



Together in Business

Supporting, Connecting, and Championing our Local Business
Community
August 2025

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New Look of the Chamber Newsletter

We're excited to unveil a fresh new name and look for our

newsletter—**Together in Business!** We hope you enjoy the updated design, along with informative articles, upcoming event listings, and a spotlight on our newest members who are helping shape our vibrant business community.

A special thank you to Bryan Kenny from [Connected Compass](#) for his ongoing work and creativity in bringing this newsletter to life each month.

We look forward to keeping you connected, informed, and inspired—welcome to the new chapter of the NOTL Chamber of Commerce newsletter!

New Chamber Logo



The Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce is proud to unveil its new logo—an exciting milestone that reflects our growth, celebrates our community, and reinforces our commitment to supporting local businesses.

This rebrand was made possible through a valued collaboration with Niagara College's Research & Innovation Department. We

extend our sincere thanks to their talented team for their creative insight and dedication throughout the design process.

The new logo marks the beginning of a fresh chapter as we continue to expand programs, enhance services, and advocate for long-term prosperity-while honouring NOTL's rich heritage and natural beauty.

"Our new logo symbolizes strength, legacy, and the future," said Kathy Weiss, Executive Director of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce. "The architectural outline, classic structured design, and the buildings linked together represent our mission to support, connect, and champion our local business community."

Stay tuned-our new website, aligned with this refreshed look, will launch in Fall 2025. We'll be sharing updates through e-blasts and on social media.

Welcome New Members

- [Connected Compass](#), Bryan Kenny
- [Beyond SQ](#), Joe Oswald
- [Special Event Rental](#), Carly Hanna
- [Niagara District Airport](#), Megan McRae
- [ARA on the Lake Shoes](#), Patricia Lee
- [i4c](#), Trisha Melokash
- [Inspired Strategy](#), Jessica Potts
- [Dr Hopkins & Associates Optometry](#), Dr. M. Hopkins
- [Tracy's Wine Jellies](#), Tracy Hanson

Chamber Events

New Member Breakfast



We're absolutely delighted to welcome over 40 new members over the summer months into our growing community of local business leaders, entrepreneurs, and change-makers who shape the economic heart of Niagara-on-the-Lake!

To celebrate their support of the NOTL Chamber and help them

~~New Member~~ running, we are hosting a **Welcome Breakfast** on Wednesday September 10th, from 8:00 am to 9:30 am at the Pillar & Post.

Here is what we have planned!

✓ **Connect** with fellow new members, established local business owners, our Chamber Board of Directors, and dedicated staff

✓ **Learn** about the Chamber's **vision and mission**, and how we advocate for, support, and champion our members every day

✓ **Unlock** exclusive **marketing, promotional, and sponsorship opportunities** only available to Chamber members

✓ **Explore** valuable **affiliate programs** that can help you save money and grow your business

✓ **Ask questions** and gain insight on how to maximize your membership benefits

Plus, enjoy a **delicious complimentary breakfast** in the rustic and charming setting of The BARN, right here on the property.

This is a first step into creating a stronger business network—and we can't wait to help you make the most of it.

➔**Please RSVP by September 4th** so we can reserve your spot and prepare for your arrival. This event is OPEN to all members.

We look forward to meeting you in person, hearing about your business, and working together to help you succeed.

[Register](#)

September Business Luncheon

Save The Date

Thursday September 18, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Venue: Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre,
Simpson's Pharmacy Room, 14 Anderson Lane,
NOTL

\$25 pp plus tax

Featured Speaker: **Jessie Macdonald**
Olympian ♦ World Champion ♦ Entrepreneur
♦ Community Leader



We're excited to welcome **Jessie Macdonald** as a special guest speaker at our upcoming event!

Jessie is one of Canada's most decorated female wrestlers, with 10 national titles, multiple world medals, and a world championship. After representing Canada on the national team for over 15 years, she successfully transitioned into real estate and entrepreneurship. Today, she is the co-owner of **MAC Inc.** and **Revel Realty Niagara-on-the-Lake**, as well as a certified luxury broker and award-winning community builder.

At the event, Jessie will speak about her journey as an Olympian and share how the lessons she learned in sport have shaped her approach to "**Leading a Winning Team**"—in business, in life, and in community.

Don't miss this chance to be inspired by Jessie's remarkable story of grit, growth, and leadership. More information to follow.

Business News

StopGap Ramp Program

The Town is excited to share that Niagara-on-the-Lake has launched the StopGap Ramp Program, an initiative to help local businesses improve accessibility by reducing physical barriers at storefront entrances.

Supported by Council at the July 15, 2025, Committee of the Whole–General Meeting, this program is part of the Town’s commitment to inclusion within Council’s Strategic Plan.

Local businesses with a single-step storefront entrance between 2 and 7 inches are eligible. Ramps are limited (approximately 15 available) and will be provided free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis.

What Are StopGap Ramps?

StopGap ramps are lightweight, portable, non-permanent ramps designed to improve access for people using mobility devices, strollers, or anyone facing challenges with a single step at your entrance.

Ramps must be used only during business hours and stored securely when not in use.

Ramps will be custom-built to fit your entrance.

Ramps will be painted in one pre-approved colour, and business logos or decals will not be allowed on the ramps to maintain streetscape consistency.

What You Need to Apply:

A completed online application is available at:
<https://www.notl.com/accessibility#stopgap>

A photo and measurements of your entrance.

Proof of \$2 million liability insurance.

If the applicant leases the space, landlords must not object to the use of the StopGap ramp.

Willingness to sign a StopGap Foundation agreement accepting responsibility for ramp use, storage, and maintenance.

What’s Next?

Ramps will be delivered in Fall 2025

The Town will monitor the program and collect feedback to shape future accessibility initiatives.

If interest is high, Staff may propose additional funding in 2026 for a second round of ramps.

Learn More:

Read the [Town's official news release](#)

Read the full [Information Report about the StopGap Program](#)

If you have any questions about this initiative, please email the Town at communications@notl.com

Understanding the Process for Requesting Tariff Remission on U.S. Goods

If your business imports certain goods from the United States, you may be affected by tariffs applied as part of Canada's countermeasures to U.S. trade actions. Fortunately, there is a formal process in place to request a remission (or partial refund) of these tariffs under specific circumstances.

What Is Tariff Remission?

Tariff remission is a government mechanism that allows businesses to request relief from duties applied to imported goods when there is a valid reason, such as supply shortages, lack of alternative sources, or significant economic hardship.

[More info](#)

Affinity Programs



Chambers Plan is designed for members in any industry with 1-100 employees. If you meet that criteria and want more information, please contact [Jim Garrett](#) at 905-685-8575.

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For information on how to join the NOTL Chamber, contact Stacey at 289-547-7556 or stacey@niagaraonthelake.com

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