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

Benefits for Business - Affordable Insurance for Small Business

In an ever evolving work force, many employees are expecting a benefit plan at their place of employment. For a small business looking for an employee benefits plan, the task can become time consuming, exhausting and often confusing. Smaller firms may discover that they don't even qualify for a plan. Affordability can also be an issue.

This has been a problem facing small business for years. As a result, over 30 years ago, the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan was established and has operated continuously since that time. The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan provides a valuable service to Chamber members, combining accessibility with a competitively priced, quality product.

Jenice Arnelien is an associate with Barry Zapshalla Investment & Insurance Solutions Inc. Their office provides these benefits and services to Yorkton and surrounding area. Jenice believes this benefits plans are a perfect fit for all business owners. "The Plan has been developed especially for small firms with 1 - 10 employees", she said. "Currently there are more than 27,000 small companies involved in the plan."

Choice is the largest advantage to this Plan. You Choose the Cost, You Choose



Jenice Arnelien advises small businesses on the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan.

the Coverage", said Jenice. "It enables the employer to offer a basic level of coverage or a comprehensive package of benefits." The plan can grow as the business grows. The pooled benefits stabilize your firm's rates at renewal time, and guarantees stability as the plan is non-cancellable due to the claims experience.

At present, over 150 businesses in Yorkton and surrounding area take advantage of the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan. If this Plan is of interest to your business, contact Jenice Arnelien at 786-6262 or jenice.arnelien@sunlife.com

Congratulations to:

- **Sunrise Landscaping & Design** for placing 1st in the Best Dressed Booth at Spring Expo
- **Yorkton New Holland** on receiving a Sales Achievement Award from Cub Cadet Equipment
- **Corey Werner** for receiving the RE/MAX International Hall of Fame Award for Production in 2009
- **Wellington West** on receiving Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year Award

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If you are interested in becoming a Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Member, please give our office a call at 783-4368.



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Saskatchewan East Enterprise Region (SEER) to Hold AGM June 1 in Yorkton

SEER is a not-for-profit entity representing the diverse economic development interests of east central Saskatchewan. Over 70,000 people live within its boundaries which encompass over 104 towns and villages, rural municipalities and First Nations communities.

SEER was first incorporated in February 2009. It is working hard to build a solid foundation for which regional growth can be achieved based on 4 strategic directions:

- Building regional economies
- Fostering a culture of Enterprise and Innovation
- Building on competitive advantages
- Engaging Leadership in, and effective Governance of, Regional Economic Development

The Governance Committee is presently looking for people to serve on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in becoming involved in this dynamic organization, contact the SEER Head Office in Melville (728-2740) prior to June 1 or any member of the Board. To learn more about SEER and the current Board of Directors, visit the website at www.saskteast.com.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

May 19

Employee Recognition Event
(formerly Dine-A-Nite)

May 20

How to Successfully Access the Mining Supply Chain - Gallagher Centre.
(Sponsored by Enterprise Saskatchewan, Sask Mining Assoc & Sask Trade & Export Partnership (STEP))

May 27 - 30

Yorkton Short Film & Video Festival

June 1

Sask East Enterprise Region AGM - St. Gerard's. Paul Martin - Guest Speaker.
Phone 728-2740

June 2

Chamber Business Breakfast - 7:30 AM, Painted Hand Casino. Guest Speaker topic - Impact of Mining on Yorkton Business

June 4 - 6

10th Annual Painted Hand Casino Pow Wow. The Chamber encourages all businesses to attend Friday's Grand Entry 8:00 PM at the Gallagher Centre. This spectacular event will feature a Special Appearance by Gordie Howe.

June 11 - 13

Canadian Professional Chuckwagon races at the Yorkton Exhibition Grounds.

June 21

National Aboriginal Day

July 10

Fair Parade

Sept 21

Chamber Business Dinner with Premier Brad Wall

Congratulations

Congratulations to Yorkton's Positive Ticketing Program. The program has been named as a Finalist for the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards in the Community Development Leadership category.

If your business has received an award recently, let the Chamber office staff know so that we can include that in future editions of the Courier.



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On May 5, the Chamber hosted a meeting between the City of Yorkton's Building Services Department and the real estate and financial communities. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together all the players who have a potential stake in any commercial development. Representing the City were City Manager David Putz, City Planner Michael Eger, Building Services Manager, Maureen Berard and Deputy Fire Chief Trevor Morrissey. Mayor James Wilson was also in attendance.

Brief presentations were made by Michael and Maureen as they explained zoning bylaws and the reasons for adhering to the National Building and National Fire Codes. A good Q & A session followed.

The first ever **Chamber 5:05 Club** was held in late April at the Anavets Lounge. This was well attended and was a great opportunity to kick back, relax and network. Thanks to Great Western Brewing for their sponsorship of the beverages!

At the **Chamber's AGM**, Staff Sgt Joe Milburn was the guest speaker. He outlined the city detachment's top priorities: road safety, crime reduction and youth. He also encouraged all residents to pay attention to activities in their neighbourhoods and to report anything unusual.

The **Sask Power Rate Review Panel** visited Yorkton on April 27. The Yorkton Chamber was in attendance and made a brief presentation. The Chamber applauded Sask Power's intent to create more "green" energy through the development of wind power and low emission coal fire plants. The Chamber indicated it



Contact the City's Building Services Department prior to undertaking any business renovations or building projects.

understood that the corporation's investment in these ventures will incur costs now that will eventually reduce costs in the future and that to in order to fund these ventures, some of these costs must be passed on to the customers.

The Yorkton Chamber did point out that every increase in rates affects the business community. Businesses, especially small businesses, cannot afford large rate increases. Therefore, Sask Power must be able to justify any future rate increases and these increases must be kept to a minimum.

The Chamber further indicated that it is pleased Sask Power is seeking ways to reduce this province's green house gas emissions. Doing so in a fiscally responsible manner is mandatory or the businesses and residents of this province will bear an unfair burden.

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Over 11,000 tourists annually visit the
Chamber/Tourism Yorkton grounds.

All Weather 24 - 7 Signs

Did you know that annually, about 11,000 tourists sign the Guest Book at Tourism Yorkton? And there are many more who stop to let the kids or dogs go for a run and never come into the office! That's a lot of out-of-town people who don't know about the businesses in Yorkton.

If you're looking for an effective and efficient way to market your business to the Tourist traffic, then how about considering placing a sign on the Chamber's all weather 24 - 7 sign board located just south of the Chamber building? For just 48¢ a day over 3 years - 33,000 people can view your sign, rain or shine, Monday to Sunday! All you have to do is order the sign and provide the art work. The Chamber looks after placement and maintenance of the sign. That's effective, hassle free advertising!

TO ORDER YOUR SIGN, (THE SMALLEST MEASURES 2.5 FEET BY 5.5 FEET; LARGER SIGNS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR A HIGHER COST), JUST CALL THE CHAMBER OFFICE AND TALK TO SHERRY OR JUANITA.