



COMMUNITY COURIER

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

President's Message

YORKTON IS ALIVE

Signs of spring stir an excitement in us all. As a young lad I couldn't wait to get out on my bike and explore the nearby woods. For the community of Yorkton this same excitement and venturous spring air is present.

With spring is the arrival of the provincial budget for Saskatchewan. This year the budget contains provisions for a business friendly environment. The courage to proceed in implementation of the Business Tax Review recommendations must be commended. All governments must create the environment to allow an open market so that business can flourish and equally compete in a global marketplace. The recent changes to the tax structure for business has laid the cornerstone to build Saskatchewan and set in motion the future foundation for the entrepreneurial youth of Saskatchewan. Now the next challenge is to communicate to investors that the first step was taken so that business in Saskatchewan can compete in a business friendly environment.



With the advent of spring comes the flourish of new activity and realization that Saskatchewan is a great place to be. Yorkton Chamber Celebrate Success awards exemplify this by heralding all of the entrepreneurs here in our community. These are the people that take risk and invest here in Saskatchewan to build a healthy and viable community. We had 10 nominations for the Young Entrepreneur award. What other community in Saskatchewan of our stature can stand tall next to us and sing this same tune? Be sure to congratulate the Celebrate Success Award winners. In addition, I personally want to recognize the winners and also congratulate the businesses that received a nomination. The spirit during the Celebrate Success demonstrates that we need to promote and celebrate success by encouraging business to succeed.

The Gallagher Centre has experienced record activity in its first full season. Countless visitors from Moose Jaw, Estevan, North Battleford, Weyburn, Swift Current, and Regina have positive comments about the centre. I have witnessed first hand families and school groups from all over Eastern Saskatchewan utilizing the facility. Even though the development of the centre had its issues, we as a community and region will benefit from the centre for years. The Gallagher Centre is only one example of progress. Next time you visit cities in Saskatchewan similar to ours take a drive through the downtown core and compare it to ours. It is evident that we are excelling.

The Parkland Regional College (PRC) is another fine example of the progress we have to brag about. The PRC serves the region and draws students from the region serving education needs. This sector of development continues to grow and is placing Yorkton as one of the major educational locations in Saskatchewan. PRC's relationship in the business community is healthy and a percentage of those students will become our future entrepreneurs and workforce.

Another example of our vibrant Yorkton is the development of a new charter air service. This is a great advancement as an economic driver for Yorkton and region. I experienced first hand the hospitality and quality of service that will be offered by Good

Continued on back page...

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JUST TO NAME A FEW!

Coming up at The Chamber of Commerce...

APRIL 26TH-DINE-A-NITE-Featuring Monica Coneyes
"You Don't have to be a Boss to be a Great Leader"

St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Reception: 6:30 p.m.

Key note presentation to follow. Enjoy a funny and informative night with your Administrative Associates.

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MAY 5TH—LUNCHEON

Brad Wall,

Official Leader of the Opposition

12 Noon @ Best Western Parkland Inn

MAY 17TH—CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

JUNE 2nd—TENTATIVE LUNCHEON



Any questions on these events, please call the Chamber office 783-4368.

Congratulations to.....

*The New Yorkton Dodge Dealership....we welcome Doug Arnett to Yorkton.

*Jolene Benson who was chosen for the 2004/2005 Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Business Scholarship Award.

*Haas Nissan for receiving the "Award of Merit" for being # 1 Nissan Dealer in Western Canada.

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Meet The Board of Directors Series:



JASON FARRELL

Past President

Jason was raised in Yorkton where he decided to return after his post secondary education and living in Australia for a year. Jason returned to take over Farrell Agencies whose operation he shares with his partner Dave Nussbaumer and his father, Dave Farrell. As Jason explains, "My return to Yorkton was made easy when I reflected on the quality of life I enjoyed as a child and wanted to make available for my family." Jason is married to Michelle who is from Australia.

They have a 4 year old girl, Jamie and a one year old boy, Jake. Jason is very active in sports and enjoys volunteering his time back to the community. In addition to serving as the Chamber's Past President, Jason is also a Rotary club member.

Meet The Board of Directors Series:

TODD HAAS

Past Past President

Todd would like to start out by thanking the Chamber membership in allowing him to serve as their representative on the Board for the last six years.

Todd was born right here in Yorkton. He attended school here, starting out with Columbia, then Yorkdale then on to the Regional. After that, he took secondary education with the community college, obtaining his 2nd year mechanics there.

Todd started working in the family business at the age of 14 after school, then started to fix cars as he graduated from high school. In 1997, he started with Snap-On Tools selling their hand tools and equipment in the Yorkton region until 2000 when he returned back to the family business to become a sales consultant.

Todd is married to Renee, who now stays at home running a daycare out of their house. They have two children, Kaila 5 and Kelsey 2.



Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Community Signboard Only Pennies a Day

Three year contract for single sign \$750.00

Payment plan available for \$150.00 down and \$150.00 every 6 months for the contract period.

Larger sign of 4 signs to make one - \$2100.00

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Call Donna Brothwell at the Chamber office for more information.



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President's Message *(Continued from Front Page)*

Spirit Air Service. Directly tied to this is the realization that Yorkton Municipal Airport is truly an economic window for the region with approximately 12,000 aircraft movements in 2004. The airport has an economic impact employing approximately 70 people, a return of approximately \$5.7 million for Yorkton and region. The airport is one of the community's entrance doors for business and we need to once again stand strong to support and develop this opportunity as a regional center for Eastern Saskatchewan.

During the course of the 1st quarter for 2006 we had the opportunity to host a number of luncheons. The first was with Professor Jack Vicq, who outlined the Business Tax Review recommendations. The Chamber voiced in support of the recommendations and witnessed the incorporation of the recommendations into the provincial budget. The second was Yorkton's Director of Finance; Lonnie Kaal brought clarity of our city's 2006 budget. Within the Courier are some interesting budget stats for the City of Yorkton. The last luncheon was with Deputy Premier, Clay Serby, who outlined our Saskatchewan 2006 budget and the changes made to entice investment here.

A number of actions were also set in motion by the Chamber. The Public Policy Committee is still seeking to cooperatively work with the city to amicably resolve the outstanding Beatification bylaw. We simply wish to remove the roadblock that hinders development for Yorkton. In January of this year a commitment was made by the City and Chamber to have this resolved by June 2006. The Business Development Committee has structured a strategic relationship with Parkland Regional College to create a business package for a 'One Stop Shop' concept for any entrepreneur to seek out Yorkton as a center of choice. The Chamber Luncheons, Celebrate Success Awards and the Dine-A-Night all planned by the Attitude Committee have kept us active.

For the 2nd quarter the wheels are set in motion to establish a new strategic plan for the Chamber. The last plan was developed in 2003 during the same time Action Saskatchewan plan was implemented. The Chamber is mandated to operate as a business and accordingly this new plan for the future is an integral driver for the Chamber. We are planning to continue to bring you informative luncheons. On May 5 we have Brad Wall, Official Leader of the Opposition. Then in June we are seeking out the candidates for Mayoralty race to address the business community. In addition, we promise to bring you any business related information regarding the fall municipal election.

In closing, I trust that you too can set your minds and hearts on the future and focus on the positive aspects of Yorkton. **This is our community, together we must be willing to take care of it and invest in it in order to nurture outside investment.**

James Wilson
President

YORKTON IS ALIVE STATS!

Chamber Members - 408

Celebrate Success Nominations - 97

Gallagher Pool Averaging 300 a night

Tourism Yorkton visitors - 18,102

City of Yorkton Historical budget information

	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Revenue	\$22,221,420	\$21,139,000	\$21,470,541	\$20,327,891	\$20,311,521	\$17,845,621
Expenditures	\$22,220,715	\$21,136,000	\$17,069,969	\$16,613,433	\$15,798,084	\$14,655,646
Excess Revenue	\$705	\$3,000	\$4,400,572	\$3,714,458	\$4,513,437	\$5,817,892