

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

President's Message

In the planning stage for the future of Saskatchewan known as Action Saskatchewan - A Blue Print for The Future emphasis is being placed upon attitude. For Yorkton this is certainly a priority of late as we have witnessed progress that has created an enthusiasm and a hunger for the community to grow in 2006 and for years beyond.

The formal process to produce the Action Saskatchewan plan was called "The Gathering". From The Gathering an excitement and true realization that we as a province and individual communities are going to succeed in our endeavours to build a future. However, within the realization for success the most integral component to succeed is solely our responsibility and the accountability rests in our hands as a business community. We no longer can point blame on others for our situation but we must vocalize to be heard so change occurs at all levels of governmental power for the betterment of the business climate.

Change is evident and a required action to progress. However, change is hard to accept and equally as hard to create. Corporations and large institutions continually plan and train on the subject of change management in order to progress beyond the existing environment and to remain competitive in the marketplace. So too does Saskatchewan. Change must and will take place. The Action Saskatchewan plan, if fully implemented, will conquer the fear of change and create the attitude to progress Saskatchewan beyond the current economic state.

In 2006 the above holds true for the Yorkton Chamber. We as a Chamber will be focusing on being proactive, setting the course for growth, and of course, dictating a positive attitude. For this year our key areas of work to create progressive change are: i) Proactive Influence, ii) Community Leadership, iii) Reinvigorated Relationships.

For the Chamber, Proactive Influence means that we will take strides to be proactive at all levels of governmental decision-making. We must be the influential factor that leads and provides direction to the decision makers so that any level of governmental activity will be for the betterment of the business climate, and accordingly the betterment of the community as a whole. To accomplish this goal we shall maintain active relationships in the proper areas of power. Already action has taken course at the municipal level whereby a number of the Chamber Directors are appointed to various City Commissions. With the appointment these Directors are now in a position to better represent the business community by closely working with the Council and City Management. We shall also pursue an establishment of influence within the provincial and federal levels to better represent business.

Community Leadership is to create a community of enthusiasm for growth and culture prosperity for the establishment of wealth. To have growth we need investment into our community and for investment we need sustainable wealth. The Chamber will aggressively pursue all economic opportunities and engage the business community as a whole for economic development. To complete this we will need to strengthen our ties and further entice the Team Yorkton concept. Once again, we have already taken action on this very subject. Just recently a formalization of an Advisory Board consisting of Past Presidents will allow the Chamber the ability to have greater representation of both past and present business members for planning purposes. During the course of the year we will be revisiting the existing Action Yorkton plan. As part of the planning we will incorporate the 2006 Action Saskatchewan plan and also address any specific goals that align to the Yorkton business community. In addition, we will set out to establish a set of core values for ourselves. These values shall set in motion a defined documentation of a guide for business conduct for the Chamber. These values shall exist in the Chamber's business affairs at all times and will exemplify to the community the integrity of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce.

The third goal is to Reinvigorate Relationships. This means the Chamber will reinvigorate existing business and community relationships to further strengthen lines of communication. We will be rejuvenating existing relationships and create new ones within the governing bodies. We will create a forum for open, honest dialogue to entice development of both business and the community as a whole, and accordingly the Province of Saskatchewan. Such forums allow the Chamber to be an advocate for business. Already for discussion in 2006 are the items of "Income Approach to Taxation" and the "Business Tax Review". Although we still await the jury's verdict on the Income Approach for Taxation the new concept is certainly an improvement over the past calculation and the Chamber shall pursue any pertinent issues until a proper solution is established. The Chamber has continually voiced that a Business Tax review and restructure is long overdue for the present taxation displays a hindrance to any form of progress. These two items are overdue and are a start for change that we need if our province is going to succeed.

Finally, I voice my confidence in the wealth of knowledge, vision and leadership that exists at the Chamber's Board of Directors. The year has just begun and this group of business leaders will make the difference to create the needed change. I predict in 2006 you shall see considerable change and for this we welcome your thoughts and support to better improve our business climate.



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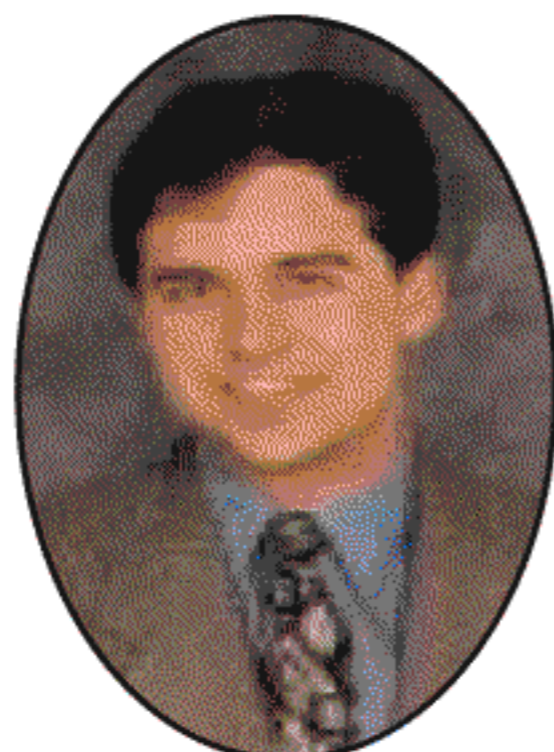
Meet the President and Executive Vice President of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce



James Wilson President

James is employed with SaskTel for 20 years and also 4 years with the conception of SecurTek, where he was responsible for company acquisitions and the development of an external dealer network across Canada. After leaving SecurTek, James and Wendy chose to remain in Yorkton as SaskTel's District Sales Manager.

James has served for 3 years on the Yorkton Chamber. He is also serving on the GSREDA as a Director and most recently joined the City of Yorkton Economic Commission. His family of 5 consist of a daughter in university, a daughter in Grade 12 and one son in Grade 8. Wendy is a Training Consultant with the Parkland Regional College.



David Horsman Executive Vice President

David Horsman is a Chartered Accountant with Parker and Quine LLP. He is originally from a farm near Fort Qu'Appelle and has lived in Yorkton for the past six years. Prior to moving to Yorkton, he worked for Deloitte & Touche in Prince Albert, and also lived in Germany for a year.

David enjoys all outdoor activities including hiking, golfing, skiing and occasionally snowboarding (in spite of the bruises). He is also a member of the Rotary Club of Yorkton.

David's wife, Allanna, is a teacher and they have one son, Jesse and are expecting another child in the near future.

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94 Broadway St. W.
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The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce
welcomes these new members
to the Chamber this year.

Coming up at
The Chamber of Commerce...

FEBRUARY 15TH: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

7:00 a.m.

MARCH 15TH: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

7:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY 24TH: LUNCHEON

Jack Vicq (Chair) of the Business Tax Review Committee
12 Noon @ Best Western Parkland Inn

MARCH 8TH — CELEBRATE SUCCESS AWARDS

St. Mary's Cultural Center
Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.
Banquet: 6:30 p.m.
Awards Ceremony to Follow

MAY 5TH — LUNCHEON

Brad Wall,
Official Leader of the Opposition
12 Noon @ Best Western Parkland Inn



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

YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL:

December 2005 & January 2006

Commercial Cleaning Chemicals • Mr. Stereo • Audio Warehouse
Canadian Tire • L.R. Future • Yorkton Exhibition Association • Pockets
Robin's Donuts • Sask. Wheat Pool • Parrish & Heimbecker • GX 94 • CTV
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Upcoming Seminars

**Value Chains . . . A Strategy For Success SK.
Agri-Food Value Chain Initiative**

Thursday, February 16, Yorkton, 9 - 4 p.m.
For info: (306) 975-6851 or kosteroskib.sk.ca

**Fundamentals of
Successful Project Management**

Saskatoon: February 21 & 22
Regina: February 23 & 24, 9 - 4 p.m.
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enroll@skillpath.net or www.skillpath.com

Business Writing and Grammar Skills

Regina, March 16 & 17, 9 - 4 p.m.
Register by calling 1-800-258-7246

Check out www.venturescfdc.com/workshops

Welcome 2006 Board of Directors

James Wilson – SaskTel
David Horsman – Parker Quine LLP
Rick Schrader – Schrader Motors
Kent Latimer – Scoops
Jason Farrell – Farrell Agencies
Todd Haas – Haas Nissan
Sherry Grunert – Marlin Travel
Lori Walsh – Cornerstone Credit Union
Robert Ashcroft – Custom Microsystems Inc.
Judie Bernat – The Plum Tree
Linda Quart – Edward Jones
Guy Gendreau – Yorkton Concrete Product Ltd.
Coreen Fahrenschoen – Fabricland
Ron Evinou – Evinou & Associates
Jimmy Dean – Best Western Parkland Inn
Dwight Ruf – D.R. Auto Extras



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Congratulations To . . .

100.5 the Rock and ScrImage for celebrating their Grand Opening!

Haas Nissan Ltd. for celebrating 30 years of business in Yorkton!

Paper Bag Players to host TheatreFest 2006 April 16 — 22, 2006.

Thank you to...

Painted Hand Casino for supplying the hot chocolate refills
for the street hockey game during the Prospects event.

Judy Hughes of On Trac Consulting Ltd. for supplying
Centennial Coins for each player for the Prospects Game.

Welcome ...

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David Thomas and family to Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd!



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