

Tourism Table v. Jan 1 2015

Who We Are

We are a group of local people working to strengthen our tourism trade; connecting the needs of local business with tourism planning and supporting the Kincardine municipal tourism department. The Tourism Table includes business people in the restaurant, retail, accommodation and agriculture sectors as well as representation from the Bruce County Historical Society, the Kincardine Yacht Club, the Arts/Culture/Heritage community, the BIA, the Chamber of Commerce, the Penetangore Regional Economic Development Corporation, Council and municipal tourism staff.

Why We Work Together

We can do more and do it better when we work together. Representation from different groups and business sectors gives us a broader perspective; more people with more skills to work on initiatives; and ensures that the business imperative gets attention: to make enough money during the tourist season when the population swells to more than 30,000. We also work with other tourism departments such as Bruce County, and other tourism organizations such as RT07, which is our Ontario regional planning body.

Who Else is Involved

This community is full of groups who add to the attractions, events and colour of where we live. The Tourism Table meets with a number of groups annually to understand their needs relative to tourism, to strengthen our planning capacity and to ensure the image we present to the world is consistent with our brand and attractive to those who may visit us. Some of these groups are: the Scottish Pipe Band; the Scottish Festival; Municipal Parks and Recreation Department; golf courses; and the Real Estate Sector.

What We Do

We meet once a month to receive progress reports from our work groups and advance Actions from our Strategic Plan for Tourism. Our focus is on connecting the dots we already have here. For example:

- Helping locals host their visiting friends and relatives and encouraging them to take advantage of local events and attractions.
- Connecting visiting sports fans at tournaments and games to local dining, accommodation and other attractions.
- Supporting the Kincardine Trails project to extend our trail clear across the municipality.
- Co-locating our municipal tourism staff with Team Kincardine to provide a Visitor Welcome Centre that can operate longer hours with volunteer help.
- We provide input to the municipal tourism budget in consultation with tourism staff.

Who Pays

The Tourism Table does not receive any operating funds from the municipality or any other source. We usually meet at the Welcome Centre in downtown Kincardine. We do apply for funding of various projects from regional and provincial funding bodies.

More Information about the Tourism Table: Co-Chair, Ron Coristine, ronc@brucetelecom.com
Co-Chair, currently vacant

Visitor Information: www.sunsets.com