

ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION 105TH CONVENTION



Friday, July 15 to Sunday, July 17, 2011
Radisson Hotel, 85 St. Anne Road, Sudbury, ON

A GROWING EXPERIENCE



The City of Sudbury is abuzz with excitement at the thought of hundreds of gardeners from across this province gathering in their fair city for the 105th Ontario Horticultural Association's Convention to hear speakers, attend workshops, tour local gardens and sites of interest, share horticultural information and socialize with fellow members.

The theme of our Convention-- **A Growing Experience—From the Ground Up** reflects the desire of the members of District 13 to share with gardeners of widely varying skills and knowledge some initiatives and practices that have originated from the ground up—from grassroots members who have led us to experience growing pains, the stretching of our imaginations and the subsequent growth and rejuvenation in our societies in the North. By fostering a sense of awareness and discovery and encouraging advocacy and interaction, we can cultivate a sense of openness to all possibilities and allow ourselves to truly bloom where we are planted.

District 13 is made up of the following fourteen societies:

Algoma Societies: Sault Ste. Marie, Lake George, St. Joseph Island, Bruce Station, and Thessalon

Manitoulin Societies: Espanola, Campbell, and Assiginack

Sudbury: Blind River, Elliot Lake, Massey- Walford, Spanish, Sudbury, and French River

PRE-CONVENTION THURSDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Want to join us for a bit of clandestine guerrilla gardening and do some random acts of beautification in downtown Sudbury at night? Be sure to bring your trowel and gardening gloves and meet us in the front lobby of the Radisson at 9 pm. Dress casual and wear sensible shoes as we will be walking and we'll supply the plants, water and shovels and the "Get out of Jail Free cards"!

FRIDAY NIGHT EVENING SOCIAL EVENT

Be prepared to empty your wallets at our annual silent auction. You'll be treated to an evening of fun and laughter as we experience together a night of diverse, lively entertainment acts from the North.

PLENARY SPEAKERS:

Plenary session speakers will address the registrants during the mornings.

Friday: "Sudbury's Regreening Story" Dr. Stephen Monet, Greater Sudbury's Manager of Environmental Planning initiatives, will trace the journey that the city and its citizens have been on since 1978 in its desire to grow vegetation and trees to grow on barren rock. Learn how Sudbury's landscape was transformed into a Canadian environmental success story, inspiring communities to improve their environment.

Saturday: "Seeds of Diversity Canada's Latest initiatives" Bob Wildfong serves as the Executive Director of Seeds of Diversity Canada. His presentation will focus on his national non-profit organization's dedication to engaging gardeners in the conservation of Canada's food biodiversity through various initiatives such as "Adopt a Rare Seed Variety" and Pollinator Watch.

Sunday: "Harvesting in a Field of Dreams or a Hellish Wilderness" Gerry Loughheed Jr. is the managing director of Loughheed Funeral Homes and is a Greater Sudbury community leader, activist and motivational speaker. Once referred to as "Sudbury's Batman" because he seems to be around whenever people need help, Gerry received the Order of Ontario in 2010.

AWARDS BANQUET (SATURDAY):

Featuring keynote speaker, Franco Mariotti, a biologist and staff scientist at Science North, who will be presenting "**Hope in a Changing Landscape**" in which he asks the question, "What does a remote South Pacific Island have in common with Northern Ontario?" He will provide positive and hopeful stories of how we can restore our home planet. He will share his experiences with the local Roots and Shoots Program of the Jane Goodall Institute and his efforts to engage youth in making a difference in his community.

The evening includes OHA Award presentations for environmental projects, individual achievements and others.

SEMINARS OF INTEREST:

Registrants can choose to attend the 2 sessions during the afternoon.

Legend: Friday (F), Saturday (S), Session 1 is held 1:30-2:30 pm (1); Session 2 is held 3-4 pm (2)

From the Ground Up..Perennials in the Woodland: Planting in a woodland garden presents some interesting problems for gardeners who must cope with the needs of the existing landscape while introducing ornamental plants into this environment. Horticulturalist **Jean Narozanski** demonstrates her expertise and passion for perennial gardening and the strategies she employs in meeting this challenge with a power point presentation of her own gardens at Pepper Point on Manitoulin Island and her favourite perennials for Northern Ontario. F1

Gardening on the Rocks: Sue Fleming, an employee of Holla's Greenhouses and a member of the Sudbury Horticultural Society will provide an introduction and overview of the various styles of rock gardens and provide useful tips on the care and maintenance of such plantings. F2 & S1

Manageable Techniques for Accessible Horticulture: Enabling Everyone: A garden can offer many benefits to the gardener such as exercise, peace of mind, food, beauty and satisfaction. The actions required for gardening, however, can offer challenges and frustration for those who face obstacles, physical or otherwise, while pursuing this activity. **Nancy Lee-Colibaba**, a Horticultural Therapy Coordinator/Horticultural Technician at the Royal Botanical Gardens for the past 28 years, will highlight work that is being done in Horticultural Therapy in southern Ontario and share techniques to overcome barriers so gardening can be beneficial to everyone. F1

Photography in the Garden: Tips and techniques to improve your photography in the garden and close to home. **Don Johnston** will present images and speak about the best times and conditions to photograph flowers, scenes and wildlife. Don retired from teaching to pursue a career in nature photography and has been photographing the natural world for nearly 30 years, first in film and now digital. He is the author of several books, including a recently published coffee table book, *Close to Home*. There will be a display of his photographs and his books will be available for signing following the presentation. F2

Growing Your Own Native Trees from Seed (in English and French): Jean-Marc Lalonde, Science Programs Coordinator at Science North, will provide his presentation to our bilingual community in both English and French. He will focus on the practice of growing native tree species from seed. The presentation will include multimedia highlighting Sudbury's green history and the reasons for tree growing, information on how to identify desirable and problem species as well as tips and strategies for preparing seeds for germination. F1 (English), F2 (French)

Three Billion Years: Geology, Habitat and Flowering Plants in Northern Ontario: Andy Fyon will share his expertise as a trained geologist and wildflower enthusiast and speak about the direct link between geology of the land and the plant communities (and people) that live in those habitats. He will show photographic image of indigenous and alien flowering plants and discuss their key attributes that allow adaptation and survival in each habitat. Andy's personal website (www.ontariowildflower.com) illustrates the many flowering plants that grow in the Sudbury area and other parts of Ontario, the Rocky Mountains and the Arctic. S1

Bats: Those Amazing Creatures: Bats are incredibly fascinating and play a crucial part in controlling insects. Please join **Franco Mariotti**, a Biologist and Staff Scientist at Science North, and explore how bats can see with sound, fly through obstacle courses in total darkness and eat enormous amounts of pesky insects.

A whole new world can be found in your own backyard from a creature that has long been a part of mythology. You will not be disappointed! S2

Get to Know Your Backyard Birds: Most of us can identify the majority of birds that visit our yards but how much do we really know about them and their lives when they are not at the feeders? **Randy Moratz**, an amateur naturalist and member of the Sudbury Ornithological Society and Sudbury Naturalists, will share some of the interesting and unique habits and behaviours that give these creatures personality and make them more than just little balls of feathers. S2

First Nations' Gardening and Food Initiatives: **Genevieve Eshkibok** has been described as a woman who is not afraid to get her hands dirty. As the Project Manager for the Agricultural Revitalization Project in the community of Wikwemikong located on Manitoulin Island since 2008, her main goal is "feeding people and feeding them knowledge to make them independent." Come and learn how organic practices and heirloom vegetable varieties are assisting Genevieve and her First Nations community to grow healthy food and prosper. S1

Hardy Fruit Trees & Giant Pumpkins: Growing vegetables and fruit in northern climates presents challenges that can be overcome by improving the soil, taking advantage of breeding breakthroughs, and attending to some details; all very doable for the average gardener. **Ron Lewis**, a semi-retired school teacher and constant gardener since 1973, loves the challenge of growing 3000 lb. pumpkins in his backyard. He operates a part-time tree nursery that specializes in hardy fruit trees from the prairies. He will share some of his experiences during 39 years of some struggle and much joy! S2

BUS TOURS:

GARDEN TOUR - (Sponsored by the Sudbury Horticultural Society) \$10.00 per person

The Sudbury Horticultural Society is pleased to have this opportunity to share some of Greater Sudbury's many beautiful gardens with convention delegates. You will travel on a Tisdale Bus Lines coach to visit more than nine gardens in three different neighbourhoods where residents have developed impressive gardens on their properties. Good gardeners really do make good neighbours!

SCIENCE NORTH TOUR - \$25.00 per person

A convention shuttle bus will transport delegates to Science North for an opportunity to spend the afternoon exploring its many exhibits. Science North is a science centre and family attraction that opened in Sudbury in 1984 and has since welcomed millions of visitors from around the world. Take a walk through an outdoor exhibit featuring many of the tree species grown in northern Ontario, discover the lifecycles of Northern Ontario's insects and meet some of Ontario's invasive species, or visit the Northern Ontario native garden and boardwalk plantings. Meet and touch some of the centre's animal friends and learn more about the Northern Ontario environment.

REGREENING TOUR - (Sponsored by Xstrata Nickel) \$10.00 per person

Participants in this ecological tour will have an opportunity to learn more about the many environmental initiatives that have been undertaken in Greater Sudbury as part of more than 35 years of land reclamation. You will travel on a Tisdale Bus Lines coach to visit the Jane Goodall Trail where you will take part in a short hike led by the city's land reclamation staff, tour Xstrata Nickel's property to learn about the company's land reclamation initiatives and visit a schoolyard that was regreened through VETAC's Ugliest Schoolyard Contest.

DYNAMIC EARTH TOUR - \$25.00 per person

Take the convention shuttle bus to Sudbury's newest tourist attraction to learn more about mining and the city's land reclamation projects which have been supported by the local mining companies – Vale Inco and Xstrata Nickel. Dynamic Earth is a geology and mining centre that opened in Sudbury in 2003 and is the home of the famous Big Nickel. During your visit you will have an opportunity to enter the miner's 'dry' and prepare for an unforgettable journey to the depths of the earth, as you descend seven storeys into a dramatic rock chasm while viewing a state-of-the art multimedia show.

COMPETITION JUDGING UPDATES:

Registrants can choose to attend 2 sessions during the afternoon.

Exhibiting and Judging Garden Vegetables for Competitions: **Carol Skanes**, an OHA certified Judge, will be on hand to share tips and techniques for choosing suitable vegetables and preparing them for competition. She will review the various factors considered in judging, potential automatic disqualifications and provide pointers for first time exhibitors on how to properly read the competition schedule. Exhibiting should be enjoyable and educational for all. F2

*This qualifies as a judging update session.

Being a Winner: Julie Lee, an OHA certified Judge, has worked as a Floral Designer, Demonstrator and Teacher for over thirty years. She has trained in Europe and worked in various countries around the world. Julie is a firm believer that if you have good flowers, condition them properly and prepare your floral foam correctly, you will have lasting and potentially award-winning flower show entries. This session will provide a review of the basic floral design fundamentals including floral foam, selecting and conditioning plant materials, mechanics and design tips. F1

*This qualifies as a judging update session.

From the Ground Up: Award-winning floral designer, **Trevor Fielder** is back! He is still pushing the boundaries and constantly investigating nature and how we interact with it. Be prepared to be amazed by his creativity as he interprets our Convention theme and fashions a floral installation piece throughout the afternoon using Northern elements. It will be on view during our Saturday Banquet. S1 & S2

*This qualifies as a judging update session.

INFORMATION AND SKILLS SESSIONS

Computer Lab: “Using the Internet for Gardening Information”: **Carol Dunk**, current OHA 1st Vice and experienced Master Gardener will speak on the types of gardening information available on the Internet such as garden blogs, the credibility of such sources and share her tips and Google tricks for searching the web with ease. Friday 4-5 pm.

Computer Lab: Troubleshooting 101: **Jeff Blackadar**, OHA Director and Webmaster, will be on hand to answer your questions on how to improve your Society web sites, set up garden blogs and employ other strategies to keep your Society members engaged and interested. Saturday 4-5 pm.

OHA Judges’ Meeting: OHA Judges are encouraged to attend this session to discuss issues and concerns pertaining to the Judges’ Registry. Friday 4:15-5:15 pm.

Youth Leaders’ Meeting: OHA Youth Leaders and people interested in starting youth programs will have the opportunity to learn and discuss the rewards, challenges and duties of working with today’s youth. Saturday 4-5 pm.

WORKSHOPS

The following workshops, which run from 1-4 pm, are restricted to 25 registrants only and require a \$10 fee to cover the cost of materials and handouts. Registrants may attend only 1 workshop during the convention.

NO PLOT IS TOO SMALL--Community Stewardship 101: This workshop offered by **Zanita Lukezich** of the Evergreen Foundation will provide inspiring examples, tips and tricks, and practical strategies to help you get involved in local greening projects—or even start your own! Individuals and community groups will benefit from sharing ideas about community greening initiatives and advice to ensure project success. Friday afternoon only.

HOW TO SAVE YOUR OWN SEEDS : This workshop offered by **Bob Wildfong**, Executive Director of Seeds of Diversity Canada will provide a hands-on session to learn practical and seed-saving techniques for the home garden; information on how to clean, store and exchange seeds and the role of biodiversity in your back yard. Saturday afternoon only.

COMPETITONS

Enjoy exhibits of Art, Photography, Creative Writing, Publications, Web Shell & Youth all with horticultural themes. View inspiring floral designs, cut flower specimens and well maintained houseplants at the Flower Show. Some competitions require pre-registration. Full details are available on the OHA website, www.gardenontario.org.

VENDORS & DISPLAYS

Shop on-site for interesting hand-crafted items and gardening products and learn more about Sudbury and District 13 by visiting various informative displays and photo exhibits.

YOUTH CAMP 2011

Camp Falcona, operated by YMCA, is located on Nelson Lake, in a well protected bay. It is approximately a one hour drive from downtown Sudbury. They offer an extensive sports and activity program, including kayaks, canoes, two large water trampolines, a large sports field, basketball facilities, beach volleyball court, crafts, skit night, and campfires. They have a large staff of cooks, counsellors, administrators and a nurse.

They will be able to accommodate up to 30 of our youth and five or so leaders from the Friday morning to the Sunday morning. Camp Falcona operates a day camp throughout the summer, and also has a few campers throughout the weekends. The registrants to the OHA Youth Camp must be 7-17 years of age.



Camp Falcona offers wholesome, well-balanced and enjoyable meals, prepared on site in their own kitchens by dedicated kitchen staff members. Peanut products are strictly prohibited. Most campers with restricted diets due to allergies, religious or ethical reasons can be accommodated. Water is filtered, treated, and tested daily to meet the Ministry of the Environment's water safety guidelines. Camp Falcona has flush toilets and hot showers in a centralized washroom facility. All waterfront staff members are qualified lifeguards. Campers and staff members wear lifejackets (PFDs) during all boating activities. A swim test is administered to every camper to determine his/her ability and from there it will be decided what activities he/she may take part in.

We invite you to check out Camp Falcona's website at www.sudbury.ymca.ca which includes their Parent and Camper Handbook.

A Camper Registration Package will be available on the OHA website at www.gardenontario.org or contact Suzanne Hanna, District 13 Director, for more information. Fee: \$135 per camper; \$80 per Youth Leader.

ACCOMMODATION:

Booking a Room at the Radisson

For the past few years, our Conventions have been held at college and university campuses which in some ways, has made the booking of rooms an easy task, largely because the educational facilities have numerous residences and a lot of rooms that can be potentially rented out. In the case of the Radisson Sudbury Hotel where our 2011 Convention will be held, there are a limited number of rooms.

Arrangements have been made with the hotel management team to block 120 rooms for OHA Convention attendees until June 15, 2011. After June 15th any rooms not booked will be released back into their inventory and available to the general public on a first come, first served basis. This block includes

- 40 rooms (2 double beds, main level) @ \$115 + 13% HST
- 40 rooms (2 double beds, fridge, microwave) @\$125 + 13% HST
- 30 rooms (1 queen bed, microwave, fridge) @\$135 +13% HST
- 10 rooms (1 king bed, microwave, fridge) @ \$135 +13% HST

The rooms are quite spacious, clean and comfortable. They have Sleep Number beds which adjust to how firm or soft you prefer your mattress.. Rooms on the main level have access to the beautifully landscaped courtyard via balcony doors which can be an asset in the summer. The web site www.radisson.com/sudbury-hotel-on-p3e4s4/onsudbur provides some photos and a description of the rooms.



Our cozy rooms have been carefully designed and are equipped with all the amenities guests need for a pleasant stay in Sudbury. Hotel rooms at the Radisson include in-room movies, free high-speed Internet and coffee makers. For extra comfort, select rooms feature the exclusive Sleep Number® bed that allows guests to adjust the mattress to their own level of comfort, as well as quality linens, down pillows and comforters. Need more room? We also offer spacious suites.

Additional amenities include: air conditioning, alarm clock, fax/modem ports, irons/ironing boards, complimentary newspapers and voice mail. There are a limited number of smoking rooms (most are non-smoking) and a few handicap accessible rooms available. Traveling with a pet? The Radisson is a pet friendly hotel that offers pet friendly rooms for an additional \$30 + 13% HST required cleaning fee. Parking (indoor/outdoor) is complimentary.

To ensure that every guest has a pleasant stay, the Radisson offers a Fitness Centre, indoor pool, airport shuttle service (fee applies) and a babysitting service (not sure if this applies to spouses who have accompanied their wives or hubbies...hmmm.) Three hour Express Laundry service is also available as well as a coin-operated laundry facility. Pesto Italian Eatery & Saloon, the on-site restaurant, offers great pasta and pizza. According to the web site, House specialties include our signature steaks, rack of lamb, the focaccia club sandwich and Black Forest dessert. Guests at the Radisson can also relax with a drink at the bar. They provide breakfast and lunch from 7 am- 2pm, dinner from 5-10 pm.

The Radisson Hotel is adjacent to the Rainbow Centre shopping mall (where our Convention program speakers will be presenting their talks in several of their theatres) and is within walking distance of other downtown restaurants, shops and hotels. The Radisson is also only a few kilometres from several popular local attractions, including the Big Nickel, Science North, the Inco Superstack and several great golf courses.

To book a room at the Radisson, contact Reservations at 1-800-395-7046 which is a toll-free number. State that you are booking a room(s) for the Horticultural Convention or OHA Convention to ensure that you are charged the guaranteed rates stated above. Confirmation of bookings will be sent directly to the participants. Check in time is 3 pm; check out time is 12 noon. A later check out time of 2 pm. (subject to availability) can be requested at no cost at the time of booking. If you have any other questions, contact the Radisson directly at (705) 675-1123. If you want to be on site for all the Convention happenings, be sure to book your room(s) at the Radisson as soon as possible as they are going quickly.

OTHER HOTELS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA



No one hotel in Sudbury, however, can offer enough rooms for all of our OHA delegates so we have blocked rooms at four other hotels in downtown Sudbury that are in close proximity to the Radisson.

Our committee is hoping that delegates will be able to park their vehicles for the weekend when they arrive at these other hotels and simply walk over to the Radisson to prevent parking headaches and, of course, getting lost. We will be providing volunteers who are acquainted with downtown Sudbury to guide delegates over Thursday evening for registration and Friday morning for the first Plenary session so they become familiar with the easiest and shortest route to the Radisson from these hotels.

The Quality Inn, Days Inn, the Howard Johnson Plaza and the Best Western have rooms blocked for OHA Convention attendees until approximately June 14, 2011. At such time, any of these rooms which have not been booked will be released back into inventory for the general public.

The Quality Inn



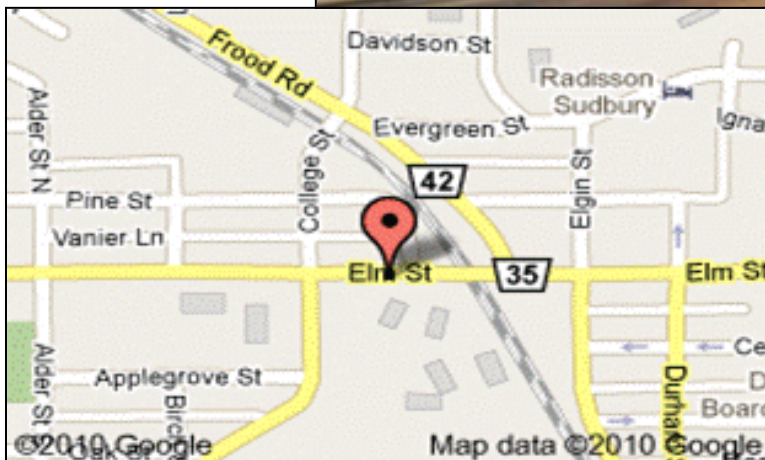
The Quality Inn & Conference Centre is located at 390 Elgin St. in downtown Sudbury, a short stroll from the Sudbury Arena, the Sudbury Theatre Centre, Ramsay Lake Boardwalk and Bell Park Beach. Their comfortable guestrooms feature a workstation, free high-speed wireless internet access, coffee maker, free local phone calls, voicemail and complimentary newspaper. Accessible rooms can be requested upon availability. Relax and unwind with the indoor pool and exercise facilities. The hotel offers a restaurant, Bridges Bistro & Bar, which is open from 7 am-10 pm.

The hotel has blocked 50 rooms in total offering two double beds or one queen bed at a rate of \$119.00 + 13% HST to OHA attendees. To book a room, contact them directly at 1-800-461-1120 and indicate that you are booking a room(s) for the Horticultural Convention or OHA Convention to ensure that you get the rate quoted above.

The Days Inn

The Days Inn is conveniently situated at 117 Elm St. in downtown Sudbury central to Science North, Dynamic Earth, shopping centres, entertainment and sporting venues. The hotel offers newly renovated guest rooms, indoor pool and sauna, and a restaurant, Spencers Bistro, on site. All guest rooms are equipped with flat screen televisions, high speed wireless Internet, in room fridges, coffee makers, hair dryers and irons/ironing boards. Complimentary passes to Body Works Fitness Centre (next door to the Radisson) are available.

The hotel has blocked 25 rooms in total: 15 single bed rooms and 10 double bed rooms which are available to OHA attendees at \$112.99 + 13% HST. To book a room, contact them directly at 1-800-329-7466 or 1 705-674-7517 and indicate that you are booking a room(s) for the Horticultural Convention or OHA Convention to ensure that you get the rate quoted above.



The Howard Johnson Plaza

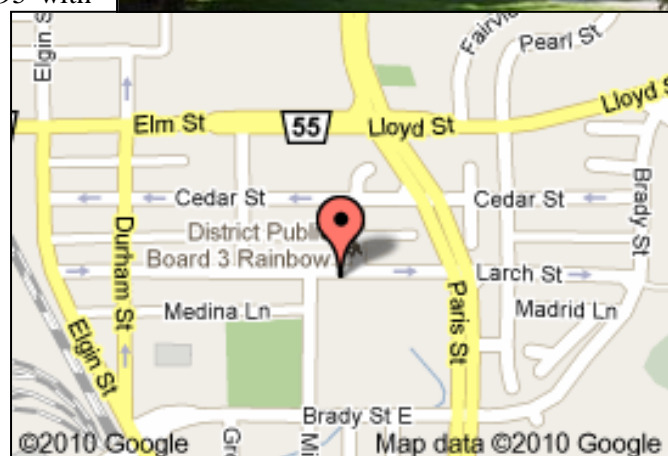
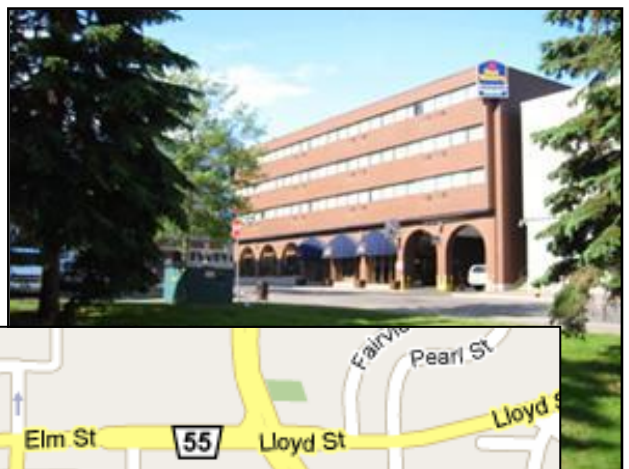


The Howard Johnson, known familiarly as the HoJo, is located at 50 Brady St. It has been a 100% smoke free hotel since 2007. All rooms include working desk, ergonomic chair, phones with data ports and free wireless high-speed internet. The hotel is central to all area attractions and sporting facilities and provides free parking. Enjoy Bradys Dining Room, the Exchange Lounge and fitness room. The hotel has blocked 40 non-smoking rooms in total offering either two double beds or a queen bed with sofa at a rate of \$103.00 + 13% HST to OHA attendees. To book a room, contact them directly at 1-800-461-1144 and indicate that you are booking a room(s) for the Horticultural Convention or OHA Convention to ensure that you get the rate quoted above.

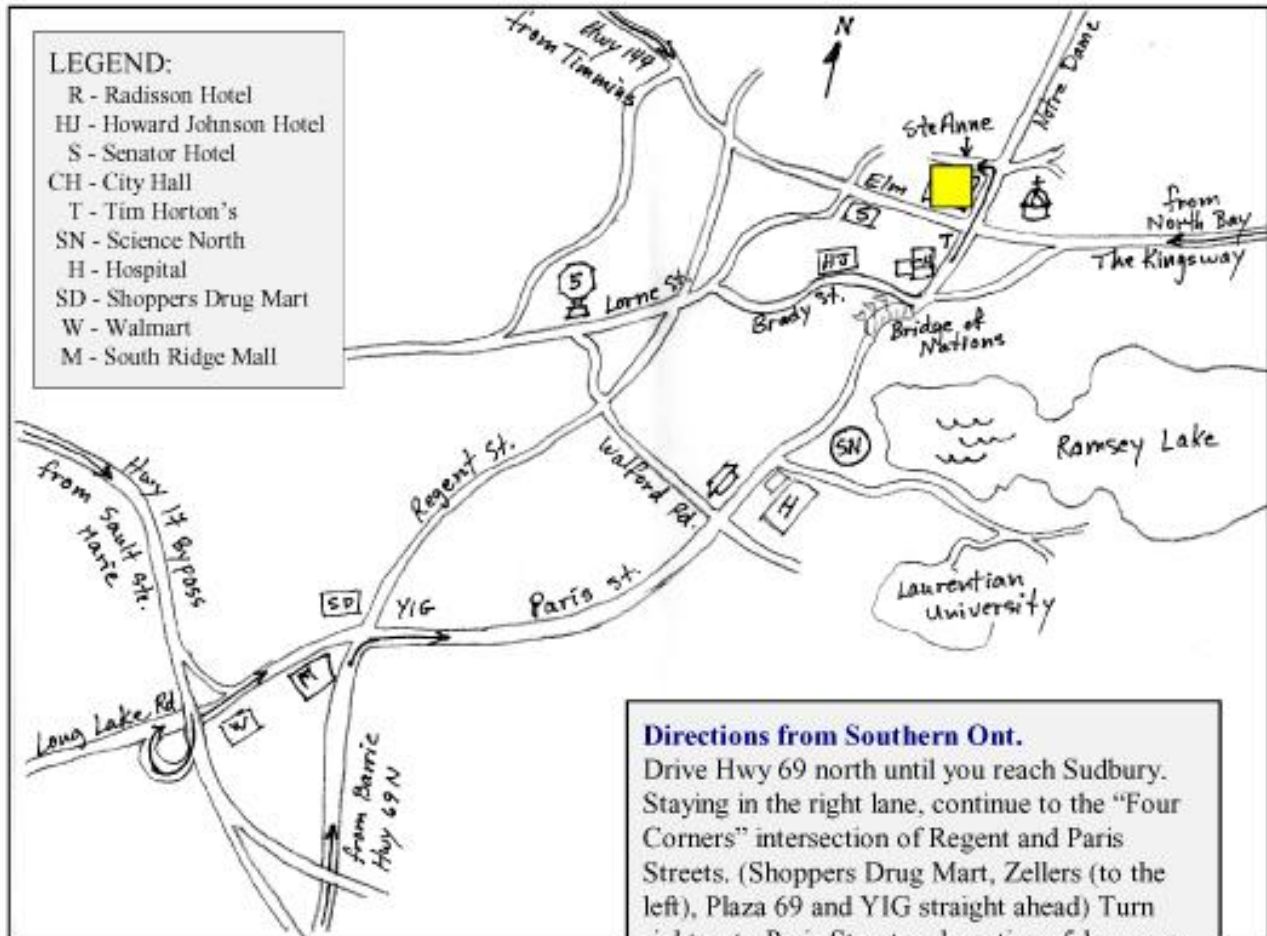


The Best Western

This stylish Sudbury hotel is located at 151 Larch St. and is close to the Sudbury Centre and Science North. It provides spacious guest rooms, free wireless high-speed Internet access and cable satellite television. Additional amenities at this hotel include a complimentary deluxe continental breakfast, exercise facility, onsite restaurant and cocktail lounge as well as free parking. The hotel has blocked 15 rooms with two double beds at the rate of \$119.95 + 13% HST and 10 rooms with 1 bed at \$109.95 with 13% HST. To book a room, contact them directly at 1-800387-0697 and indicate that you are booking a room(s) for the OHA group to ensure you get the rate quoted above. So don't delay. Be sure to book a room in downtown Sudbury for total enjoyment at next year's OHA Convention. It's going to be out of this world!



Driving Directions to the 2011 OHA Convention



Directions from Timmins

Drive south on Hwy 144 to Sudbury. Hwy 144 becomes Elm Street. Continue on Elm, staying in the left lane, over the tracks to Paris/Notre Dame Street. Turn left onto Notre Dame and immediately left onto Ste. Anne Rd. and left into the Radisson Hotel. (Approx. a 3 hour drive)

Directions from North Bay

Drive west on Hwy 17 to Sudbury. Continue straight, down the Kingsway. Stay in the right lane, as you will go over a large hill and turn right onto Notre Dame St. Then an almost immediate left onto Ste. Anne Rd. and left into the Radisson Hotel.

Directions from Southern Ont.

Drive Hwy 69 north until you reach Sudbury. Staying in the right lane, continue to the "Four Corners" intersection of Regent and Paris Streets. (Shoppers Drug Mart, Zellers (to the left), Plaza 69 and YIG straight ahead) Turn right onto Paris Street and continue 5 km, over the Bridge of Nations to the downtown, staying in the left-centre lane (as left lane must exit onto Elm). Then turn left onto Ste. Anne Road and left into the Radisson Hotel. (Approx. a 3 hour drive from Barrie)

Directions from Sault Ste. Marie

Drive east toward Sudbury. Do not take the exit left to Sudbury. Continue on the Hwy 17 bypass to the next exit. Turn left on the cloverleaf onto Long Lake Rd. This will turn into Paris Street which will lead you directly to the downtown (5km). Stay in the left-centre lane (as left lane will exit onto Elm). Then turn left onto Ste. Anne Road and left into the Radisson Hotel. (Approx. a 3 ½ hour drive from the Sault)