December 2023 Volume 7, Issue 4



NEWSLETTER





BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

PACE is happy to highlight Kyle Hallson of MLRH located in Dryden as our featured business this quarter. Kyle came to PACE in the fall of 2022 looking for some assistance with his appliance repair business. He is a former CN Rail employee but suffered a personal life change in 2021 forcing him to make a tough decision to leave CN and start his own business, keeping him closer to home. The need to be home each night for his two young children made him realize working for himself was what made the most sense. He has always been a handy guy and feels rewarded helping people in need. The appliance repair business in the Dryden and surrounding area has been lacking for some time after the only



Kyle Hallson Owner of MLRH Appliance Repair.

person providing this service retired. Kyle reached out to the former repairman and was able to secure some of his equipment, tools, and the parts inventory for the business. Realizing the high demand for this service, he knew it would be able to support him financially and keep him busy. The small loan from PACE allowed him to purchase new equipment for the shop and more inventory to have parts on hand for regular repairs, as well as have some cash flow for other parts he would need to order.

Kyle has made a social media presence with the business, and word of mouth spread rapidly when he started up. He is also the go-to guy for warranty work for the furniture and appliance stores in the area and has a great relationship with those businesses. Since he started, he already needs an administrative person to assist with phone calls and appointments, billing, and parts ordering. He is yet to find that person to take on this busy role but maintains a positive attitude that he will find them to make his life a little easier and so he can focus on the repair work.

MLRH also gives back in the form of refurbished appliances to those who cannot afford new ones. Any older appliance Kyle acquires from a customer he repairs, making it operational and selling it at a fair and reasonable price. This is a great way to give back to the community and avoid taking appliances to the landfills or scrap yards if there is still some life in them. Kyle is striving to meet the demands of this busy service and always tries to return phone calls as promptly as he can. He continues to service the Dryden area but has also gone as far as Pickle Lake, Red Lake, and Kenora.

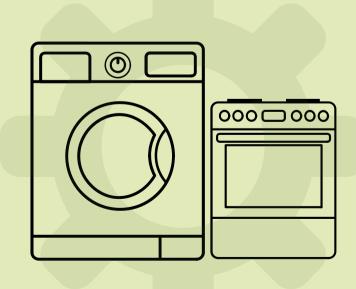
PACE appreciates the opportunity to assist with this endeavor for Kyle and his business, MLRH, and is grateful for his contribution to economic development in the PACE catchment area. We wish him all the best for the future and congratulate him on his great success in such a short time.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT











UPCOMING EVENTS



Join PACE, JBHR Consulting & Awaked Roots for the Business Mix & Mingle this January!

PACE has planned a Business Mix and Mingle on Wednesday, January 24th at 5:00pm at The Centre in Dryden.
Jocelyn Bullock will be attending to give a short introduction to Leadership in Business, and Jena McCafferty will also be there to share information on Work/Life Balance. Come, network, share ideas, ask questions and start new business relationships! This meeting is for any small business owners who would like to network with their peers and would benefit from knowledge sharing and discussions.



INDUSTRY INFORMATION NIGHT- Save the Date!



PACE will be hosting an INDUSTRY
INFORMATION NIGHT on Wednesday,
March 27, 2024 at The Best Western
Plus, in the Centennial Room. More
information to follow! Watch our
Website, Facebook page, and
Instagram! www.pace-cf.on.ca



We Welcome Our Newest Board Member!

Ray Pilkey is the newest member joining the PACE Board of Directors from Machin. We are very happy to have him join us with his wealth of knowledge. We appreciate him stepping up to join our board!



Happy Retirement Sandra Ostman!

PACE said farewell to Sandra Ostman on November 30th. She retired from being our Program Coordinator and the workforce. We are sad to see her go but happy she gets to spend more time with her grandkids. Sandra decided to leave when the contract for her program ended on Nov 30th. There was a come-and-go open house that was well attended on her last day.



PACE wishes Noreen Cox well on her New Adventure!

Noreen has moved on from PACE as of December 15th, 2023. This leaves the Business Development Coordinator position open, and a job opening has been posted. We are looking for her replacement! She will be greatly missed, but we wish her well on her new venture, and hope she has a wonderful time in her new chapter of life!



Welcomes Tammy Oliphant As Our New Program Coordinator!

PACE

Hello Everyone,

I would like to introduce myself and share some personal information, as I begin my new role as Program Coordinator for the Business Mentorship Program at Patricia Area Community Endeavours Inc. My name is Tammy Oliphant, and I grew up in Fort Frances where I attended Confederation College and graduated with honours with a Social Service Diploma. I moved to Dryden in 1993 and married a homegrown Drydenite the following year. Before joining PACE, my prior position was a full-time Employment Advisor and Job Developer with Northwest Employment Works. Working almost 20 years in this role was very busy, rewarding and sometimes challenging! Over the years, I have had the opportunity to develop strong partnerships with employers and community service providers. Our community has made a real difference in so many clients' lives through employment and training.

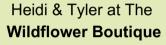
The NEW office won the Business Supporting Youth Development Award in 2014 and was nominated again in 2023. I have been an avid and enthusiastic community volunteer with several lead positions with Dryden Girls Hockey Association, Dryden Minor Hockey, Dryden Literacy Association and Dryden Flying Club. Lastly, I am a proud mother of two grown children and love to hike, kayak, snowshoe, kangoo dance and host dinners for friends and family! I am so excited to begin this new chapter with PACE and look forward to networking and supporting the business community through my position as Program Coordinator.

Thank you!
Our next Business Mix and Mingle will be
January 24th, 2024! Please save the date
and hope to see you there.
Tammy

Small Business Week 2023









The week of October 16th was bustling with activity in Dryden! **PACE** hosted an Open House on Monday, while **Wildflower Boutique** held an information session on the City Improvement Program (CIP) for businesses on Tuesday.

Wednesday saw a great turnout for the PACE Business Mix & Mingle, which was a fantastic networking event for everyone who attended. On Thursday, 807 Food Cooperative, LAMA, and Moon & Moth Body Art Studio held an Open House, while Northwest Employment Works (NEW) had an Open House where Liz Norman presented program information from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC).

Finally, on Friday, **Dress Dryden in Denim** (#denim4dryden, #shopdryden, #smallbiz) and **The City of Dryden presented - A Business Case for Canva**Webinar/Presentation

Throughout the week, participating restaurants featured a burger made with local ingredients as part of Burger Bonanza. Over \$260 was raised and donated to the Dryden Native Friendship Centre! PI Restaurant won the award for most creative burger, while Riverview Lodge sold the most burgers. It was a three-way tie between PI, Riverview Lodge, and B&B Restaurant for the best burger!







Please register by emailing: reception@pace-cf.on.ca

AROUND TOWN

SUNSET COUNTRY CREATIVE

Helping small businesses in Northwestern Ontario grow.

Reach out to explore how we can help you today.

"YOUR BRAND STORY" Presentation Hosted by PACE.

Hope Murdick, a local entrepreneur and owner of SUNSET COUNTRY CREATIVE, recently returned to her hometown with a mission to make a difference. On Thursday, November 9th, 2023, she presented "YOUR BRAND STORY" at a PACE-hosted event, which was attended by many small business owners. The presentation was well-received and appreciated by all who attended. The presentation focused on how to create affinity, loyalty, and sales by engaging with customers. It provided valuable insights on how to market your brand and keep customers engaged by ensuring that your brand has a story.

If you're interested in viewing the presentation, you can find it on YouTube here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=_FphP9ArDd8



Come Check out the Businesses at the PACE Office!











PACE is a not-for-profit corporation which is funded by Industry Canada FedNor to support Community Economic Development throughout the Patricia region ranging from Pickle Lake to Ignace to Machin. Communities served, in addition are Lac Seul First Nations, Sioux Lookout, Wabigoon Lake First Nation, Dryden and Eagle Lake First Nation.

Our expectations are simple.

Board members must:

- Commit to a threeyear term with the option to renew
- Adhere to the PACE Code of Conduct for board members.
- Attend monthly board meetings
- Actively participate in small business loan making decisions

Join the PACE Board of Directors.

PACE is looking for energetic, passionate people to:

- Set financial policy decisions
- Build community networks
- Act as catalysts in the PACE catchment area
- Monitor and measure results of spending.

Interested?

Submit your Expression of Interest by going to the PACE website and submitting the application form to shannonw@pace-cf.on.ca

PACE is looking to recruit Board Members from the whole catchment area.

If you like to serve, lead and work together on behalf of your communities, then we need you to apply!



Community Futures
Development Corporation

Patricia Area Community Endeavours

Visit www.pace-cf.on.ca/board-of-directors