

## Service Grill Pizza & Burger Shack



After more than 25 years with Canada Post, Greg Vandette, with the support of his family, decided to purchase a long-standing Sault Ste. Marie business. Greg had always wanted to be in business, not necessarily the restaurant business. But he was presented with an opportunity to purchase Service Grill which has been in operation since the 1950's. After the purchase, extensive renovations were done to the location. As is often the case, there were cost overruns. It was at that time that Greg approached the Community Development Corporation of Sault Ste. Marie & Area for business counselling and made application for a loan to assist them with their venture.

Service Grill was always known for its pizza, and still is. But the product offerings have expanded to ensure that customers have a variety of menu options. From pizza and wings, to salads, chicken and pasta, as well as a full slate of burger offerings, there are a lot of options to choose from. Greg says customers especially like the burgers - all of which are given names appropriate for the neighbourhood that Service Grill is located in, like "The Steeltown Stacker" "The Korah Road Killer" and "The Blast Furnace Flamethrower" to name a few.

With the support of family, and good staff, Greg has owned and operated Service Grill for over 10 years. He is proud of the changes made to the business, but also recognizes that you have to stick with the business' mainstay product offerings.

Being in business is rewarding, according to Greg, but it doesn't come without challenges. He bought a business that he didn't have any experience operating. He had to learn the ropes and surround himself with good people. He says "you come to realize that you can't do everything". He adds, "It is a challenge to attract and keep good staff, but notes that he has a number of long-standing employees that have been with him since the start." Service Grill currently employs 14 staff.

The CDC of SSM & Area wishes Service Grill Pizza & Burger Shack continued success with the business. Visit them at 319 Korah Road.

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