



COMMUNITY COURIER

Representing the Interests of Business for the Growth and Prosperity of Our Members and Communities

Executive Report - May 2004

The mandate of the Executive committee is to govern the Chamber by the organization's by-laws, guiding principles, strategic goals and policies, and to ensure such rules of governance are in keeping with membership and community business needs. With this in mind our Executive committee has had a Public AGM. For the first time in a while the Chamber's AGM gave the membership the opportunity to join us at a luncheon and see what we have been doing. Financially, we are in great shape, we have more members than ever before, and our activity level has been so busy we have even managed to increase our part-time staff to 30 hours a week.

We have changed the constitution to hold the AGM in a reasonable time after year end, and with new accounting system and computer in place are well on our way to better productivity. You will not only hear our Manager on the Radio, TV and in the Paper, but you will see her at your door to discuss issues important to fast tracking business development. We hold ourselves accountable to the advocacy issues important to the business community.

Our task to encourage Council to hear our issues on the Leisure Centre, Daylight Savings time, Smoking By-law and By-law 1403, are, and continue to be the focus of our Advocacy role we play on our members behalf. Deb Halldorson, Brenda Niefer, Cheryl Denesowych, Jason Farrell and myself Todd Haas, make the Executive committee. You may notice these names coming up many times in all the committee reports, and they all need to be acknowledged and thanked for all the volunteer work they do with the Chamber. What makes this Chamber one of the best, is it's volunteers and its members.

Thank you!

Todd Haas

Yorkton Chamber of Commerce President 2004

Business Development Report - May 2004

The business development committee has been engaged in meetings with the REDA, City, and other community interest groups, in an attempt to initiate better communication between all groups. There are several groups whose sole purpose is to make Yorkton a better place to live, yet there isn't a structure in place to allow these groups to work together. This project is in its infancy, but improved communications are already taking place.

Our committee wants to really understand the current business climate in Yorkton and all roadblocks or incentives that exist. Most stakeholders would agree that Yorkton is in a position to experience some real economic growth. If we can propose some changes which further elevate Yorkton's business climate, we can do so as an informed group. I would like to thank committee members James Wilson, Rob Harvey, Todd Haas, REDA, and the city for their time invested in this project. It is always nice to see volunteers jump to the challenge, and we welcome Judy Hughes, our newest director to our committee.

Yorkton is in an envious position as a community whose citizens are so willing to invest their own time in an attempt to make our city an even better place to live. In other news, Access Communications has volunteered their services to produce a show focusing on local businesses. This will be an opportunity for businesses to talk of "who they are and what they do". Our first show will focus on new businesses.

Our second annual Business After Hours Expo will coincide with small business week. As in the Attitude committee report the date has been set for Oct. 20th. On that note, on behalf of the Business Development committee I wish to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

Best regards,
Jason Farrell

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UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

- **Tourism Business Week** •
May 30th - June 5th
- **ABEX Awards Nomination Deadline** •
July 9, 2004
- **ABEX Awards Reception** •
October 23, 2004
Call 783-4368 for more information
- **Agricultural Days** •
July 26-30, 2004
More information to come
- **Small Business Week** •
October 17-23, 2004
More information to come

Congratulations To Our Members

- The Painted Hand Casino held their annual Pow Wow over the long weekend, bringing travelers from all over North America!
- The Yorkton Regional High School drum line has been asked to play back up for Shania Twain. The eleven students recently received an invitation to play backup on the song "If You're Not In It For Love" during Shania Twain's June 9th concert in Saskatoon.

What an honor!

- The 5678 Dance Studio held its Dance Stars 2004 Celebration and showed their many talents to an appreciative audience.

Well done!

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Fact of the Month!

Population of Yorkton? Based on Saskatchewan Health data and standard life tables the **Population of Yorkton in 2003** was **16,916**. If you break it down by age it looks like this!

1 - 19	26% of the population
20 - 39	25%
40 - 64	30%
65 - 79	12%
80 +	7%

http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/mc_dp_covpop2003/main.htm

This link above will give you more information on the covered population for Saskatchewan.

Link to other data by way of our website at
www.chamber.yorkton.sk.ca

"Your Member First Referral"

MEMBERS REFERRED IN MARCH 2004

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- Evergreen Bamboo Flooring & Products •
- Fas-Gas • Finishing Touch • Melrose Place •
- First Fitness • Good Food Box Program •
- Interiors By Abby • Kelly's Application Equipment •
- King's Sport Leisure & Marine • Park's Jewelry •
- Robertson's Outdoor Furnaces • Shear Bliss •
- West Broadway Service • Redwood Motel •
- Holiday Inn • Howard Johnson • The Yorke Inn •
- Comfort Inn • Travelodge • Day's Inn •

Welcome New Members!!

L.R. Futures

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Yorkton, Sask.
S3N 0L3

Contact: Laurie Renton

Redenbach Precision Machining

15A - 4th Avenue North
Yorkton, Sask.
S3N 1A3

Contact: Dean Redenbach

Yorkton Geothermal Ltd.

72 Collingwood Crescent
Yorkton, Sask.
S3N 2W8

Contact: Murray Shivak

Soaring Eagle Publishing Group

Box 48100 RPO Lakewood
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2J 4A3
Contact: Yann Boissonneault

Shirt Circuit

50-277 Broadway St. E.
Yorkton, Sask.
S3N 3G7

Contact: Warren Zubko

Audio Warehouse

79 Broadway St. West
Yorkton, Sask.
S3N 0C6

Contact: Cam Mehling

Artfx-Blackstone Studio

160 4th Avenue North
Yorkton, Sask.
S3N 1A7

Contact: Madison Blackstone

Dr. Phillip Fourie

269 Bradbrooke Drive
Yorkton, Sask. S3N 3L3
Contact: Dr. Phillip Fourie

MEMBERS BENEFITS You Use All The Time And Don't Even Realize!

Website listing 24/7, Membership listed, Referral Program. Advocate role, the Directors work hard to speak for the businesses. This Courier for information and event listings, contact through email, fax, or mail for all events, and more!

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Attitude Report - May 2004

Much of the work the Attitude committee takes on is the events, and development of Chamber activities. You have probably noticed our bigger events such as Celebrate Success 2004 and Dine-A-Nite. We have hosted 6 luncheons, celebrated with our finalist, learned about our U of S, RCMP's, Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, and updated you on our progress with our local Chamber AGM. For the months ahead, we have set the dates for our July salute to Agriculture, Small Business Week, and working on a date for the Premier's Dinner. Our Business After Hours, which will run for the second year, was an initiative of the Business Development committee, and will continue as an annual event. This is set for Oct. 20th and sign up sheets will be in the next Courier.

We are working with members to find better ways to market ourselves, and our members. You may have heard us on the Radio, or seen us on TV. Certainly you get our Courier, or see us in the paper now and then. For the Attitude Committee themselves they are, Brenda Niefer, Pat Bishop, Irma Balaberda, Nancy Zdan, Kerry Skowronski, and myself as Chair Deb Halldorson. Your comments about our events are welcome. It gives us the opportunity to know what to improve and what to keep.

Thanks to the members who make our events successful, the Youth committee who volunteered at the events, and make our work easy, and the committee for all the time away from the busy days to attend meetings and work the events.

Deb Halldorson
Chairperson Attitude Committee

Public Policy Report - May 2004

The Chambers Public Policy committee has a mandate of keeping the chamber and its members informed about issues that affect the business community. The public policy committee helped form the Chamber's policy in regard to the cities smoking bylaw, with not only our survey of the highly affected businesses, but attending the general meetings, initiated discussion on taxation policy in the city, and suggested issues for the Chambers Annual General meeting. We have surveyed the businesses for daylight savings time, and are working with our members to see results in this issue. We were active in the support of the provincial funding formula revise, and can say that there are results in this area favorable, to Yorkton.

As we hosted an all candidates forum for the provincial election, and for the civic election in 2003, we will be hosting an all candidates forum in the Yorkton-Melville Constituency for the upcoming Federal election. It will be a great opportunity for local business owners to meet their candidates and question them about policies that affect business. The Chamber will pose questions affecting business as well as take questions from the floor. The date and location of the meeting will be announced soon.

The Public Policy Committee is the "eyes and ears" of the Chamber of Commerce. Feel free to contact members to voice your concerns. Members of the public policy committee are, Michelle Chyz, Cheryl Denesowych, Pete Hluchaniuk, Kent Latimer, Rob Ashcroft, and myself Bob Maloney as Chair.

Bob Maloney
Chairperson Public Policy Committee

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