

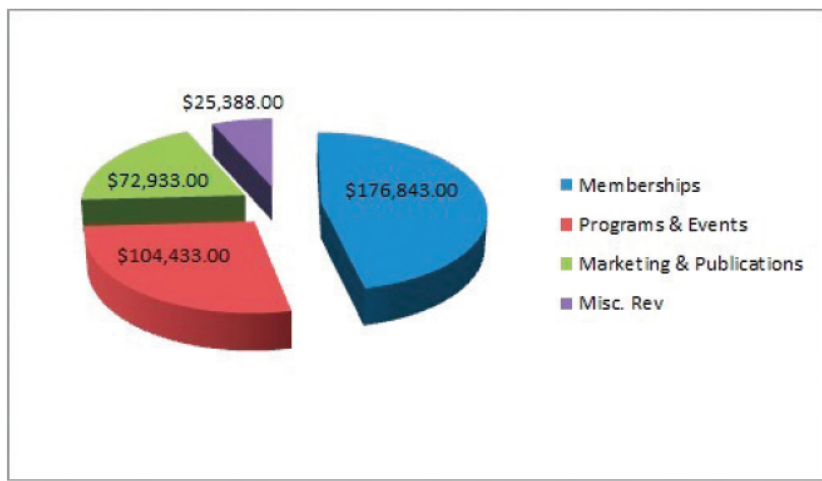


The Year in Review FY 2014-2015

The Chamber's fiscal year ended August 31 and looking back it was again a diverse and productive year for the volunteers and members of the Chamber.

A brief recap would include;

- The Ambassadors visited 73 businesses to congratulate new businesses, great new managers, and celebrate new locations.
- Upwards to 80 businesses, community members, educators and students joined in the trip to the 10th annual Bemidji Day at the Capitol visiting with over 100 legislators and the Governor.
- 45 businesses represented over 1,000 job openings at the annual Job Fair in April co-hosted with Workforce Development Center and Greater Bemidji.
- Roughly 2500 volunteer hours to host the tenth annual Dragon Boat Festival and the second Winterfest on Lake Bemidji.
- The Taste of Northern MN entertained over 500 guests that sampled food and beverages from 27 restaurants and distributors for the 22nd year.
- The Grow MN team (business retention program) completed 15 Grow Visits and hosted a luncheon to learn how our region compares with the others in the Statewide Grow program.
- The 11th Annual Awards of Excellence held in May awarded its annual Business of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, New Business and Wellness in the Workplace.
- The Chamber also recognized 22 businesses for their community support with letters from Governor Dayton acknowledging their 2%+ contributions of their pre-taxed earnings.
- The Young Professional Network climbed to over 60 members and continued its community giving and professional development programs.



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- 600 True North table tents displayed in lodging and restaurants during the Bemidji All School Reunion and BSU Homecoming as a workforce recruitment tool.

A number of years ago the Chamber Board set a goal to shift the revenues. Below is a look at how the year played out in revenues and expenses.

Overall the year ended with nearly a \$7000 gain over budget.

A goal of the board a number of years ago was to shift the revenues from a 70/30 membership dues to non-dues revenue to a 50/50. The revenue graph shows the Chamber has made great strides as the fiscal year ended with a ratio of 46/54 split.

This is just a sampling of the year in review.

For ongoing updates we always encourage our members to watch for the weekly Eblasts, Facebook posts and this monthly publication.

