



REMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Dear Chamber Member,

It's Membership Renewal Time. As summer is winding down, it is time to consider maintaining your membership in the Chamber. Membership renewal was supposed to be due by August 31st for the 2024 – 2025 season. But I took some time off and didn't get the membership mailings ready on time. Soooo, I would ask that you please renew now and get your membership renewal form and payment returned to us no later than Friday, October 20th to maintain your membership.

I believe that 2024 was a good year for the Chamber. We have continued to foster and improve our relationships with other community stakeholders to improve our community and our members businesses. Our continuing partnership with the City of Remer and the Northland Lions has lead to a large grant awarded to the city which includes the assistance of the Community and Economic Development Associates (CEDA) organization on a continuing basis to help our community develop and implement plans to improve the lives of the people that live here and the businesses that support our town.

Through this grant and very generous support of the Northland Lions we have finally been able to order the giant Bigfoot Statue that we have wanted for over 10 years to commemorate our "Home of Bigfoot" claim. This 25-foot statue will be another attraction located at the Remer Depot and will bring travellers from all over to our community. In addition to the statue, we were also able to freshen up the caboose and the Depot with a fresh coat of paint as well as continued grounds improvements supported by the Remer Community Gardens.

We also recognize that the Soo Line Trail that runs through town is a very important resource that brings large numbers of tourists to and through Remer every year. As this is great for our local businesses, we have begun this year partnering with the Eagle Country Snowmobile & ATV club. This group is responsible for managing a large number of snowmobile and ATV trails in and around the area. If we can support their mission of maintaining, improving, and expanding trails and they can support our mission of increasing business for community I see it as a win-win relationship. Our first collaboration was a joint raffle which was successful for both parties. We have also supported each other in our endeavours to get more funding for the official trails and try to close off unofficial trails. I hope this close collaboration will continue into the future.

Lastly, our two summer events we host (Bigfoot Days and Harvest Festival) were both a success. There is a lot of time and money donated by local business owners and community members to make these events possible. I would like to thank each and every person who donated their time, their money, and/or their property to host these events. Without everyone's support we would not be able host the events that bring a needed boost to many of our members.

I hope that you see the benefits of the work that the chamber does to improve our community and business environment. With that I will humbly ask that you continue your support of the chamber by renewing your membership. I would also ask you to get involved and work with us to help improve our business community. We would love to hear your feedback, comments, and ideas on things we could possibly do to make us all more successful. If you haven't been involved in the past or been away for a few years, make this the year you try it out.

Thank you for your continued support of our business community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Karner".

Jon Karner
President
Remer Area Chamber of Commerce