



## New Chairman's report – Dick Daigle

I am honoured and humbled to continue the work that has been started by those who have come before me. Our former business associations have been longstanding pillars in our community, and our expanded organization is now poised to continue that tradition. Yet, as we just heard from David, status quo is not an option. We are not content to rest on our laurels and I am excited to work, on your behalf, to advance the values that we have created together as an organization.

In the coming year, we look forward to partnering with you as we celebrate, support and encourage those in our community who are committed to business in our region. Our community is “Open and Ready for Business” and our members can count on us to continue to spread the word and support initiatives that encourage economic development and foster growth.

We partner with local economic and community development organizations, as well as all three levels of government to harness the power of our entire community to push our priorities forward.

In the past couple of years, we have begun to establish The Chamber as the go-to organization for all things business, and we will continue to advance and reinvest in our programs, events and member services and to create an environment for new investment.

As your advocate and your voice to local government, you can trust us to remain focused on the priorities that you have identified for us and to speak and react on your behalf, always with our eyes on the future and our ears to the ground for upcoming trends and opportunities.

Through our surveys, conversations with members and an ongoing relationship with past chairs, we have learned that you want us to become even more vocal in our advocacy efforts, with an increased visibility within the community. Streamlined and more effective marketing and communications will allow us to remain relevant, agile and flexible as we move forward with this mandate.

The next year will be an exciting time for us. New projects and initiatives on the horizon bode well for the future of our community. We have a compelling story to tell, one that is the envy of many regions. We must remove barriers to business, we must remain open to new ideas and above all, we must remain open for business.

Thank you