



CANADIAN ITALIAN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THUNDER BAY

# CIBPA Chronicles

VOLUME 14  
ISSUE 2

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**RSVP**  
Silvio Di Gregorio  
Tel. 623-1855  
Fax 623-0360

**Admission**  
Members - No Charge  
Non-Members - \$50.00

## Fall 2007 CIBPA Dinner Thursday, October 4th

6:00pm Networking - 7:00pm Dinner  
Valhalla Inn

**Mr. Steve Demmings, M.C.I.P., R.P.P.**  
CEO  
Thunder Bay Community Economic  
Development Commission (CEDC)

Mr. Demmings was named the founding CEO for the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC) and began his new position in March 2007.

As an economic development executive Mr. Demmings has 27 years of experience in the private sector and public sectors including positions with the Province of Manitoba, The Imperial Group of Companies, Great West Life Real Estate Investments and Site Selection Canada.

In addition, he has owned and managed his own business ventures in real estate consulting and site selection, retail business (Banff, Alberta) and ownership in a direct marketing company.

Mr. Demmings is a graduate of the University of New Brunswick and holds a Masters degree in City Planning from the University of Manitoba where he has taught in the Faculty of Architecture from 1990-2006. He attained a CPM with the Real Estate Institute of Canada.



**Reservations**  
Tables of 8 can be purchased and reserved in advance.



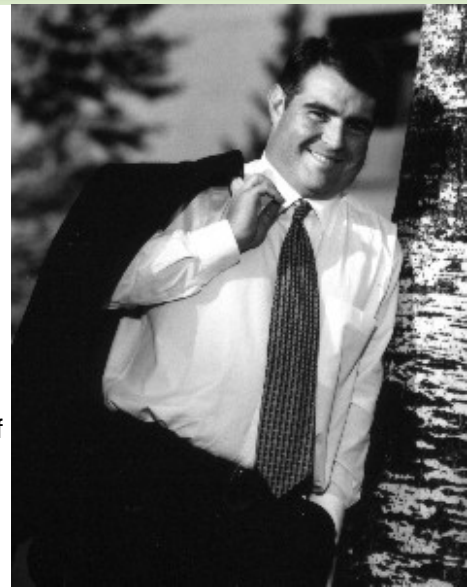
**Tickets**  
Contact any board member.



## President's Message

It is my honour and privilege to serve as your President for the next two years. I want to acknowledge and thank past president Sonny Costanzo on behalf of the board and all CIBPA members for his outstanding commitment and effort over the past term.

Thunder Bay's CIBPA has been growing and getting stronger each year since its inception in 1993. Thanks to the leadership of our past presidents and the dedication of each and every board member, our organization has become a strong voice for the Canadian Italian community in Thunder Bay. We have been committed to supporting cultural initiatives that recognize the importance of our Italian heritage. Recently, we have lent our support to the Institute of Italian Studies, Lakehead University. We feel the Institute can and will have a powerful impact on the preservation of the Italian language and culture in northwestern Ontario.



I want to thank all of the members and organizations that have been generous sponsors and contributors to our events. Specifically, I want to recognize RBC Financial Group and the Gran Sasso Club as our *Diamante* (Diamond) sponsors. Together, we will continue the tradition of enjoyable dinner meetings and events where we can all enjoy the camaraderie that makes our organization truly unique in Thunder Bay.

## CALENDAR

### Fall Dinner

Oct 4, 2007  
Valhalla Inn

**Bocce Tournament**  
Nov 3, 2007  
DaVinci Centre

**Curling Bonspiel**  
Feb 16, 2008  
Port Arthur Curling Club

### CIBPA Past Presidents

- 1993 – 1994  
Daniel Bellin
- 1994 – 1995  
Silvio Di Gregorio
- 1995 – 1997  
Mimmo Gallo
- 1997 – 1999  
Frank Mirabelli
- 1999 – 2001  
Peter Niccoli
- 2001 – 2003  
Renato Pullia
- 2003 – 2005  
Saverio Prete
- 2005-2007  
Sonny Costanzo

*Chi troppo vuole nulla stringe.*

*Grasp all, Lose all.*

### The Institute of Italian Studies Lakehead University



2007 Italian Wine Tasting Dinner

November 8, 2007

Whitewater Golf Club



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## Members in the News

**Congratulations** to fellow member **Tony Potestio** who has opened a new law practice in Toronto. We wish him every success in his new venture.

**Congratulations** to **Ernie and Judy Contardo** on their 50th wedding anniversary. We wish them many more years of happiness together.

The Italian Chamber of Commerce of Manitoba in conjunction with the Camera di Commercio di Catanzaro recently honoured two of our members with awards in Recognition of Outstanding Career and Community Achievement.

**Nina Ruberto and Joe Daniele** were individually recognized at the Flavours of Calabria Award Dinner at Centro Caboto in Winnipeg earlier this year.

**Congratulations** to Nina and Joe, we are proud of your accomplishments.



Panoramic View of St Peter's Square and Rome taken from the Vatican Coppola

### CANADIAN ITALIAN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THUNDER BAY

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contact@cibpa.com

Web: www.cibpa.com

Canadians of Italian heritage building business and professional networks across Canada.

*The CIBPA brings people together in an atmosphere that encourages the development of business contacts while strengthening cultural awareness.*

#### ADVERTISING

If you would like to place an ad in this newsletter, or on our website, or add a link from our website... Contact Joe Daniele at 343-4490

*Edited and produced by CIBPA Board of Directors*

## 2005 - 2007 Board of Directors

**Mark Piovesana**  
President  
626-5187

**Joe Daniele**  
Vice President  
343-4490

**Franco Crupi**  
Treasurer  
346-7000

**Mimmo Gallo**  
Secretary  
346-8543

**Sonny Costanzo**  
Past President  
344-2080

**Anthony Bergamo**  
Membership Chair  
684-8306

**Silvio DiGregorio**  
Director  
623-1855

**Peter Niccoli**  
Director  
345-8825

**Shirlee Bayda-Clace**  
Director  
343-1435

**Frank Mirabelli**  
Director  
623-1276

**Saverio Prete**  
Director  
343-1845

## New Members

**Tim Prosdocimo**  
(S.T.R. Builders Ltd.)

**Nick Pucci**  
(City of Thunder Bay)

**Roy Piovesana**  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Thunder Bay

**Daniel Sisco**  
ScotiaMcLeod

## Submissions

CIBPA Chronicles welcomes member articles for inclusion in future issues.

Articles should be relevant to member interests and the Italian Canadian community.

Please forward submissions to [contact@cibpa.com](mailto:contact@cibpa.com)

## Global Experience *by Sonny Costanzo*

Over the last 14 years, Kevin and Nina Anderson have established their retail gift store business, Global Experience.

Like many young people in Thunder Bay, Kevin and Nina left the city to attend university out of town. They both headed to southern Ontario to study at the University of Western Ontario in London. Many students who leave for university never come back. The hustle and bustle of southern Ontario, for many, is hard to resist. But for some, like Kevin and Nina, it was a breeding ground for business ideas.

"You go away and you see what Thunder Bay is lacking," says Nina, "Global Experience is a mixture of about 10 different stores that I have visited in southern Ontario."

Strong family ties brought the couple back to Thunder Bay after graduation, and they quickly came across a business opportunity. An environmental gift store was going out of business and was for sale. They made a deal to buy the computers, suppliers list and remaining stock for \$7,000, and Global Experience was born.



It started in an old character house on Algoma Street. After one successful year in business they decided to open up on the south side of town. They ran the two locations for another year and then thought about expanding in other cities. In 1996 they decided to open a smaller test store in Intercity Mall that could be replicated across the country. They spoke with Square One Mall in Mississauga about opening in their future expansion. In 1997 Nina and Kevin had their first child Hunter which put a halt on the expansion plans.

In 1999 they decided to compete for the contract to operate the Trading Post gift store at Thunder Bay's most popular tourist attraction, Old Fort William. Eight years later they still run the Gift Shop at Fort William Historical Park.

All three stores were filled with a variety of home furnishing items from all over the world. Nina says they often rely on their own tastes when it comes to importing merchandise for the store. There is also a moral foundation in purchasing policy, which stresses that suppliers and producers follow fair labour practices.

They both have travelled extensively to find unique products and make contacts with suppliers. They sell products from all over the world via these contacts but have visited Indonesia, Australia, Vietnam, Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia and China to meet the artisans and families who make the products.

Nina and Kevin describe the eye-catching mural on their original heritage home location as a turning point for their business. It turned out to be a great marketing idea by creating awareness for their store.

"Now we have the mindset; we are not afraid to take risk at all," says Nina. In 2005 Nina and Kevin made the hard decision to amalgamate all 3 stores into one large store in the new Thunder Center. Kevin explains "the Intercity area was growing while the downtown cores were getting slower. In retail you have to be where the action is." The new 5000 square foot location has enabled them to put everything under one roof and expand on their best selling categories.

Global Experience still brings in items from around the world with a large mix of Canadian made and local items. They have something for everybody on your gift giving list!





## 2007 Golf Tournament

Some say it is the best golf tournament of the summer. It is certainly well attended as it was sold out by early June this year. It is hard to find a tournament where Hors D'oeuvres are to be found at several locations on the course, where Italian music is being enjoyed between holes and where the camaraderie is second to none. Whitewater Golf Club is certainly the perfect venue and their hospitality was once again outstanding.

Of course a tournament of this caliber would not be possible without the many sponsors who generously supported the event. The major sponsors included the Gran Sasso Club, PMA Grand Marnier, RBC Royal Bank, Valhalla Inn and Whitewater Golf Club. Many thanks go out to all of the other sponsors who helped make the event something to remember.

The tournament is not competitive by any means. In fact the grand prize goes to the team with the **highest** score. This year the honour was bestowed upon the team of Ted Davis, Edward Meijer, Sue Prodaniuk and Bill Covello. We do acknowledge the team who does in fact try to play reasonably good golf. This year, with a team score of 65 (that would be seven under in golf lingo), the prize went to the team of Ian McCormack, Mike Desilets, H. Multimaki and J. Porter. Wendy Ferris won the Ladies closest to the hole prize while Shirlee Bayda-Clace took the honours for the Ladies longest drive. Andrew Christie outdid all of the other men in both the longest drive and closest to the hole.

We encourage all members to register early for next year's event as it does fill up fast. The CIBPA Board stages events such as the golf tournament primarily for the enjoyment of our members and we hope to see many of you on the greens and fairways next year.



**2007 Winners - Ian McCormack, H. Multimaki, J. Porter and Mike Desilets**



**2007 Winners - Bill Covello, Sue Prodaniuk, Edward Meijer, and Ted Davis (missing)**

## Golf Donations & Prizes

- Alumni Association Of Lakehead University - Rob Zuback
- Bank of Montreal - Shirlee Bayda-Clace
- Bearskin Airlines - Cliff Friesen
- Bruno's Contracting - Silvio Di Gregorio
- Buset Sarvas LLP - Peter Buset, Tom Sarvas
- Caribou Restaurant - Bob Stewart & Tom Pazianos
- Confederation College - Andrew Kane
- Crupi Consulting - Franco Crupi
- Dave Douglas Jewellers - Dave Douglas
- Desjardins Financial - Charlie Ihantola
- Dominion Construction - Ray Williamson
- First General Services - Frank Mirabelli
- Fort William Historical Park - Sergio Buonocore
- Gran Sasso Club
- Hertz Equipment Rentals - Peter Niccoli
- HSBC Bank Canada - Allan Kozlo
- Lakehead University - Michael Pawlowski
- Merla-Mae Ice Cream - Pasquale Nardi
- Molson Canada - George Cava
- Nor-Shore Ready Mix Concrete - Peter Provenzano
- PMA Gran Marnier - Lisa Wychopin
- RBC Royal Bank - Saverio Prete
- RBC Royal Bank - Anthony Bergamo
- Remax Realty - Mario Tegola
- Scotia Macleod - Mark Piovesana
- T & T Auto Supply - Tony & Tullio Provenzano
- The Picture Store - Lucio Coppola
- The Valhalla Inn - Rene Gurtner
- Whitewater Golf Club - Rob Larocque

***"Some day, and that day may never come,  
I will call upon you to do a service for me."  
Don Corleone to Bonasera - Godfather 1972***

# Recipe

## Pasta Fagioli

**Chef Pedro**

**Serves 8**

- 3 cups of canned beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 celery rib, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, lightly crushed
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 cup of canned Italian tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon tomato paste
- ½ cup water
- Pinch of red pepper flakes (or a peperoncino)
- 8 ounces spaghetti broken into 1-inch pieces



### Preparation

- Cook the celery and garlic in the olive oil in a large saucepan over moderate heat.
- When the garlic is golden, discard it.
- Add the tomatoes, tomato paste, water, red pepper flakes (or a peperoncino), and salt to taste.
- Simmer for 10 minutes, or until sauce is slightly thickened.
- Add the canned beans to the sauce and bring the mixture to a simmer, mashing some of the beans with the back of a large spoon.
- Stir in the pasta and cook until it is al dente. Add water if mixture is too thick.
- Turn off the heat and let stand for 10 minutes before serving.



*Chi dorme non piglia pesci*

*One who sleeps, doesn't catch fish.*



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# CIBPA Sponsorship Policy

## DIAMANTE *DIAMOND* SPONSOR (\$5,000+)

- Exclusivity at this level by industry
- Booth (supplied by client) at our dinner events
- Logo on podium at dinner events
- Logo on dinner program
- 2 X 4 advertising banner (supplied by client) at our sporting events
- Corporate materials (supplied by client) distributed at events
- Full page advertising in all newsletters
- Guest columnist in all newsletters
- Logo on all newsletters
- Corporate top banner logo on CIBPA website
- Corporate link on CIBPA website

## ORO *GOLD* SPONSOR (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

- Exclusivity at this level by industry
- 1.5 X 3 advertising banner (supplied by client) at all sporting events
- ½ Page advertising in all newsletters
- Logo on all newsletters
- Corporate gold size logo on CIBPA website
- Corporate link on CIBPA website

## ARGENTO *SILVER* SPONSOR (\$1,000 – \$2,499)

- ¼ page advertising in all newsletters
- Recognition on sponsor board at sporting events
- Corporate silver size logo on CIBPA website
- Corporate link on CIBPA website



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Financial Planner**

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## Membership Privileges

- Two Dinners Annually
- Website links on CIBPA'S Website
- Newsletters from CIBPA Thunder Bay

## Fees

- New Member - \$125
- Renewal - \$100
- New Student - \$75
- Student Renewal - \$50



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