

**517**

MEMBERS



**148**

NEW MEMBERS

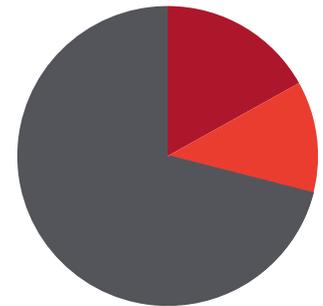


**ACTION** *through* **CONNECTION**

- 25 Member to Member Discounts
- 24 Grand Openings
- 17 Value Added Programs
- 9 Workshops
- 5 Keynote Speakers
- 5 Luncheon/Breakfasts
- 2 Networking @ Night
- 2 Business After Hours

*major chamber events raised*  
**\$102,550**

- Annual Airdrie Home & Lifestyle Show—\$76,750
- Annual Golf Classic—\$15,500
- Inaugural Airdrie Business Awards—\$10,300



CREATING **WORTHWHILE** CONNECTIONS

**PROUD PARTNERSHIPS**

- Airdrie Business Resource Partnership
- Airdrie Employer Resource Group
- AirdrieFEST
- SMARTstart Airdrie



1863 followers



1030 followers



793 followers





## *message from The* **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

We at the Airdrie Chamber recognize that 2018 was a year of changes and challenges for many of our business members. Economic uncertainty and new policies from all three levels of government continued to layer additional costs onto business. Through all of this, we were inspired by our business community who, in true Airdrie fashion, dug in to “survive and thrive”.

Our Chamber also experienced major change in 2018 with the transition from an Interim Executive Director to me taking the reins in the fall. I had the pleasure of meeting and learning from several of our long-standing members and will continue to reach out to you for insight on what you want from your Chamber.

Through all the changes, we were thrilled to welcome over 140 new members, most of which were new business ventures. Our community engagement and events continued to expand, and our amazing team of dedicated staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to bring our members valuable training and workshops. We were also extremely fortunate to have a very dedicated Board of Directors who were committed to ensuring the Chamber represent our business community.

Moving onward, we look forward to working with all of you as we continue to ensure our community continues to have a thriving business environment and that we all “Take Action Through Connection” in making your Chamber a worthwhile resource for our members.

Sincerely,

Marilyne Aalhus

## *message from The* **PRESIDENT**

The Airdrie Chamber of Commerce accomplished great things over this past year; some of what we achieved was planned while some was out of necessity.

The new Board of Directors identified four priorities in our first meeting back in May of last year. Our most urgent need was to find and hire a new Executive Director. We also recognized that the Chamber must get its budget back on track and avoid the projected deficit. In addition to staffing and finances the Chamber Board then set its other two goals. We understood that the Chamber had to increase its relevancy in the community while improving the value we provide to our members.

With our goals in mind we struck four standing committees; Membership, Governance, Advocacy and Human Resources. With our competent and capable interim director, Marie Lauer, overseeing operations we were able to focus on our goals and achieve them. The Membership committee was successful in building the concept that was presented at our 2019 Rebrand/AGM. The Governance committee ensured we stayed true to our policies while recommending changes as needed. The Advocacy committee identified local, provincial and federal issues affecting our members then took action to address them. Lastly, our Human Resources committee was relentless in their pursuit of finding our new Executive Director. We successfully brought Marilyne Aalhus onboard as our Executive Director in Q4 of 2018.

Operationally our finances were strong closing out the year; far from the projected deficit! We also added a large signature event to our calendar by taking on the Airdrie Business Awards as our own. We thank the City of Airdrie for their support in making this transition possible. Through all this change we also saw the benefits to rebranding the Chamber so that our image reflected our redefined values. I thank both Marie and Marilyne for pushing us to arrive at the new look for your AC!

In closing I am extremely proud of what was achieved this past year by our staff, our Executive and our entire Board. We have built a foundation which we can use to support what is yet to come and I assure you good things are on the horizon.

Sincerely,

Glenn Smaha

