



Local M.P.P Steve Clarke helping open South Grenville Business Showcase & Expo



Local Mayors: (left to right) Pat Sayeau (Township of Edwardsburgh/ Cardinal, Brett Todd (Prescott) and Doug Malanka (Augusta Township), Bill Buckler (Augusta Township Councillor/Deputy Mayor) Giving welcoming speeches at opening of Business Showcase & Expo

SOUTH GRENVILLE'S BUSINESS SHOWCASE AND EXPO 10 YEARS STRONG!

By Joan Rupert-Barkley

Though hockey will be over and the ice at the Ingredion Centre in Cardinal will be gone, in June there will still be something cool happening at the Centre. The 10th annual Business Showcase and Expo will take place on Friday, June 8th and Saturday June 9th at the Ingredion Centre, 4050 Dishaw Street in Cardinal. The event will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Since November, a committee representing the Town of Prescott, Augusta Township and Edwardsburgh Township, have all been busy organizing this milestone event.

In the past, approximately 80 vendors have displayed their businesses. Some of the vendors return each year. The Showcase gives vendors an opportunity to display their products and services. It is a great way to do some networking as well.

If you are looking for something to spruce up your home, garden or car, this is a great place to get some ideas. If you are planning a trip, more security or a wedding, you'll find the advice you're looking for. If what you want is advice on investments or insurance, this is a great place to speak to the experts on that as well.

Visitors are sometimes amazed at what businesses exist in their own backyard that they were unaware of.

There will also be door prizes, food and drinks, as well as live entertainment.

The showcase originally started in the Township of Augusta in 2008. This event was so successful that the committee decided that a larger, more central location was needed. In 2013, Prescott got involved and the showcase was held at the Leo Boivin Community Centre. In 2015, the township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal jumped on board with the event being held at the Ingredion Centre. By including all three municipalities in the South Grenville area, relationships were not only strengthened, but the event was bigger than ever.

One of the new features that was added last year was the sponsored networking breakfast. Each vendor receives one ticket with the option to buy more if they wished. The breakfast usually runs prior to the opening of the event on Saturday morning. Whoever sponsors the event gets the opportunity to discuss their organization with vendors and businesses from the area.

Augusta Councillor, Bill Buckler, has been the chairperson for the last three years.

"We are always looking for sponsorships for the showcase. This helps keep the cost down so that small businesses can afford a table," commented Bill Buckler.

MP Gord Brown, MPP Steve Clark and the mayors from all three South Grenville municipalities are invited to speak at the event.

There are approximately 400 people who visit the showcase each year. Admission is free, but donations for the food bank will be gratefully accepted.

Vendors in the area do not want to miss out on an opportunity to be part of this event. The registration fee for vendors is \$80.00, which includes an 8' x 8' space with a table and chairs. Accommodations can be made for vendors who want a larger space. An online registration form can be found and filled out at www.prescott.ca. They accept cash, cheque, credit card, email Money Transfer, PayPal and Debit.

The sooner vendors register, the sooner their name is publicized on the Business Showcase Facebook page. [LH](#)