

Huron Alloys Celebrates 35 Years

by Karen McInty

Huron Alloys Inc is celebrating 35 years as a locally-owned family business.

After years behind the scenes, Craig and Christine Bulsza went all in 3 ½ years ago, to run the family business. The couple confidently says they have “all their eggs in one basket and are here to stay!”

Huron Alloys has been a local supplier of stainless steel, aluminum, chrome and nickel alloys since 1983. They carry a large inventory of pipe, fittings, flanges, bar, sheet, tube and plate right here in Sarnia, though their customer base stretches across Canada, all the way to the East Coast.

The business was started by Christine’s father, Leo McElhone, who owns Ross Steel Fabricators. Early on he recognized the need and saw an opportunity to become a local alloys supplier to fill that niche market. He started Huron Alloys as a side business operating out of Ross’ shop. In only a few years they were bursting at the seams and needed their own building, moving just down the street to their current location on Plank Road.

“What makes us unique is our diverse inventory – we carry a lot of different product lines and materials, based on the needs of the businesses within our community. We strive to be a local one-stop-shop and recently added a stainless plasma cutting service which is the only one of its kind in the area,” says Craig.

In fact, since coming on board in 2015, the couple have also fully modernized operations with a bar coding system, full traceability, a new ERP computer system and have implemented ISO 9001:2008. “We are positioning ourselves to ensure the quality of our service continues to meet our customers’ expectations well into the future.”

Their lean and mean business model enables them to compete nationally with the industry giants while maintaining the advantages of a smaller family-owned local supplier. Craig,



an accountant by profession, manages the general operation of the business overseeing their 10 employees while Christine takes care of business development and marketing.

Their complimentary skills are a good fit both in the business and their marriage. Both were

born and raised in the Sarnia area and have been together since their days at St. Pat’s high school. “We like working together. We have a busy family life with 3 sons involved in lots of activities so working together ensures we actually see each other every day,” laughs Christine.

Their boys play both soccer and travel hockey. Craig has coached hockey for many years and Christine volunteers her time weekly at the YMCA.

Their personal commitment to supporting the community carries over to the business. Huron Alloys is a proud sponsor of the Northern Collegiate Shell Eco-Challenge team, graciously supplying all of the alloys required to build the race car. They also sponsor multiple hockey & sports teams, and the YMCA Strong Kids program.

“The business is in good hands,” says father, Leo. “Expect it to be servicing the local industry for a long time to come.”

Huron Alloys is located at 1292 Plank Road and can be reached at 519-336-1556 or check them out at www.huronalloys.com