

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

President's Message

As everyone prepares for summer and the sun is finally shining I find myself in a much better mood as I eagerly anticipate spending some fun times with my family. I hope the same for you....

The few politically charged issues I will raise this time are:

Beautification bylaw 1403- by the time you read this your Chamber will have met with the Planning Commission to express the concerns our members have with this Bill and it's impacts on our business community. I will update in the next issue the results of that meeting.

Airport Certification/Decertification – a decision will need to be made in the near future on our airport as to the level of services provided. If any of you have thoughts on this issue I encourage you to contact our office, the City (i.e. mayor Phil), or Gord at the REDA office.

Minimum Wage – slated to increase to 7.95 in March of 2007. Did anyone know of this? Open communication is critical for a democratic government to operate effectively for its people.

Premier's Dinner – let me be crystal clear on this event. The Chamber is paid an admin fee and shares 50% of the profit from the event with the reigning party. This is not an NDP event, rather an opportunity for our membership to meet personally with the government of the day. If the government changes it would be a foregone conclusion that this event needs to continue.

The above is a good example of open communication.

Your Chamber is hosting a breakfast on Saturday morning July 9th at CPR park (on Broadway in front of York City Plaza). It should be a great way to start a full day as the parade will follow, the Exhibition will open, GX Star Search will be in the evening, and a twonie dance will conclude the day.

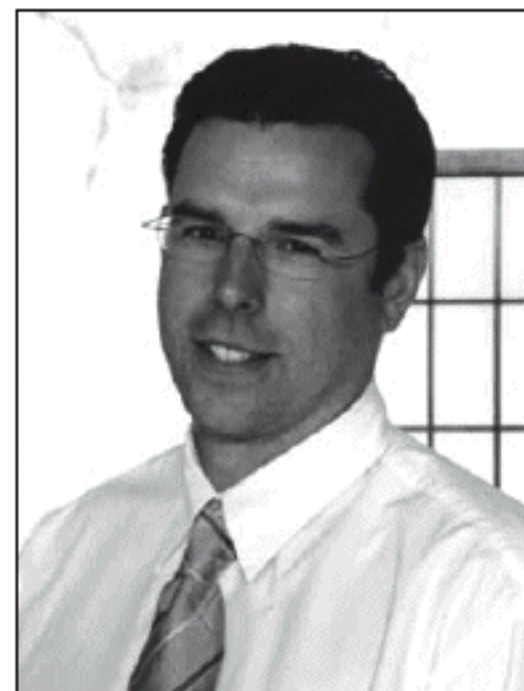
I want to congratulate all the volunteers involved in putting on the Annual Fair and Homecoming Week (which coincides with the fair). It's easy to take these events for granted not realizing the enormous time commitment these volunteers graciously give with their only satisfaction being the smiling faces. We all need to thank these people.

Ag Days will coincide with the Cowboy Festival this year. More to follow on Ag Days, but know that the 1st (annual?) Cowboy Festival is August 13 & 14. Among other events an outdoor rodeo will take place. This will be a great event.

Enjoy the summer with your family because without them, it really doesn't matter what happens at your business.

Best wishes to all...

Jason



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Just to name a few!

Check out our member roster on our website, where you can see all of our members listed!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Congratulations to **Bill Harrison** with Remax who received the CMHC Realtor of the Year award for 2004.

Congratulations to the **Short Film & Video Fest** on the success of their 58th annual Golden Sheaf Awards, the longest running festival of this kind in Canada.

Congrats to **Kahkewistahaw** for celebrating their 1st Anniversary June 15-18th! Congrats to **Ice Cream Cabin and Yorkton Grouty Guys** for their Grand Openings in June!

Congratulations to **Columbia Elementary School & Scoops** for their Beautiful Murals!

Congratulations to the **Mental Health Center** for celebrating their 40th year in operation July 2nd and 3rd.

Congratulations to the **Brayden Ottenbreit Close Cuts for Cancer** which raised \$40,000 for Cancer Research through the Canadian Cancer Society.

Congratulations to the **2005 Regional High School Centennial Graduates**, Best of Luck to all of you!

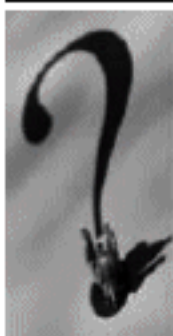
ATTENTION: UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS



Pancake Breakfast
Saturday July 9th - CPR Park
Come for coffee and pancakes then watch the parade at noon!

Ag Days
August 8-13
More information to follow!

BENEFIT OF THE MONTH



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*Welcome
New Members*

Drs Sheasby Popick & Caines
289 Bradbrooke Dr
Ph: 783-4569 Fax: 783-8334
Optometric Office



Fas Gas

Contact - Brian & Sharon Piller
150 Broadway St. W
Ph: 786-6866 Fax: 786-6168
Gas and Convenience Store



Ice Cream Cabin

Contact-Clayton/Cindy Tank
332 Broadway St
Ph: 783-1319 Fax: 728-3168
Ice Cream Parlor



Painted Country Sky Craft & Gift Shop

Contact: Lorie Antony
Box 1327
Phone: 782-4510 Fax: 783-1235
Retail Crafts and Gifts



Premier Cabinets:

Contact:-Peter Fedorchuk
15 8th Ave N
Ph: 786-6607 Fax: 782-3738
Cabinet Shop



Yorkton Grouty Guys:

Contact: Jason Parnell
Bay 5-76 7th Ave S
Ph: 783-0365 Fax: 783-0366
Flooring-Installation & Sales



**Yorkton Business Improvement District
(Formerly DBA)**

Contact: Fjola Johnson
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Phone 783-9243 Fax: 783-0165
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10 Reasons to Celebrate Saskatchewan Centennial



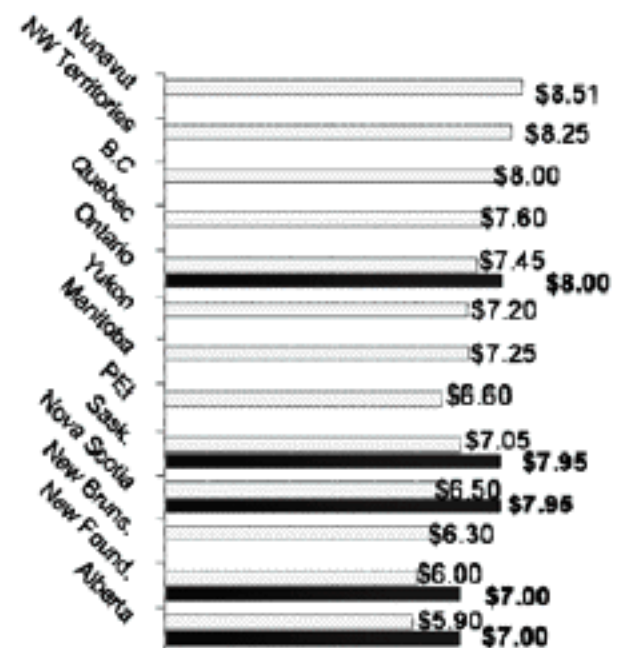
1. 100,000 lakes and rivers (beat that Minnesota)
2. All RCMP in Canada are trained in Regina
3. The Saskatchewan Roughriders and Fans
4. 427 documented species of birds in Saskatchewan
5. We can smell when its going to rain (can't do that in Toronto)
6. Where else can a whole generation recite every episode from the Flintstones (except the first 7 minutes when we were on our way home for lunch)
7. Low cost of living—we can afford homes that people in Vancouver and Toronto only dream of owning.
8. If you get into car trouble on the highway invariably someone stops to help.
9. Perogies and Cabbage rolls made by hand—the hands belong to Baba
10. The fact that people still wave hello on gravel roads whether they know you or not.

A Few Famous Saskatchewanians: Hayley Wickenheiser, Shaunavon —judged to be the worlds best female hockey player! Actor John Vernon, Zehner - Dirty Harry, National Lampoons Animal House! Singers - Wide Mouth Mason, Theresa Sokyrka & Joni Mitchell. Comedians — Leslie Neilson, Regina & Brent Butt, Tisdale! Olympic Gold Medallists — Sandra Schmirler and her team, Regina and Speed skater Catriona Lemay Doan, Saskatoon. Many NHL hockey players like Gordie Howe (Floral), Darcy Hordichuk (Kamsack), Theoren Fluery (Oxbow), Kelly Buchberger (Langenburg), Wendell Clark (Kelvington) & local man Jarrett Stoll! Who can forget Dick Assman, from Regina who's name became famous on Late Nights David Letterman!

For the Complete list go to <http://www.sask2005.com/Celebrating/reasons.asp>

The Chamber Working to Keep You Informed

On June 22 minimum wage increase was announced. Saskatchewan's minimum wage will increase on September 1st, 2005 by 40 cents to \$7.05 / hour. The increase, subject to the enactment of the regulations, is the first stage in a three-stage increase that will see the minimum wage go up by 50 cents to \$7.55 /hour on March 1st, 2006 and by 40 cents to \$7.95/ hour on March 1st, 2007. Although minimum wage earners have not had an increase in wage in over 2 years we still sit middle of the pack when it comes to minimum wage. Increasing this to \$7.95 by March 2007 decreases the amount of jobs available and creates another barrier to Business in this province. Less then 2 percent of wage earners in Saskatchewan actually make minimum wage.



NOTE: stats compiled from www.gov.sk.ca under news release section