

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

## President's Message

The arrival of April means the conclusion of Q1. I will report on some activity and observations made during my first 90 days as President.

As previously reported we initiated a meeting between the city, REDA, Exhibition, and Downtown Business Improvement District. This will be the first of an ongoing line of communication between those respective parties. There were some parties which should have been at the table and those oversights have been addressed.

Q1 has also seen the closure (or impending closure) of three businesses. The Red Apple, Hurst's, and Smitty's have all ceased (or will cease) operations. I mention this because as we are all keenly aware the city had a formidable task trying to balance this year's budget. The closure of these businesses will be felt by all as those tax dollars are gone. We really need to focus on what we can do as a Chamber to initiate the opening of new businesses to replace what we've lost and continue to grow.

As a Chamber we are seeking clarity on what is currently happening with inquiries that reach our city. Who do these people call, where is their inquiry sent, and who follows up and in what capacity is that follow up performed. There are many examples across the Prairies of cities which have enjoyed much prosperity once their own processes were simplified. Perhaps we are doing all we can to facilitate economic development. We as a chamber simply want to know if there's anything else we can do as city to attract new business.

I want people to call with their comments on how they view the current business climate in our city. As a city we are in an enviable situation in terms of growth potential. Please communicate your thoughts as our current board is limited only by virtue of the fact that there are 16 heads around the table.

On to our luncheons...As I look around the Chamber boardroom at past directors' pictures I see a lot of faces which I've never seen at a Chamber luncheon. I don't understand why someone would commit so much volunteer time to enhance Chamber activities only to abandon the cause upon the conclusion of their term. These luncheons are informative and productive and if we need to start selling booze again to bring back all those that used to attend, please advise. I presume you all still eat so that can't be an excuse. If it sounds like I'm overstating the importance of these luncheons I would challenge you to advise me of a better venue to sit and talk about business issues with your peers, engage the mayor, tell me what I'm doing wrong, listen to a 'hot topic' as provided by the keynote speaker, eat, and be back at your desk within the hour. Open communication is the lifeblood of any organization including Yorkton's business community.

When you see a Centennial event, a grand opening, a milestone reached by a business I encourage you to attend or call and show your support. The success of our city is contingent upon a healthy business community. The success of your business has a lot to do with the success of the business down the road.

Hold people accountable, demand results, stay informed, promote interaction, engage people....Health and prosperity to all.

Jason Farrell  
President - Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

*P.S. We held our AGM last week at a breakfast meeting which also had Clay Serby report on the 2005 budget. I guess no one eats breakfast either!*



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**ATTENTION: UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS**

**May Luncheon**

May 6, 2005 - 12:00 Noon  
 Details to Follow

**Dine-a-Nite**

"Murder at the Highest Council"  
 April 21, 2005

St. Mary's Cultural Center

Pick up your tickets at:  
 The Plum Tree or SherRing Gold!

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**UPCOMING SEMINARS**

**Management Skills for Front Line Managers**  
 Parkland Regional College—Yorkton Campus

**Module 1: Supervision**

April 20 & 21, 2005 9:00 – 4:30 pm  
 Cost \$315

This module discusses the "Four Musts" of supervision, the supervisor's function, roles and responsibilities, organizational structure, line and staff relationships, leadership, motivation, and groups.

**Module 2: How to Work With People**

April 27 & 28, 2005 9:00 – 4:30 pm  
 Cost \$315

This module deals with forms and types of communications, performance and development reviews, and how to introduce change.  
 Call: 783-6566 to register for either module

**Ventures Community Futures - Yorkton, SK**

Generating Business Ideas

April 13, 2005

Session 1: 1:30—4:30 pm Session 2: 6:30—9:30 pm

Cost: \$10

Potential entrepreneurs who want to explore different ideas for business start up.

Deadline for Registration is April 8, 2005

**Introduction to Entrepreneurship**

April 27, 2005

Session 1: 1:30—4:30 pm Session 2: 6:30—9:30 pm

Cost \$10

Providing potential entrepreneurs some insight into starting a business.

Deadline for Registration is April 22, 2005

Call Ventures at 1-877-782-0255 or 782-0255 to register for the above 2 seminars, seating is limited!

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**Members referred in March 2005**

- Good Spirit Reda • SherRing Gold • Boys & Girls Club
- Godfrey Dean Art Gallery • Vacations Away • Sunrise Health Foundation • Evergreen Photo & Video
- Access Communications • Yorkton Arts Council • Better Business Bureau • Painted Hand Casino
- Yorkton Public Library • Discovery Financial • Yorkton Leisure Center • Potzus • LNX Hosting • Logan Stevens Construction Comfort Inn • Days Inn • Co-operators Insurance • LITV • Harris Financial • Natural Nail Impressions • NaturallyYou Esthetics • Harvest Moon Technology • Microage Computer Center • Custom MicroSystems • Flaman Sales • Merle Norman • David Dedman • Pockets Billiards & Sports Lounge
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## Welcome New Members

### Evergreen Photo & Video Creation

Contacts: Rob/Stacy Szumutku  
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### Dr. Jack Junek

Contact: Dr. Jack Junek  
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### Memories By Andy

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### Silver Canada Wholesale

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### Sask Aboriginal Women Circle Corp.

Contact: Tammy Genaille  
Ph. 783-1228  
www.sawcc.net  
*Not for Profit*



### Paperbag Players

Contact: Nadine Albrecht  
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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS



Congratulations to the *Yorkton Public Library* for their beautiful renovations, and holding their grand opening March 10!

Congratulations to *Lorie Donlevy* for taking over Baskets 'n' Jazz, Best of Luck Lorie!

Congratulations to *Dean and Terri Sully* for the Sears grand re-opening which will be April 9th. There will be door prizes, great deals and special events!

Congratulations to *Nova Promotional Products* and owner Barry Sharpe for becoming the first location in Canada to be retailing the clothing line of Corner Gas!

Congratulations to *Step by Step Shoes* for holding their grand opening on March 29th, 2005!



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Check out April's Yorkton Fun Facts & Stats!!!  
Information is collected from RCD's 2005 Community Profile.

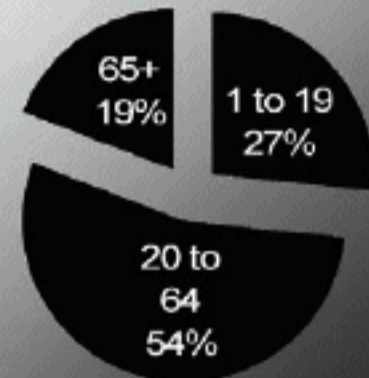


In 2004 the population of Yorkton was 17,186  
(based on the Sask. Health estimates) I bet you didn't  
realize what a young community Yorkton is.  
Thirty three percent of the population is between  
0 & 34, only 19% is 65+!

**Total Populations of Yorkton**

95+	144
90-95	176
80-89	950
70-79	1379
60-69	1513
50-59	1862
40-49	2463
25-34	2020
15-24	2445
10-14	1191
0-9	2080

**Ages Broken into Percentage**



Ages	% of Women
50-59	52%
60-69	56%
70-79	58%
80-89	62%
90+	74%

Did you know that the female  
population in Yorkton out numbers the  
men? In the age category of 50+, the  
females are constantly increasing over  
the men! In fact the only age groups  
with more men are ages 1-14 & 45-49.



I guess this proves that Yorkton women live longer! Sorry guys, maybe it's time to dig deep, try to find those sensitive sides, gossip a little more, do your share of the housework, help the kids with homework, and perhaps listen to your wife more often! After all the women must be doing something right as they are living longer.

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With membership you receive Networking Opportunities, inexpensive advertising opportunities such as luncheon hosts or Courier Inserts, Visa and MasterCard discounts, Chamber "Membership First" referral program and business lists, and events like Celebrate Success and the Centennial Coin program. Plus, we are the advocate voice for the business community, tackling many issues on your behalf. When you are a member you know your dollars are going right back into your business community. From meeting your government to networking your business and more you will see and hear your Chamber in the public eye.

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