



Chair's Corner – February 2017

As usual I am running late in getting these words together and submitted. Somethings just never change – always said I worked better to deadline (which usually is 5 minutes before it's too late). Anyway, I would like to talk about two things.

First, the annual regional Tourism Symposiums are coming back the last week of March. I encourage you to come out and meet the Central Counties Tourism team and to network with the many tourism operators in your area. You will meet new and interesting people and walk away with a couple of new ideas – new ways to do old things sometimes – guaranteed! It is a great way to recharge your tourism batteries while the 2017 tourism season is quietly growing. There are three Symposiums within Central Counties – [Monday March 27 in Dufferin/Hills of Headwaters](#); [Wednesday March 29 in Durham](#); and [Thursday March 30 in York](#) – follow the links provided to register.

While you are at the Symposiums, please drop by the Central Counties information table and find out more about the Board and the programs open for your participation. We have two Committees that are looking for members. The first is the Accommodations Committee which is intended to monitor and promote activities that have an impact on the accommodations sector. This Committee will be drafting position papers on various issues that will speak to the impact of these on accommodators in Central Counties (eg. Hotel room tax being considered by Toronto; unregulated Airbnb properties).

The second Committee, which is new to Central Counties, is the Tourism Sustainability Committee. This Committee is intended to keep the tourism community and local governments informed on the positive impact that tourism has on the local economies. It will encourage local government to keep tourism top of mind.

If you are interested in being a part of the Central Counties Board and/or one (or both of these Committees) please drop a business card (with your interest) off at the info table or add your name to the sign-up sheet that will be available.

I hope you can make it to the Tourism Symposium in your area. If you can't and would like more information about the Board and/or Committees, send an email to chair@centralcountiestourism.ca.

Sincerely,

Chair Jennifer Cooke