



COMMUNITY COURIER

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

President's Message

INFORMATION. Its a word we use so very easily these days. There seems to be, at times, too much of it. The information that I am forwarding to you today relates to the poll we took this summer. I would hope that you all will read it over and consider its importance

BACKGROUND:

Many business people have criticized the casino for allowing smoking in its premises. By citing a federal law that allows SIGA to do this the casino can claim it's hands are tied in relation to the managing body's wishes.

Many competing businesses in the recreation section of the city feel unfairly done by, there has been an underlying feeling of one-sidedness in this issue.

FACTS:

Urban reserves are under Federal Jurisdiction. Provincial laws and Civic bylaws if superseded by a Federal law are overruled. Sakimay First Nations signed a service agreement to follow all Civic bylaws.

The smoking bylaw was not in place at the time the agreement was signed. Sakimay First Nations owns the land which will change hands with the new location to Kahkewishtaahaw First Nations. Sakimay and Kahkewishtaahaw First Nations are members of the Chamber of Commerce.

SURVEY:

Below are the questions asked and the resulting answers. I will let you decide how the business community views this as an answer to the questionnaire.

- Should the City enforce the smoking bylaw at all costs even if it means going all the way to the supreme court at great expense to the taxpayer?
58 % said yes 42% No
- Should one business be allowed not to adhere to the smoking bylaw or be exempted due to Federal Jurisdiction?
20% yes 80% no
- Should the City enter into an agreement with non compliant businesses of the smoking bylaw?
22% yes 78% no
- Should services continue to be provided to businesses not in compliance of the Smoking Bylaw?
28% yes 72% no
- Should the City Change the bylaw to create an equal and fair playing field if unsuccessful with enforcement of the smoking bylaw?
54% yes 46% no

CONCLUSION:

As we now have not only city legislation on the smoking issue but provincial. The chamber executive feels that we all should abide by the current law of the land.

Another fact to ponder: It is not the smoker's freedom of choice that is in jeopardy, but that of the non-smoker that is forced to deal with second-hand smoke. Employees should not be exposed to this as a consequence of the job. Previous to this announcement we requested the opinions of the affected bodies via registered mail, but received no answer.

We hope that this outlines the realities of the situation to our members at large, and that this will also open a dialogue with the City and casino regarding issues at hand. The Chiefs and related interests should review this issue with the best interests of the health of their staff at heart when considering the options and conclusion to this important issue.



RICK SCHRADER
Chamber of Commerce President

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

The Ice Cream Cabin • Little Angels Treasure Shop • Prairie Paint Centre • Body Poetry Fitness Studio • Everlast Eaves & Exteriors
Joseph Toppi Builders • Hometown Cycle & Sports • Royal Canadian Legion • Terry's Pawn & Bargain • Tourism Yorkton
Source Embroidery • Penguin Refrigeration • Nutters • Mid Can Window & Door Mfg. • Mr. Stereo • The Brick • Liberty Tax
Audio Warehouse • Animal Management Services • All Season Sales and Rentals • Commercial Cleaning Chemicals
Access Communications • Companion Animal Hospital • Autohire Rent A Car • Kelty Marketing • Parkand Denture Clinic • Brennan OP

Welcome New Members to the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

Ruha Muay Thai Kickboxing
28 Betts Ave
Yorkton, SK
Kickboxing



Litvanyi Motor Products
Box 8 RR3
Yorkton, SK
Vehicle Sales

Congratulations to...

- ~ The News Review placing "Best Overall" paper at the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association banquet in September.
- ~ Good Earths Shop celebrating 25 years in business.
- ~ Yorkton This Week who took home the award for "Best Editorial Page and to Calvin Daniels with the "Best Tourism Story or Series of Stories" award at the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspaper Association banquet.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monster Mash 2007!



A fun free, spooktacular Halloween Party for all Children,
Aripavilion 6pm to 8pm
on Halloween Night.
For more info call: 783-2582.



Harvest Showdown Chamber Breakfast

Friday, November 9, 7:00am
Prairie Oyster Grill

Chamber Luncheon

12 Noon, Friday, November 23,
Gallagher Centre

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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce WINS NATIONAL AWARD!!!!

What a trip that was! We left for Toronto on Sept. 13th for 5 days of conference, networking, sharing ideas, learning and development. When I say we, I was extremely happy to be able to take our Student Mandy Cmoc with us to Toronto to share with the Awards Ceremonies.

I guess I should back up a bit. In 2003 the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce set out on the massive task of collecting as much information as we could to be able to create a Start your Business package for Yorkton. We found that there was many services out there but not a one stop shop for business start up or general information. After collecting we found ourselves with about 350 pages to photo copy and put into one package that anyone can pick up. This draft package was available for the entrepreneur but was large, and not very easy to find anything with. This brought us to the idea of an interactive format that would be available on our website and available to anyone at anytime.

Now to get all those 350 pages of information and more into the html format to be able to get it in cd format and available on the web site was no easy task. We hired Mandy for the summers of 2006 and 2007 to work on this mammoth job. In 2006 we actually had the sponsors in place and the cd's being handed out to the entrepreneurs.

During the summer of 2007 we added a welcome to Yorkton Video better recognition for the sponsors on the website and entered the project into the Canadian Chamber of Commerce competition for best marketing. As the competition closed we were contacted in early August that we were a finalist and needed to make a presentation to the delegates in Markham Ont. to decide the winner. This award is called the People's Choice, and the three finalists would be awarded either a Gold, Silver or Bronze finalists award but only one would win the Peoples choice. This is the Big National Award we took home, which is shown on the back of this month's Courier.

I have to say traveling to Toronto to represent my Chamber and my Community, with a local Youth, at the national level was so far the highlight of my Chamber life. I have never been more proud to be able to stand in front of 500 delegates and accept the winning award that these delegates voted for. It was even more of a huge accolade to know that 90 Chambers were represented in Markham Ont. 61 of which were from Ont. and the other two finalists were also from Ont.

Did we make a difference? Well I guess once you have seen the video which will be on the website, that Mandy made for the presentation and understand the "Start Here"

tag line that was part of the presentation, then you can understand when after the presentation many of the delegates were congratulating us and saying, "Yorkton, Start Here" great presentation, great project.

What is next for our Chamber as we now have had three National Awards in the last 13 months? We wish to see a stronger Provincial body of Chambers, representing us locally, and recognizing our local causes, issues and projects and will help lead the way to make that happen.

Donna Brothwell
Executive Director



Mandy Cmoc & Donna Brothwell
with People's Choice Award



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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce wins National Award

