



Friends in the right places

CHAMBER VIEW

■ Lee Jacobsen

The past month has been filled with intrigue for me in my role as president.

I continually learn about all the things a regional peak industry group must involve itself with.

At times I wonder what's around the next corner.

But that's why I put myself forward to be the president of this fascinating organisation.

Today's column reflects on at least one of the solutions the chamber has in place to provide a service to its members that on its own would not be possible.

It's a reflection of the good friends we need to ensure the Goldfields business community can access some of Australia's most professional workplace information.

Hearing firsthand, real life examples of these issues, their impact on workplaces, and what actions could be taken to minimise damage, invoked considerable discussion.

The challenge of providing the best possible service to Goldfields businesses is a constant.

We, the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce, can't be all things to all people, so the practical option is to align with groups and individuals who can assist the Goldfields business community.

An outstanding example for me, in the past week or so, was taking advantage of an alliance with the Australian Mines & Minerals Association

A joint forum with them covered two common issues for Goldfields employers, drugs and bullying.

Hearing firsthand, real life examples of these issues, their impact on workplaces, and what actions could be taken to minimise damage, invoked considerable discussion.

The message was, few workplaces are immune to such problems. However, we can learn from the mistakes and solutions in so many workplaces linked to the resource sector.

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Having friends in the right places works for most of us, I am sure you would agree.

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■ Lee Jacobsen is the Kalgoorlie Chamber of Commerce and Industry president.