

# How Can Your Business Benefit from the Chamber?

## BELONG. ENGAGE. EXCEL

**Connect With  
Potential  
Customers**

**Save  
Money**

**Educational  
Opportunities**

**Connect With  
Leadership**

**Economic  
Growth**

**Starting A Small  
Business And  
Entrepreneurial  
Growth**

The benefits listed below are *included with your membership*.  
Consider these benefits as a return on your investment!

### **Connect With Potential Customers**

#### Membership Lists and Marketing Leads

A great way to target regional customers. The Chamber currently maintains data on over 300 businesses in the Lakes Region.

#### Website Business Listing

Your business description and link displayed on the Chamber's online business search directory. Your display is seen by hundreds of potential customers each month, generating sales and/or brand recognition.

#### Business & Tourism Guide Listing

Your business description and contact info displayed in 12,000 of our printed guides used by tourists, locals and businesses as a reference for regional services, recreation etc. Also viewable on our website!

#### Professional Leads Groups

For chamber members only – meet once a month to specifically discuss and share leads. No added fee, no strict parameters. One industry represented in each group.

## Customer Inquiries and Referrals

The Chamber receives 2,000 information and referral requests each and every year and we only refer Chamber members.

## Ribbon Cutting Event

Host an event where town officials, chamber staff and the chambers ambassadors celebrate your business. Ribbon cuttings are prominently displayed in the chamber E-News seen by over 300 contacts. We will also post the photo on our Facebook page which averages hundreds of views!

## Ambassador Committee

This committee is an integral group that assists the Chamber in welcoming new members. Get involved with this committee and you will be one of the first members to introduce yourself and services to new members!

## Business Breaks

After hours business networking event with dozens of potential new contacts. Learn about other Chamber members while marketing your business in a fun social setting.



## Webinars

The SLRCC provides Chamber members with the opportunity to present (2) webinars a month covering topics from marketing, branding, finance, customer service, team building – you name it! An RFP is sent out each quarter to members who might want to host the webinar and boost their brand!

## SLRCC Blog

Be a guest writer or check in regularly for great timely, informative content to help you improve your business!

## Seminars

Throughout the year the SLRCC will conduct breakfast, lunch and sometimes early evening seminars that are free to Chamber members. These seminars will

provide topics that support businesses and help advance the region.

### Professional Development Scholarship

This scholarship program provides businesses, its owner and employees with the opportunity to participate in professional development activities that will benefit the businesses and/or employees professionally. [Click Here](#) for the details and [Click Here](#) for the application.



### Experience the Power of Place and a Culture of Collaboration

The Chamber is actively working to grow economic clusters by being a catalyst for collaboration. This work creates a business climate of interconnected firms and institutions whose whole is more than the sum of its parts. These collaborations help to align education, training, and workforce development, provide economic and technical assistance, transfer technology and innovation, and create a shared infrastructure on behalf of all Lakes Region businesses.

### Member Health Benefits

The Chamber has assembled a suite of health-care benefits provided through Anthem BCBS of Maine called "Chamber BlueOptions". It is package with (12) health plans providing access to health savings accounts, preventative care, wellness plans that offer a 3% discount on renewal premiums, online tools and much more.

### Member-to-Member Discounts

Many chamber members offer discounts to other chamber members. See our website for details.

## Tuition Discounts through the Maine Employer's Initiative

As a Chamber member, your business qualifies for discounts at several Maine institutions if you or your employee want to take classes or return to school to get a degree. Saint Joseph's College Online offers a 15% discount to chamber members.

**Starting A Small  
Business And  
Entrepreneurial  
Growth**

## Business Plan Advisory Services

A business plan is an essential document for starting and growing a business. The Small Business Development Center programs provide free planning assistance to new and emerging businesses assisting you with money, marketing and management fundamentals. Maine's Senior Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) also provides business coaching and consulting, free of charge. The Chamber can personally connect you to these organizations and their professionals.

## One-on-One, Confidential, No Cost Business Consulting

The Chamber is here as a resource to connect you with other business professionals in the Region that can assist you with what matters most for your business or start up ideas. The Chamber will provide you with a place to meet and confidentiality.

**Connect With  
Leadership**

## Be Part of a United Voice

The Chamber gives people an easy way to participate in something larger than themselves and their respective organizations. We offer a sense of purpose through a united voice involving mutual interests and opportunities.

The Chamber is at the table representing the interests of business at most community functions including local government, economic development, and education.

The Chamber holds an annual meeting each January. This event is one of the community's largest business events. The event sets the tone and spirit of the Chamber initiatives for the remainder of the year. In addition, the Chamber bestows some of its most prestigious awards at this event including "Business Person of the Year", "Volunteer of the Year" and the "Community Service Leadership Award".

### Annual Meeting



### Increased Business Reputation & Visibility

Compared to other businesses, Chamber members are believed to use better business practices. They have a better reputation within their community. Members have greater visibility among customers and are perceived as more caring towards their customers. They are seen as more supportive of their community. Chamber members are considered to be more stable and therefore more reliable.

### Attract & Retain Young Talent

The BLAST program was created by the Sebago Lakes Region Chamber and serves to enhance the Lakes Region community through the attraction and retention of young professionals. Its goal is to provide social networking, professional development, volunteer opportunities and community advocacy to young professionals.