



December 2009 Newsletter #23

Change in Host plans

The hosting business is very competitive although many hosting companies exaggerate their specifications. They may promise unlimited (or virtually unlimited) bandwidth but if you use a lot, they will find a way that you are violating their terms of service and make life unpleasant enough that you leave. They count on people using relatively small amounts of bandwidth plus they tolerate poor service from overloading. My specs and rates are realistic but I have to accept the reality of competition. In addition, I now have enough volume that I can increase the bandwidths for the same price.

The following shows the change effective immediately:

	Standard (Minimum)	Prime (Business)	Elite	Pro
Price per year	\$96	\$126	\$252	\$600
Old Bandwidth	1 GB	7 GB	30GB	100GB
New Bandwidth	1 GB	10GB	60GB	200GB

You don't have to do anything, your limits have already been adjusted and you get the benefit immediately. Most people will not notice any difference.

Billing

A reminder – Invoices are issued at the end of each month. If the amount of the invoice is less than approx \$25, then it is deferred until it accumulates to \$25 or more. This newsletter goes out around the same time.

The value of a backup

This month, one morning, I heard this horrible noise coming from the computer. I hoped it was a fan going bad but no – it was the disk. "Could not find a boot disk". The good news is that I had it backed up so was able to get operational within a day. The reason it takes so long was that you have to not only re-install all your unique documents but also all the programs. And every program needs to be configured. In the meantime, I could use my laptop for emails so I sent out the "Stand-by- I'm having a problem message".

But a few days later, my (backup) server sent me a message that I should do some disk maintenance – so that made me nervous and now I have a second backup – an external hard-drive that backs-up daily. There is also a remote backup of all sites at the server location but I worry about other things (like my email) which are local.

I had always said – backups are important – but up till now I had never needed one. Just shows how reliable hardware is.

Make your site dynamic

People like a site that has things that move and/or has lots of photos.

- You can make a slide show that's automatic like this: www.northumberlandfilm.ca/

- Or one that you need to scroll through like this: www.imaltd.ca/details/forklift3.htm
- Or you can have a photo gallery like this www.aweldingshop.ca/gallery_index.htm
- You can make photos pop-up, like this: www.taoyachtdeliveries.com/contact.htm

In each case, you supply the photos and I make it work. None of these take a lot of work although you should allow about 10 minutes of my time per photo.

Client Information page

To see all previous newsletters plus articles referenced, go to this page.

www.cobourginternet.com/webnewsletters.htm This page can also be accessed from the Cobourg Internet web site from the main menu. See also www.cobourginternet.com/support.htm for information you might need.

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