats will NOT be accepted:

- Freehand, Corel Draw, Paint, Powerpoint, Word, Publisher, Excel, Scanned File
- Vector artwork should be saved in an .EPS format with fonts and images embedded.
- If proofing errors are discovered and artwork does not meet the requiremnts, new art may need to be submitted.
- If you require design services, please contact Taija O'Riordan at press@greenmoosemedia.com



# **ADVERTISE**

Business :		Contact Name:
Address :		
Phone Number : ( )		Email :
Chamber Member?	Yes No	Become an Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce member today to take advantage of a significant price savings!
	Ad must be ordered and p Artwork/ad submiss	ctive until March 15th, 2024. Daid in full by March 15th, 2024. Sion deadline is April 19th. Syment receipt for your records.
Total Order I	Price: \$	Scan to Pay
* All cheques ma and sent to: <b>P.C</b> ** If paying via cre	O. Box 544, Burk's Falls, ON, edit card (Affinipay), pricing is:	lighlands Chamber of Commerce
Customer Signature *	*•	Date:
Further, I understand resulting in my adver The Almaguin Highla	d that any outstanding balance aft rtisement not being included in th	not be responsible for any costs associated with ad design.
Dig	gital artwork to be E-maile	d to: ahccguideads@gmail.com
		ready, digitial copy of their advertisement based on NOT include any advertisement design work.
	Use same ad ir	n previous guide (2023)
Ifv	ou require ad design servic	es, please contact: Taija O'Riordan

at press@greenmoosemedia.com or 647-446-3888



## **ADVERTISE**

## **Advertise With Us!**

Interested in advertising in the 2025/2026 AHCC Guide? Fill out the information below to have someone connect with you with more details and pricing.

Business:				
Contact Name:				<del></del>
Phone Number:				
Email:				
Chamber Member? Yes	No 🔲	Chamber of today to t	Almaguin Hig Commerce n ake advantag ant price savir	nember se of a

## **About the Guide:**

- Format: Magazine Style (Colour)
- Size: 8.5" x 11"(Approx)
- Page Count: 80-100
- # of Copies: 10,000 (Minimum)
- Frequency: Annual (Year round circulation)
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## **Benefits to Advertising in the AHCC:**

- Serves and promotes the entire Almaguin Highlands Region
- Will be made available Online as a digital issue & on multiple websites
- Chamber specific price savings
- Low advertising costs for year round visibility
- Targeted advertising space
- Wide distribution area



## RATE CARD.

## **Advertising Pricing & Specifications - EXAMPLE**

**Pricing for 2025/2026 TO BE CONFIRMED**, prices below reflect ad space for the 2024 AHCC Guide and are estimates for 2025/2026 and subject to change.

### Discount pricing is effective until March 15th, 2025.

Ad must be ordered and paid in full by March 15th, 2025. Artwork/ad submission deadline is April 19th. Please keep a copy of payment receipt for your records.

AD SPACE	MEMBER/NON-MEMBER	SPECS/SIZE	QUANTITY
1/8 Page	<b>\$220 / \$315</b> + HST		
(Business card size)	After March 15th: \$255 / \$365 + HST	Size: 3.5" 2.25"	
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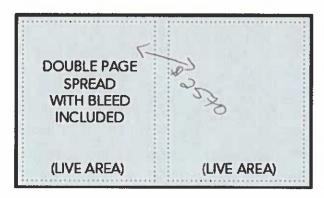
All advertising prices are subject to HST.



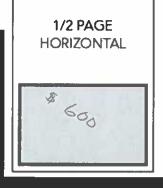
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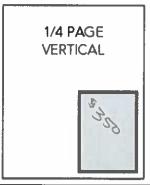
## **Technical Requirements**

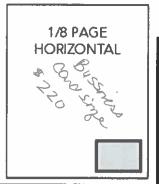
- Artwork to be supplied as press-formatted, PDF file with all fonts and hi-res images (300dpi) embedded.
- Failure to embed hi-res images will result in pixelated output.
- Only high quality, correctly sized, digital files will be accepted.











## The following digital file types ARE accepted:

• Press-formatted PDF with fonts and hi-res images embedded, InDesign (INDD or IDML files with accompanying links and fonts included), Illustrator (EPS or AI files), Photoshop (JPG, TIFF, PSD).

## The following formats will NOT be accepted:

- Freehand, Corel Draw, Paint, Powerpoint, Word, Publisher, Excel, Scanned File.
- Vector artwork should be saved in an .EPS format with fonts and images embedded.
- If proofing errors are discovered and artwork does not meet the requirements, new art may need to be submitted.



## Almaguin Highlands Community Guide Article Guidelines



## **ABOUT THE GUIDE**

This is an annual publication with year-round circulation. Its purpose is to service and promote the entire Almaguin Highlands Region. It features the only comprehensive business and service directory for the region as well as specific information on events and attractions. Each year, the Guide features unique content with articles focused around a particular theme.

We are looking for articles that tell a local story that conveys something unique and interesting about the Almaguin Highlands.

Stories may be about: Events, Attractions, Activities, Businesses, People, Road trips, Personal stories, History, Food, Culture, Nature....

## 2025 Community Guide Article Guidelines:

- Articles must be between 500 750 words
- The editor may make exceptions based on editorial considerations
- Articles selected for publication may be edited for spelling, punctuation, style, content and length. The writer will receive a final proof for approval prior to publication.
- If providing photos, please ensure they are high quality, high resolution images.
- Articles must be submitted by April 15th, 2025
- Not all submissions are guaranteed to be published.

To discuss an idea for an article, or to submit an article, please contact Committee member, Jennifer Farquhai at

jennifer@llpg.ca or 705-494-0765

For more information please visit: AHCHAMBER.CA





## **Chamber After-Hours Event**

# Member Networking Social at Hubbert's Maple April 3

- Beverages & Appetizers
- Business Networking
- Syrup industry dialog
- Tours

More details & registration link will be sent out to members closer to the event

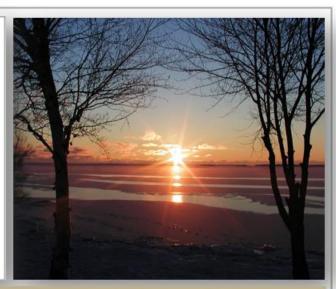




w contributions from ACED towards a portion of the refreshments

## **AHCC New Member Feature-**





Century 21 Blue Sky Region Realty Inc. Brokerage is the region's largest real estate company with our main office in the heart of downtown North Bay, as well as offices in Temagami, Powassan, Mattawa, Sturgeon Falls and Sundridge.

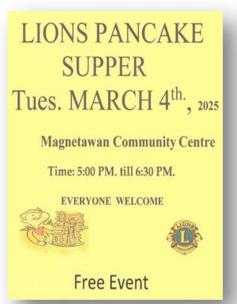


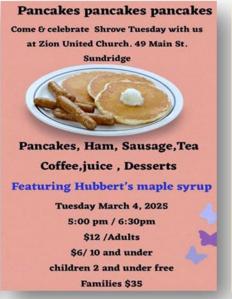
## **AHCC New Member Feature!**

Welcome to Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce!



## **March Events**









## **March Events**















## **March Events**





Bar available for all drinks. Bring your own

snacks











## Advertise in the Community Guide!

## Early Bird AD sales are in full swing!

Only a few weeks left for great savings / discounted rates on advertising in the 2025/2026 Community Guide Publication!

After March 15th, the prices will go up.





We are still taking submissions for articles-This year's theme is Historical / Then & Now with an Almaguin Highlands focus.

We will also consider other articles not exact to the theme if they are a great read and clearly embody the Almaguin Area.

\*Note-not all articles submitted will be published.

Contact us for a media kit <u>w</u> AD pricing or for article submission guidelines at: almaguinhighlandschamber@gmail.com