



# AIRDRIE

*Chamber of Commerce*

**Our vision: to promote, represent and enhance the interests of Airdrie's business community.**

**496**

**MEMBERS**  
**82 NEW IN 2017**

**22**

**EVENTS**  
**hosted**

**8**

**GRAND OPENINGS**  
**attended**

Value added programs

Member to member  
discounts



**1807**

**10,456 NEW**  
**WEBSITE USERS**



**607**

**Partnerships:**

**SMARTstart**  
**AirdrieFEST**

**Airdrie Business Resource Partnership**  
**Airdrie Employer Resource Group**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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As my term as President with the Airdrie Chamber of Commerce comes to an end, it is a time to reflect. The role of the Airdrie Chamber of Commerce is to advocate to the various levels of government on behalf of the business community, and to support the businesses we serve.

The 2016-18 term proved to be challenging for many businesses in the community. Businesses struggled with the continued effect of the economic downturn and increased financial burdens such as the increases in minimum wage and the addition of a carbon tax. Through all these changes the Airdrie Chamber of Commerce lent its voice to the Alberta and Canadian Chambers of Commerce to ensure that the voice of business was heard and heeded. The Airdrie Chamber supported the advocacy initiative of Small Business: Too Big to Fail.

The Airdrie Chamber of Commerce celebrated businesses in Airdrie with great Business After-Hours events, the Home and Lifestyle Show, the annual golf tournament and monthly luncheons. The success of these events is due entirely to the dedication of our great Chamber staff; Executive Director Lorna Hunt, Chamber Events and Membership Coordinator Ashley Frame, and the dedication of our returning and new volunteers.

At the end of 2017 the Airdrie Chamber was sad to see Executive Director Lorna Hunt leave the Chamber after almost 20 years in the position. Lorna was the trail blazer for the Chamber as she was the first person in the role and set the foundation for the Chamber of Commerce in Airdrie. Lorna is greatly missed. With that said, it is with gratitude that the Board has welcomed Marie Lauer as the Interim Executive Director. Her past experience with the Chamber has helped to guide us through this time of change. The Board of the Airdrie Chamber of Commerce has taken this opportunity to look at what updates and changes can be made to better meet the needs of the local and regional business community.

I would like to offer my hardy thanks to the Board of Directors with whom I have had the greatest pleasure of working side-by-side with. These very busy people have given their heart and soul to ensure that the business community continues to thrive and I am so very proud to work with each of them.

It is my deepest hope that I have met your expectations while serving on the Board of Directors and I will endeavour to serve the business community to my best ability in the coming year.

Sincerely,

**LINDA BRUCE**

President, 2016-2018