

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

President's Message

Some one asked me, "What does the Chamber do? This is a question we get every now and then and so I asked Sherry and Donna to forward me an overview of the things we did this year. I had the surprise of receiving these comments back from Donna.

Quote Donna;

Every year each President usually has a one defining "thing" they accomplish and this year was no exception. Our defining accomplishment for the 2007 year would have to be the presentation to Council on behalf of our membership to have the tax increase they were trying to put in at 7-10%, reduced to a tolerable 5%. A close second to that accomplishment would be the National recognition we brought to our community and our Chamber with the Awards we won in Toronto for our Start Your Business package.

The Chamber accomplishes much more in a year, but for the history books these two things will stand out big time.

I often get asked what does the Chamber do so I am happy to be able to list the following as our 2007 year accomplishments;

Signed up 40 new members, Loaned money to 10 Entrepreneurs, met with the YBID and the new Manager to discuss the organizations and how we can partner.

We finalized the terms of reference for Council for our Planning Committee to review the 14/2003 bylaw. We secured seats on several commissions of Council including Economic Development, Emergency Measures, Municipal Planning and Waste Management. Sat on the 125 committee for the anniversary of this year. We met with Council on a number of issues including; RCMP Funding inequities, 2009 income approach to taxation, infrastructure bylaw 14/2003, and how our tax dollars are spent. We actually did manage to influence Council on the tax increase by attending Council with statistics and Members issues in hand. We negotiated an agreeable income split in regards to the Premier's Business Dinner with the local NDP party for the 2007 event.

Attended a labour force shortage seminar, Immigration seminar, and TILMA seminar producing a power point presentation on TILMA available to the members. Created a marketing video for our Business Package and community, linking it to our website and up dating our package. Met with Ministers; Quenelle and Thompson in regards to the RCMP funding issue and Ministers Taylor and Higgins in regards to economic development and provincial funding for Cities. We held several successful events including; the most successful Premiers Business Dinner to date, and Dine-A-Nite and created a new role this event plays in the community with the first ever Employee of the Year Awards, hosting John Gormley.

Other successful events include; Ag, Days, Harvest Showdown Business breakfast with partners YE and YBID sold out of food, Cowboy days pancake breakfast, and putting a big float in the summer parade, winning a ribbon for our efforts. Becoming a finalist and winning the Bronze finalist and the big Canadian recognition and top award of Peoples Choice for our Start Your Business Package. Held two seminars in Partnership with Community Futures Ventures on Marketing and Sales. Struck a deal with Corner Gas to have our merchandise used on the show. Hosted successful luncheons with guest speakers such as Laurie Cote on Gangs in our Community. Advocated against legislation on minimum wages to the Provincial Government and to the Federal Government on the issue of the funding for the Summer Student program with actual results in favor of our organizations in regards to the funding.

We are also leading the way to organize and unite Chambers across the Province and chairing the first every formal meeting of the Saskatchewan Chamber Executives as that united body.

We hosted a successful All Candidates forum, giving our Membership an important opportunity to hear the Political leaders. Held a successful Directors Election proving once again we are a



RICK SCHRADER
Chamber of Commerce
President

very active Chamber. We remain governed by a Board of Directors by having this election process, and receive NO funding money from Government of any level to survive. We are membership and project funded only; we are and remain a membership run organization. We survey our membership for their views such as our Smoking survey and even published these results in our Courier which for the first time was delivered to not only the businesses, but to over 6000 residents.

End Quote.

So there you have it! It's a lot more than any of you would think. We also instituted a round robin of comments from all of the respective directors of our committees to get their views to you via the courier message, and we streamlined our luncheon process to an hour to get you back to work on time.

Your incoming President soon to be elected to the revised two year term will be the youngest female President in the History of the Chamber, Lori Walsh.

Many thanks to the staff and the Directors; it has been a great term of office!

Best of Luck to all!

Rick Schrader
2007 President



COMMUNITY COURIER

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Members We Refer for October - Just to name a few!

Welcome Home Crafts • The Plum Tree • Frozen Cactus • All About Flowers • Best Western • Redwood Inn • Yorkton Hotel • Yorke Inn
Patrick Place • Comfort Inn • Days Inn • Park Allen Farm & Ranch Supply • TD Merchant Services • Peavy Mart
ETF Computer Assistance & Training • The Chalet Restaurant • Yorkton Exhibition • Humpty's Family Restaurant • Clarica Life
Santa Clause Parade Committee • Academy of Learning • Parkland Engine Rebuilders • Gallagher Centre • Dairy Queen
Fraser Estate Wines • York Auto Supply • Yorkton This Week • News Review • Parkland Tire & Service • Tourism Yorkton
Sunrise Health Region • Just Cause International

Welcome New Members to the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

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17A 3rd Ave
Yorkton, SK
Hair Salon

Fas Gas (Ardith Enterprises)
150 Broadway St W
Yorkton, SK
Gasoline Retail Outlet

Upcoming Events

December 6th	Membership Appreciation Wine & Cheese	Best Western	5 pm to 8 pm
December 12th	Board of Directors Meeting	Chamber Boardroom	7 am
December 14th	Chamber Luncheon "Check up on Saskatchewan Presentation"	Best Western	12 Noon

Congratulations to the New 2008 Board of Directors

Lori Walsh, Rick Schrader, James Wilson, Phoebe Decelles, Linda Quart, Lawrence Wegner, Sophia Hamm, Don Kunkel, Corey Werner, Dolores Harris, Brad Kulscar

Newly Elected & Welcome Aboard to:

Guy Gendreau, Ron Evinou, Dionne Sanders, Shannon Lizon, Doug Kitsch, Cam Mehling

We Say a Fond Farewell to:

Jason Farrell, Kent Latimer, Dwight Ruf, Robert Ashcroft

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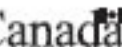
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On Behalf of the Board of Directors and
Administration of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce,
we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best during the
Holiday Season and invite you to our

**Membership Appreciation
Wine & Cheese**



*Thursday, December 6, 2007, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Best Western Parkland Inn*

(For Chamber Members & their Staff only)

** Members please RSVP by December 4th to 783-4368. **



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*On behalf of the Board of Directors & Staff of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce 2007,
We Wish You a Safe and Happy Holiday Season*

