

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

President's Message

The days of summer are ever so slowly drawing to a close. As we near the time for children to return to school and the preparation for the fall events, we have to reflect upon how fortunate we are living in Yorkton.

Over the summer months the visits with family and friends from Alberta presented us the opportunity to hear the Alberta lingo. The lingo that has a mix of propaganda and the fallacy that the grass is greener on the other side of the border. Yet while being the ever so polite Saskatchewanite we trusted the stories and did not challenge the lack of quality of life that exists in Alberta.

Personally, I don't believe that greener grass exists in Alberta. If Alberta is utopia then why are we seeing people now returning to Saskatchewan? If Alberta is the chosen land, then why is the cost of housing so outrageous?

In the course of the discussions with the Alberta visitors only two negative factors were still evident: Saskatchewan's extreme property taxation and the sales tax. Additionally, there exists a misnomer by many that Saskatchewan does not have any available employment. Yet, while there is this belief, businesses of various size and stature are running rampant in search for skilled and unskilled people.

However, I did notice a positive attitude during these same visits with friends that are loyal Saskatchewan residents. Almost everyone is stating that Saskatchewan in their eyes, is on the verge of a major growth spurt. After all, do we not have more oil and gas than the province west? Do we not have enough potash to supply the world for centuries to come? Do we not have some of the finest diamond and other rare earth finds of anywhere in the world? Having this abundance of resources we have to ask what is hindering the growth spurt? This growth spurt we so desire needs to come from us who have remained loyal and true to our city and province. It is going to be our responsibility as a loyalist to the area to let the friends and family that vacated to Alberta be aware that the "quality of life" (QOL) is here, and they are welcome back to enjoy the QOL and to reinvest here in Saskatchewan.

We have an abundance of natural resources. Our cost of housing is very affordable. Education and Health Care are universal. Cost of living is very feasible. So what is it we are lacking? What changes need to be made?

Let's start the fall with a new message by making a few simple changes in the business climate. First, create a new vision which can lead to the development of a plan to eventually lower property taxes. Secondly, make a climate change with a bold move to lower the sales tax. These are simple changes that can make a difference. Simple changes that communicate a positive message that we are igniting the growth engines by laying the ground work for Saskatchewan to grow.

James Wilson - *President*



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Meet the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Staff



DONNA BROTHWELL

Executive Director

Donna has resided in Yorkton since the age of two. Community involvement has been very important to Donna, she is President of Beta Sigma Phi and has been on the Board of the Sports Hall of Fame, holds memberships with the York Lake Golf and Country Club, Women Entrepreneurs, Rotary Club, Down Town Business Association. Donna

is also involved with the heritage organization, and enjoys volunteering spare time to Non-Profit organizations involved with the Chamber. More recently, Donna is very proud to be involved with the Centennial projects and initiation of Yorkton's Centennial Coins. With the Chamber, Donna feels she can do more for her community to being the advocate for business issues, and bring special recognition to deserving businesses with such great events such as Celebrate Success. Donna's positive attitude and enthusiasm is the most noticeable. Family is the most important thing to Donna and she is very proud of her son Matthew and husband Clint. They are the strength behind the scenes and often give her the energy she shares.



SHERRY MACDONALD

Marketing Assistant

Sherry recently moved to Yorkton from Saskatoon where she lived for twelve years and worked with the Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce. Raised in Manitoba, Sherry is quite familiar with the Yorkton region and the transition to move from a larger center to a smaller center was quite easy. Sherry enjoys cooking, camping, hockey and spending time

with her two children and motorcycling with her husband. Sherry enjoys working with the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce and with the Yorkton business community.



MANDY CMOC

Marketing Summer Student

Mandy is the 2006 summer student at the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce. Mandy is a graduate of Sacred Heart High School and is currently attending the University of Regina, entering her second year in the Faculty of Fine Arts for Film and Video Production in the fall of 2006. Mandy is a farm girl and lives north of Yorkton with her parents, two sisters and their

Chocolate Lab, Cocoa. Mandy's passions are film production, photography and graphic design, hoping to start a wedding videography business very soon to combine the three. She enjoys the outdoors and spending time quading and outings at the family cabin. Mandy loves to spend time with friends and family, play rec sports and of course, catch a good movie when time permits! Her experience with the Chamber of Commerce has helped prepare her for the many new and exciting events she will encounter with the business community. Thanks to the Chamber of Commerce and to Donna and Sherry for an awesome summer!

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YORKTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2006

September 8	Luncheon Speaker 12 Noon <i>BIG ANNOUNCEMENT</i>	Best Western Parkland Inn
September 14	Premier's Dinner 5:30 p.m.	St. Gerard's Parish
October 6	Luncheon Speaker 12 Noon <i>SAINT - More info to follow</i>	Best Western Parkland Inn
October 18	Business After Hours 5:00 p.m. Mini Trade Show	Best Western Parkland Inn
October 15th to 30th	Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Director Nominations	
November 1st to 15th	Director Elections	
November 3	Luncheon Speaker 12 Noon <i>To be announced</i>	Best Western Parkland Inn
December 8	Luncheon Speaker 12 Noon <i>To be announced</i>	Best Western Parkland Inn
December 13	Member Appreciation Wine & Cheese (Tentative)	

REFERRALS for August

Just to name a few!

Yorkton Aircraft Services • Edward Jones • Kinsmen Club
 • Yorkton Co-op • The Brick • SecurTek • Shelwin House
 Parkland Regional College • Usana • Farrell Agencies
 • ArtFx-Blackstone Studio • Beds by Day • Citifinancial
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 Tracey James Steakhouse • Thunder & Lightning Auto Service Ltd.
 Tapps Brewing Co. Ltd. • The Ice Cream Cabin
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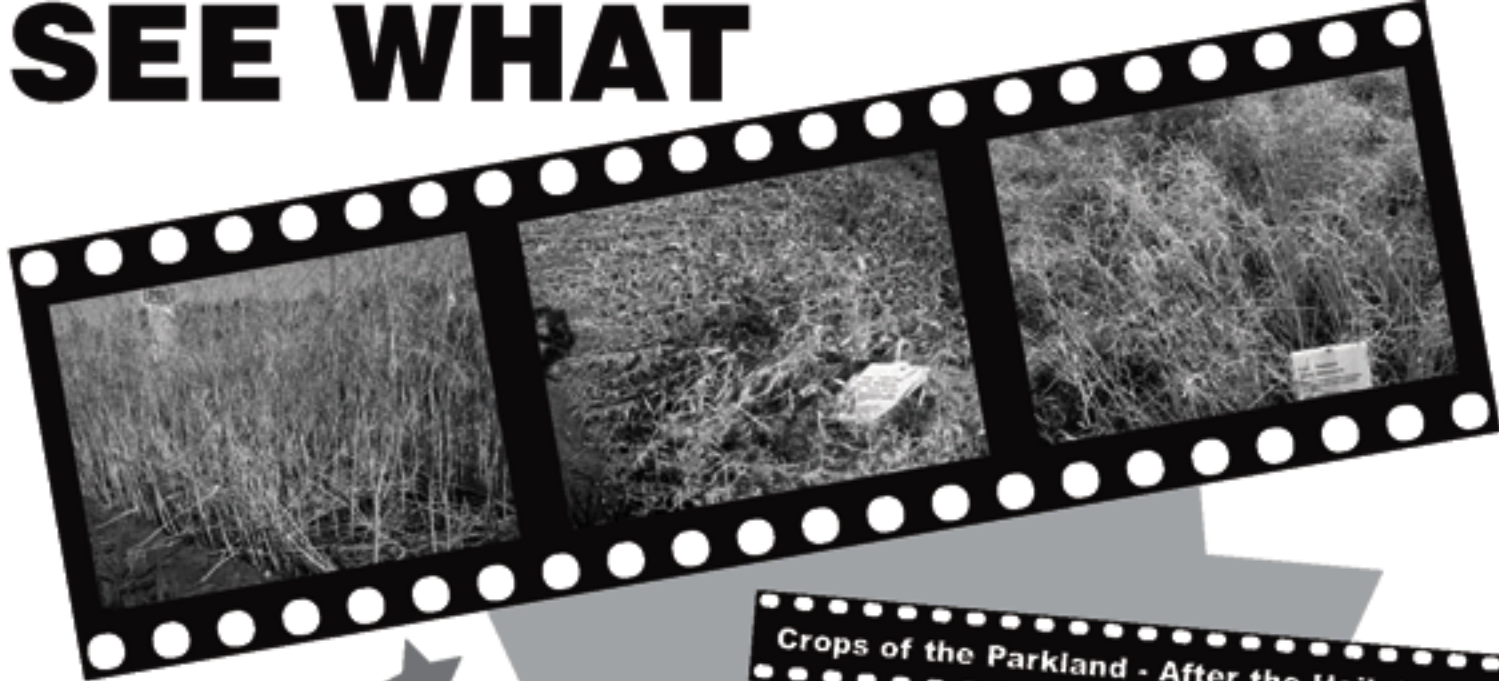
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