

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



COMMUNITY  
CORNER

## President's Message

As I approach the halfway point of my term as President, I must admit something.....these are frustrating times.

Our government seems to be counteracting every progressive move with a counterproductive one. How does it make any sense to spend the time and money to travel the province and seek input on how to better structure our business tax and in turn propose legislation which would prevent any potential businesses from coming to Saskatchewan. Economic development is all about creating opportunity and being competitive. Saskatchewan is disadvantaged already with our current labor legislation and it is getting worse. I don't want someone to read this and then be dumbfounded by the implications of Bill 86 and 87. Here is where you need to go...[www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/english/FirstRead/2004/Bill-86.pdf](http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/english/FirstRead/2004/Bill-86.pdf). (-87 for the Bill 87). Don't say you weren't informed.

I'm really disappointed that your local Chamber needs to enter the provincial political arena. I would much sooner spend my time lobbying local government. However, if the local business community does not make their voice heard provincially we are wasting our time locally.

We need to put the future of this province in the hands of private business not governments or unions.

SIGN THE FORMS THAT WERE SENT TO YOU APOSING THE PROPOSED LABOR LEGISLATION AND FAX THEM OFF. This is our only means of lobbying. Make no mistake, these labor laws will perpetuate down to small business. To date we have received 8 out of 385 . No one was interested in the Business Tax Review (not one business person attended and not one business person provided your Chamber with any thoughts as requested). Three people are apparently interested in provincial labor legislation. I simply don't understand what it takes to engage people's interest.

On a brighter note, the week of the fair has been designated Homecoming Week which will be a wonderful opportunity for all former Yorktonites to see how far we've come (despite our labor laws)! Larry Pearen, Barry Sharpe, the Fairboard, media, and the Chamber have a bunch of exciting events in store. You can ensure your business doesn't look out of place by getting involved. Dress up your storefront, play a guitar, juggle you wares. The atmosphere downtown on Saturday, July 9 will be awesome. Please stay tuned and do your part.

We sent a request out to all Chamber members requesting their thoughts on bylaw 14/2003. This is the 'beautification' bylaw which could hinder Yorkton's progress. If the membership is not willing to share their concerns then we can assume the bylaw is fine the way it is written. If anonymity is required, we can respect those wishes. This is different than Downtown Redevelopment. Bylaw 14/2004 affects new development/expansion whereas the Downtown Redevelopment Plan is geared to inviting business back downtown by reviving tired old buildings. Yorkton should not have the same requirements as Regina or Saskatoon, we need to have a competitive advantage in order to attract growth.

This could potentially be a role for Team Yorkton...a group of business people negotiating with city officials to attain the best palatable result for both parties in the interest of our new investor in the community.

How many people were intrigued when reading the city of Camrose's invitation in Yorkton This Week to live in their community. If you were intrigued at all, that is a scary reality.

The City of Yorkton needs to make a decision on what to do with the airport. This is a bigger issue than most realize and it is a complicated issue. I suggest people get informed and form their opinion as this page isn't long enough to explain the issue. I congratulate REDA for the time they have invested on this issue.

Please get informed and get involved. You live and work here because this is where you want to enjoy your life. Let's make sure our kids can enjoy the same opportunities we did in Saskatchewan.

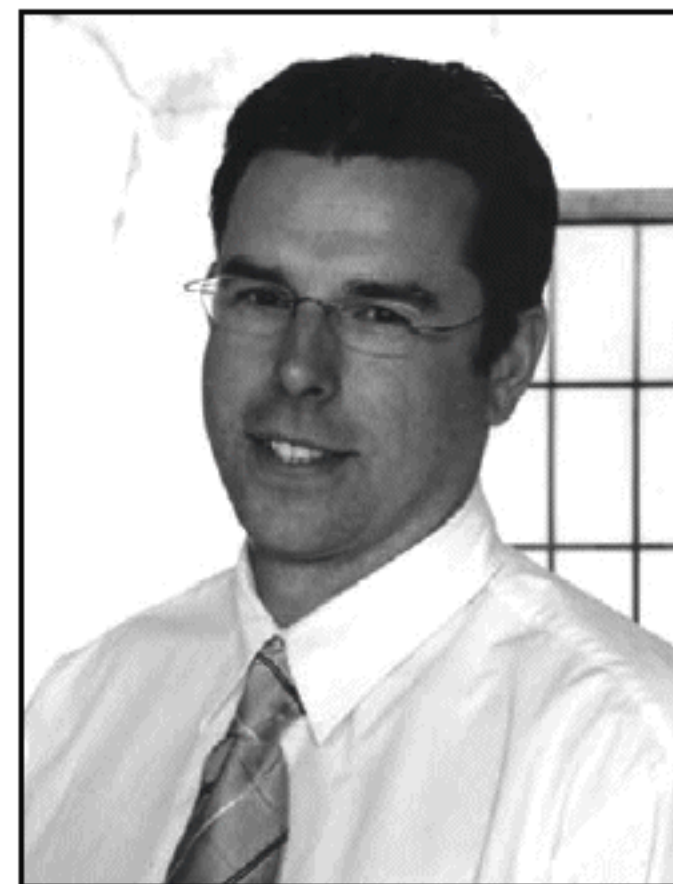
Your Chamber Board is a group of volunteers trying to work in your best interest. We are your best avenue to have your opinions heard.

Hold people accountable, demand results, stay informed, promote interaction, engage people...your kids want opportunity to stay here.

I want to wish you all a safe summer and look forward to seeing you at the next luncheon, June 17th, which will provide a lot more detail on what your Centennial Homecoming will involve.

Best regards,

Jason



*30/May/05 I wrote the above article May 26th. On May 27th both Bills 86 & 87 were passed. Remember the long consultation process when the government engaged the business community by consulting on the available hours legislature? Bills 86 & 87 were passed in 15 days (aka lightspeed) from initial reading and stand to be much more detrimental to the private sector.*

*My wife and I attended "Taste of Yorkton" on Friday. Congratulations to all involved as that truly was one of the finest events we've ever attended.*

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**YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL**

**Members Referred in May 2005**

- Logan Stevens Construction • Integrity Builders • Webers Do it Center • Potzus • McDiarmid Lumber • Gallagher Center • Godin & Company • Jack Mackay • Parker & Quine Accountants • Parkland Greenhouse • Good Spirit Reda • Tourism Yorkton • Ventures Yorkton • Van X Professional Driving • Tapps Brewing • Pockets Billiards & Sports Lounge • Scoops • Patrick Place • DR Auto Extras • Short Film & Video Festival • Frameworks • Karius & Associates • Auto Hire Rent-A-Car • D's Signs & Design • York House • Travelodge • Redwok Hotel • York Inn • Holiday Inn • Howard Johnson • Harvest Pizza • Mano's • Boston Pizza • Comfort Inn & Suites • Days Inn • Figures • Bennos Center •

Just to name a few!

**WE'VE ALSO MADE A TON OF REFERRALS TO OUR MEMBER ROSTER ON OUR WEBSITE,**

**WHICH YOU CAN FIND ALL OF OUR MEMBERS LISTED!**

**UPCOMING SEMINARS**

*A few of the Many Classes Coming up at the Godfrey Dean Art Gallery:*

**MEDIA BLOOM**

**When:** June 21, 7—9 pm

Youth focused media art event featuring a screening of video work and performances by local youth musicians.

**ARTIFITTI**

**Session 1 Tues, Wed & Thurs: July 5-14, 9 -12 pm**

**Session 2 Tues, Wed & Thurs: July 19-28, 9-12 pm**

This is a Nationally recognized community program offered for students 10-12 yrs old. Have fun creating murals on dumpsters. **Register Early spaces fill fast.**

**PAINTING FROM MODELS WITH TONIA VERMETTE**

**When:** Starts July 6, 7—10 pm

A 6 week class offering step by step guidance through a complete acrylic painting from live models. Call the art gallery for more info. 786-2992

**OTHER SEMINARS:**

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**Where:** Ramada Hotel—Regina SK

**When:** June 20 9 am to 4 pm

Registration: \$249/person, enter 3 and the 4th is free!

Register online [www.pttrain.com](http://www.pttrain.com) or call

1-800-258-7246

**BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU AGM & BREAKFAST**

**When:** June 6, 7:30 am West Harvest Inn - Regina

**Tickets:** \$15—For Tickets call 1-877-352-9259

**Speaker:** Carol Mildenberger, Regina Police Service Co-coordinator, Business Watch Network

**ATTENTION: UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS**



**JUNE LUNCHEON**

June 17th, 2005, 12 Noon - 1:00PM  
Best Western (Previously Holiday Inn)  
Larry Pearen Speaking on behalf of Centennial Committee

**Everyone Welcome!**



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# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Congratulations to **Access Communications** who received the prestigious National Community Champion Award. The past 4 years they have been a sponsor and participant of Relay for Life, a 12 hour marathon raising funds for the Canadian Cancer Society.

Congratulations to chiropractor **Dr. James Howlett** who has received Chiropractor of the Year from the Chiropractors Association of Saskatchewan. This is his 2nd time winning this award! Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Noah's Ark Pet Supplies** for their recent move and renovations. Stop in and say Hi to Tammy at 75 Broadway St. W

Congratulations to **Ross Fisher** who was appointed to Executive Director of the Health Foundation.

Congratulations to the **Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl For Kids Sake Fundraiser** which raised a total this year of over \$18,000 used to help support the many programs of the organization.

Congratulations goes out to the **Bell Walk for Kids Help Phone!** There was 140 walkers which raised in Yorkton \$12,153, a total of \$2 Million nationally!



Congratulations to the  
**2005 Sacred Heart High School  
Centennial Graduates,**  
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As a new advertiser the costs include signboard creation, placement and spot rental for 3 years:

**Small Sign** (about the size of a standard door) \$750.00 plus GST

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