

Commercial Members Meeting
Meeting Summary- Sunday March 30, 2008
Fairmont Royal York
Boardroom
6 PM-7PM

- **Welcome and Call to Order**

At approx. 6:03pm Chair David Windley welcomed commercial members and LDC guests and called the meeting to order

- **Update on Commercial Members Renewals and Status**

Tanya Fobear of the EDA provided an update on commercial member renewals and status. Member Renewal status was at approx. 90%. Ms. Fobear informed the group, EDA staff would be working to increase renewal status in the coming weeks. An update of the 12 new commercial members who have joined the EDA since January was also given.

- **Commercial Member Steering Committee Update**

Tanya Fobear provided an update on the survey that was sent to commercial members in early fall. The purpose of the survey was to receive feedback from Commercial Members to assess their satisfaction of current privileges and identify any new opportunities that may exist within their membership

Based on survey results five takeaways were discussed by the committee

- 1) **EDA sponsored events and EDA driven events.**

- Provide a list of opportunities open to commercial members through EDA sponsored events and/or EDA driven events such as: presenting at events, attending events, or contributing to an EDA publication (the *Distributor*) to let commercial members know what is available to them.

- 2) **Member attendance/participation**

- Increase commercial member engagement. An opportunity to increase commercial membership at future AGMs was discussed. Sending out communications such as frequent broadcast messages to inform commercial members of events was suggested.

- 3) **Benefits of membership**

- From the survey, commercial members feel the benefits of commercial membership include: obtaining relevant industry/technical information and gaining marketing opportunities. These were discussed as possible action items.

- 4) **Sponsorship Opportunities**

- A suggestion that several commercial members share the fees to provide sponsorship for Opening Reception at future AGMs was discussed by the committee.

-

- 5) **Additions to Commercial Member section of website**

- Christine Hallas provided committee with the current list of categories that Commercial Members classify their organizations. The categories were discussed and Ms. Hallas asked all members to provide her with recommendations to improve member categories.

- **EDA Website Update**

Christine Hallas provided an update of commercial member listings by category on the website. It is a large undertaking that is an ongoing work in progress.

- **Commercial Member involvement in EDA events and EDA sponsored events**

Discussion was raised around communicating to LDCs services and products available from commercial members. On the topic of involvement, Vice Chair Neil Sandford raised the Niagara Grand District Spring Meeting May 7th in Port Dover as an opportunity for Commercial Members to network with LDCs. Mr. Sandford also updated the group on a potential spring meeting from Upper Canada District.

The EDA has posted details on the Niagara Grand May 7th event on the members only section of the website

- **EDA Activities Update**

Marica Macura provided an update on the many advocacy initiatives being undertaken by the EDA including.

- CDM update
- ARC file
- 3rd Generation IRM
- Rate Design

- **EDA Draw for Prizes**

Chair David Windley drew a name for an EDA prize. Tarick Sayed from EnerSpectrum Group was the winner

The next meeting will be scheduled shortly and will be the first meeting of the 2008/2009 Commercial Members Steering Committee.

- Chair David Windley adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:02 pm