



Dear Friend of Downtown:

As a businessperson located in one of the best downtowns in the Midwest, we encourage you to become a member of the Downtown Traverse City Association (DTCA).

The mission of the DTCA is to “advance, protect, and perpetuate (the) professional, financial and general business of Downtown Traverse City.” The DTCA accomplishes this mission through programs that help promote individual businesses and the downtown as a whole. Our partnerships with the area organizations help leverage our members’ fees to do more with less.

Membership dues enable us to promote the diverse mix of businesses that reside in Downtown Traverse City through print and digital media. Dues also provide support to host the many exciting events that contribute to the healthy business climate of Downtown Traverse City such as Friday Night Live, Downtown Street Sale, Downtown Art Fair(s), Downtown Light Parade, Downtown Art Walks, Chili Cook-Off, and Traverse City Restaurant Week. The DTCA also provides more than \$50,000 worth of advertising, the downtown website, over \$638,000 in Downtown Gift Certificates sales, as well as any/all other promotions throughout the seasons of the year. Promoting Downtown Traverse City on a limited budget is certainly not possible without the support of the DTCA membership. Every contribution toward the DTCA helps maintain the great Downtown that we all love and continue to enjoy.

In the amount of \$300, Associate Members benefit directly from a website listing on www.downtowntc.com where members have an individual profile page, a logo, tagline, link and are searchable through key words. Members are also able to submit one of their events a month on the calendar. The Downtown website sees over 1,000,000 page views annually. A listing will also be provided in the Downtown Brochure. Over 45,000 Downtown brochures are distributed annually in Northwest Michigan and beyond. The DTCA is also pleased to offer you and your employees the Downtown Employee Discount Card.

We encourage you to join with your neighbors to become a member of the DTCA and help support our efforts in promoting our local business district. Enclosed is a membership form. As always, please feel free to share with us *any* questions or comments. We look forward to you joining us as a member of the Downtown Traverse City Association!

Sincerely,

Colleen Pavaglio

DTCA

colleen@downtowntc.com



Downtown Traverse City Association Fiscal Year 2018-2019

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE BASED ON SALES

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>SALES IN \$1,000</u>	<u>*Zone A</u>	<u>* Zone B</u>	<u>*Zone C</u>	<u>*Zone D</u>
1	Introductory Rate	\$450	\$350	\$250	\$150
2	100 to 200	650	500	350	250
3	200 to 300	850	650	450	350
4	300 to 600	1,050	850	550	450
5	600 to 1,000	1,300	1,000	650	550
6	over 1,000	1,550	1,200	750	650
7	financial institutions, hotels			\$1,100	

*Zone A: 100 and 200 blocks of E. Front Street

*Zone B: 300 block of East Front Street, 100 block of W. Front Street, Old Town, State Street, Park Street, Union Street, and Cass Street.

*Zone C: W. Front, Warehouse District, 400 E. Front and east, and other properties within the DTCA district not described above.

*Zone D: Special circumstances (i.e. retail with no sidewalk or street frontage)

Support Categories (Suggested minimum)

Associate Membership - \$300 (Non-retail; i.e. Services, Offices)

Friend of Downtown - \$50 (I love Downtown TC!)



---2018-2019 DTCA MEMBERSHIP FORM---

Business Name _____

Address _____

Contact Person _____

Email Address _____

Additional Contact/Manager _____

Email Address _____

Website _____ Facebook _____

Twitter _____ Instagram _____

Business Phone _____ FAX _____

Tag line for Brochure and Website listing: (ten words) _____

Email key words (unlimited) for search ability on the downtowntc.com website to info@downtowntc.com.

My dues rate is \$ _____ . (Please refer to the Dues Structure information sheet and choose the category listed in the brochure that applies to your business).

Please remit payment, with enclosed envelope to:
Downtown Traverse City Association (DTCA)
P.O. Box 42
Traverse City, MI 49685

We also accept VISA or Master Card

Feel free to contact us Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm or email us with any questions/concerns!

Thank You!

Enclosed is \$ _____ in payment.

For Office Use Only:

___ Address Book ___ Website ___ Facebook ___ TY
___ Database ___ Brochure ___ Newsletter



ASK US ABOUT . . .

We have a lot of resources and experiences that we are more than willing to share with you. Should you have any questions or desire more information about any of the following, feel free to call our office at 231-922-2050, or e-mail us directly! We have provided a key contact for each, but we are thoroughly cross-trained...just ask!

Jean Derenzy, Chief Executive Officer (jean@downtowntc.com)
Colleen Paveglio, Marketing & Communications Director (colleen@downtowntc.com)
Nina Talarico, Office Manager (nina@downtowntc.com)
Nick Viox, Events & Projects Coordinator (nick@downtowntc.com)
Nicole VanNess, Parking Director (Nicole@downtowntc.com)

EVENTS

Friday Night Live

This summer series is a community hit. It exists because market research said we should be “the hometown place to shop” AND we were bored on Friday nights! We spend approximately \$9,000 each year, but nearly \$5,000 comes from fees and sponsors. Find out how rides on an old fire truck become a destination! **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN!**

Farmers Market

One of downtown’s oldest event traditions, The Sara Hardy Downtown Farmers Market is a bustling center of activity on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. We have just completed a long range plan for the Market and are searching for capital funding sources. **Key contact: NICK**

Art Fairs

Three art fairs a year take an incredible amount of staff time but we have a lot of fun and draw thousands of art buyers to downtown. Profit for the DTCA = \$40,000/year. **Key contact: NICK, COLLEEN, OR NINA**

Chili Cook-Off

Continuing the month of Brides and Beans, this January event helps fund “Friday Night Live,” features area restaurants and puts everyone on Tums! Profit for the DTCA = \$14,000/year. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Presidents’ Day Sale

A winter celebration throughout the region on President’s Day weekend. The DTCA promotes the Downtown Presidents’ Day Weekend Sale Event. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Fall Sale & Happy Apple Days

We celebrate with free apples in every store - and we add a one day fall sale. The Halloween Walk caps it all off at the end of the month with thousands in attendance. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Santa’s Arrival, Holiday Open House, the Holiday Tree & Lights

Ladies’ Night and Men’s Night

Traverse City’s first traffic calming device: our holiday tree sitting smack dab in the middle of our main intersection! Santa’s arrival occurs there no matter what the weather! In 2008, the DDA was able to purchase over 130,000 LED holiday lights, funded through a grant from TC Light & Power and we are working with them again on a phased replacement of lights. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**



Ladies' Night is a given...who wouldn't want to get together with your girlfriends and do a little holiday shopping. Men's Night on the other hand a true anomaly. Where else in the country can you see thousands of men meeting on a Thursday evening to do holiday shopping? **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Street Sale

One of the benefits of membership, we pay for the permit, advertising, and provide the needed insurance coverage to the City. Non-members are not allowed participation. Membership DOES have its benefits! 100 & 200 blocks of Front Street and sidewalks of Downtown, 8 am to 9 p.m. on the first Friday in August - it includes Friday Night Live. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Art Walk

Twice a year, approximately 20 businesses throw evening parties and we coordinate the entire thing. Throngs gather and stroll galley to gallery all evening. Criteria for participation include featuring an art exhibit for the evening. Participation fee is extremely discounted for DTCA members. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Celebration for Young Children

Collaboration is key in this spring event with educators, cultural venues and everything for children! **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Shop Your Community Day

Held in November two weeks before "Black Friday" the DTCA approves 50 local non-profits and the participating merchants agree to provide a percentage of their sales that day to the charity of the customer's choice. The goal – direct non profits year round to this day of giving, and use non-profits constituencies to build sales. Over \$200,000 has been given back to the local community in the six years of this events existence. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

Traverse City Restaurant Week

The inaugural event took place in the winter of 2011 and has taken off since. Restaurants that are DTCA members have a discounted participation fee. **Key contact: NICK OR COLLEEN**

PROGRAMS & BENEFITS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Downtown Association Membership

The organization is predominately funded by member dues and other revenue sources. We anticipate around \$85,000 in dues this year. DTCA membership dues vary and are directly related to sales and location. **Key contact: COLLEEN, NICK, OR NINA**

Gift Certificates

As a tangible benefit, we are selling more and more every year...over \$538,000 last year and it locks the money right into downtown. The Downtown Gift Certificate program is funded by the membership of the DTCA and are designed to be accepted anywhere in the DTCA district. They can be treated just like checks - the merchants simply deposits them into their accounts at no charge to them. Customers that do not utilize the full amount of the gift certificate are to receive cash back. **Key contact: COLLEEN, NICK OR NINA**

Convention packages

We prepare thousands each year. Coupons and "goodies" with maps and other information. Our annual budget is \$6,000 for this stuff and are have recently had improvements to the bags and the creation of a



Downtown Coupon Book, which is printed annually. DTCA members may be included for FREE. Last year we prepared almost 10,000 bags for conferences and conventions visiting the Traverse City area. **Key contact: NINA**

Publications – Newsletter and brochure

Communications are key - we produce a monthly newsletter that has a distribution of 900. DTCA members have the ability to make special announcements and list events in this publication. Our annual brochure has a distribution of 45,000 and included a DTCA member listing insertion that is printed quarterly. The DTCA member listing included address, phone, website and “tagline.” Distributed downtown, the Visitors Center/Convention & Visitors Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, area hotels/motels in Northwest Michigan and included in all gift certificate envelopes. **Key contact: COLLEEN or NICK**

Good Morning Downtown

Our monthly membership meetings usually include a speaker on a topic of interest plus merchant to merchant news. Our Annual Meeting includes a speaker, a downtown recognition award, and a money making raffle. **Key contact: COLLEEN or NICK**

Discover Downtown

Aimed at downtown employees, we distribute pertinent information for our “front of the house” employees in Downtown. Information packets will be emailed to share with your employees. **Key contact: COLLEEN, NICK or NINA**

Website

We had a website before AL GORE! Launched in 1983, we knew that improvements were needed. In 2008 a new and improved website was launched and we continue to update annually. **DTCA members receive a store/business listing with address, phone, web link and tagline. DTCA members are also “searchable.”** To utilize the search function for your store, product information must be provided. DTCA members may also list events (one per month) on the Downtown website and have the ability to submit online. DTCA members also will be a “Featured Merchant/Business” on the homepage with is randomly rotated daily. Job listings are offered for free as well! We launched a fantastic new website in 2016! **www.downtowntc.com Key contact: COLLEEN, NICK or NINA**

Social Media: Facebook Page, Twitter and Instagram

Downtown TC has an amazing social media presence and promote members through these channels.

Facebook: Downtown TC (Official)

Twitter: Downtown TC

Instagram: Downtown_tc

#downtowntc

Key Contact: COLLEEN or NICK

Merchants Directory Signs

Merchant Directory signs are placed throughout Downtown for our visitors. Completed with the Wayfinding Signage Program in Downtown Traverse City, the Merchant Directory program grew from 3 to now 13 in Downtown TC!. We even have signs at the marina and Clinch Park! Only members have a listing on our merchant directory signs with address and coordinates to direct the customer to your business... **Key Contact: COLLEEN**

Employee Discount Cards

Did you know that there are more than 4,000 employees in Downtown Traverse City? We provide a



discount card to all downtown employees at no charge that is accepted at 50 participating businesses. A marketing tool to keep downtown employees shopping downtown! DTCA members may be listed on the card for a \$20 fee. **Key contact: NICK, COLLEEN, OR NINA**

General Advertising

Approximately \$20,000 a year is available for generic advertising in local and regional publications/media. We maximize dollars with co-op advertising opportunities for DTCA members only on some programs and publications. **Key contact: COLLEEN**

PARKING

DDA/City Management Agreement

The DDA and City reached agreement over 10 years ago to have the DDA administer all parking in the City. We oversee a contract with Northwestern Michigan College, and direct the activities of two City parking enforcement employees. **Key contacts: NICOLE or JEAN**

Permit Parking

We now have over 1,100 permit parkers, mostly employees. We do everything we can to keep them happy because they are keeping the spaces in front of stores available for customers! **Key contact: NICOLE or Traverse City Parking Services Staff**

Larry C. Hardy Parking Garage or Old Town Parking Garage

Hardy Parking Deck is located in the Front Street District and includes four levels and over 540 spaces. The Old Town Parking Deck is located in the Old Town District and opened in August of 2010. The four level deck has over 500 spaces. **Key contacts: NICOLE or JEAN**

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TASKS

Financing - Dues, TIF, 2 mil levy and begging on the streets

The DDA uses the funds from contracts to manage the DTCA, the parking system, the TIF funds, to maintain a full time office to handle almost anything of interest downtown. TIF funds pay for capital expenditures while the contracts and the 2 mil Levy keep operational costs covered. **Key contact: JEAN**

Tax Increment Financing

We have two TIF development areas. The southern part of downtown has been dedicated to redeveloping the former Traverse City Ironworks, a 5 acre foundry. River's Edge and Midtown Centre represent a \$100 million investment downtown. TIF funds have paid for riverwalks, streetscapes and utility relocations. In the northern part of downtown, TIF has inspired numerous new buildings and the funds are paying off a large bond issue for the Larry C. Hardy Parking deck. We are proceeding with the second deck as part of the revitalization of Old Town. Project approvals are in process. **Key contact: JEAN**

Brownfield Redevelopment

Traverse City is the poster child for the State's BRA program. Radio Center/Park Street Project, River's Edge, Midtown Centre, Harbor View Centre, Red Mill Park, and now the Hall & Garland Street areas are all brownfield sites. In addition to grants, loans, and tax credits, we have captured additional TIF funds for parking and other public improvements using the County BRA. **Key contact: JEAN**

Café Ordinance



The DDA introduced the café ordinance several years ago. While this has been extremely successful, the main challenge is maintaining room for the pedestrians! **Key contact: COLLEEN or JEAN**

Planning & Development

Our Development Committee reviews current projects and issues as needed to provide guidance to the DDA staff, the Board and ultimately the City. Our staff attends most Planning Commission meetings and all City Staff meetings. **Key contact: JEAN**

Developer Agreements

Most of our projects are public/private and all of them have included hours of negotiations and time spent with attorneys. The County BRA and State of Michigan require them for any of the BRA work, too. **Key contact: JEAN**

Redevelopment Liquor Licenses

Most of our projects are public/private and all of them have included hours of negotiations and time spent with attorneys. The County BRA and State of Michigan require them for any of the BRA work, too. **Key contact: JEAN OR BENJAMIN MARENTETTE (CITY OF TC)**

Public Restroom Incentive Program

The DDA has an innovative program where merchants, based on meeting specific criteria, may receive a stipend for offering public restrooms within the 100 and 200 block of E. Front Street. Applications are sent in June to merchants in the area and due by July 15. **Key contact: COLLEEN**



Downtown Traverse City Association
GIFT CERTIFICATE POLICY
(adopted April 10, 2001-- revised January 2016)

PURPOSE:

In an effort to enhance the vitality of Downtown, for the purpose to “keep the dollars” Downtown, a Gift Certificate Program has existed for a number of years.

The certificates are in a BANK CHEQUE style format, available in denominations of: \$5, \$10, \$20 & \$25 respectively.

They can be purchased in ANY combination to the sum of ANY amount divisible by 5.

WHERE CAN CUSTOMERS PURCHASE THEM?

(3 convenient locations and online!)

- The Downtown Traverse City Association office, 303 E. State St.
- The Larry C. Hardy Parking Deck, 303 E. State St., (cashier’s office at exit, extended hours!)
- TC State Bank (main branch), 333 W. Grandview Parkway
- Online: www.downtowntc.com

Cash, Check (Personal or Company), VISA, MASTERCARD and DISCOVER are cheerfully accepted!

WHO ARE THE PARTICIPATING MERCHANTS?

With EACH order, we provide the Downtown full color promotional brochure, a current calendar of downtown events, as well as a list of Downtown TC Association Membership. To ensure that the program is user friendly, we educate the purchaser that they are accepted virtually everywhere in the downtown district. This area includes ALL of Front St. [from Hope St. heading WEST to the 900 Block of W. Front Street. (Ace Hardware area)], and Grandview Parkway, heading SOUTH to Eighth Street, and also including all of State St.

HOW DO I REDEEM THEM AS A RETAILER/SERVICE?

- You simply remit with your own deposit into YOUR own bank, as you would any check or cash for the FULL face value.
- Always give cash back. Remember to give your customer FULL face value, even if it means giving them cash back if they do not spend the entire amount. Change is given back to the customer, NOT a store credit please.
- You will ALWAYS be reimbursed for the FULL amount.
- DO NOT write VOID on the gift certificate or your bank will not accept for deposit.

**WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THIS DOWNTOWN PROGRAM!
OUR ANNUAL GIFT CERTIFICATE SALES FOR 2015 WAS OVER \$538,000!**

Questions/Comments: info@downtowntc.com or call 922-2050



