

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

Business After Hours, September 29



SaskTel employees, Sheila Johnson and Sandra German, greeted everyone who attended SaskTel's recent Harvestfest Customer Appreciation event. The Chamber's Business After Hours was held in conjunction with Harvestfest.



SaskTel's Harvestfest and the Chamber's Business After Hours were all about networking with other business people and relaxing.

Congratulations

- To **Parkland Mall**, currently managed by RioCan Management Inc., on **35 years** in business!
- To **Yorkton Plumbing & Heating** on being named a finalist in the Sask Chamber's Business Excellence Awards (ABEX) in the **Young Entrepreneur** category. Congratulations are also extended to **Terry Ortynsky's Royal Ford** on being named a finalist in the Service category. The ABEX Awards will be presented November 19 in Saskatoon.
- To **Rob Waloschuk** of **Performance Promotions Ltd.** on receiving the **International Entertainment Buyer of the Year Award** by the International Entertainment Buyers Association for excellence and leadership in the industry.
- To **Lints International Personnel** on being selected for the **Regional Small Business Award** in the Community Involvement category, sponsored by the Sask East Enterprise Region (SEER).



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If you are interested in becoming a Chamber Member, please contact the Chamber office at 783-4368.

YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL

October - 2011

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Just to mention a few . . .

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Provincial Candidates' Forum - October 19



NDP candidate Chad Blenkin and Saskatchewan Party candidate Greg Ottenbreit had a busy evening answering a total of 17 questions. Moderator Randy Atkinson ensured the event ran smoothly.



Public Policy Chair Ron Irvine encouraged everyone to vote on November 7. "Regardless of your political stripe, it is important that you exercise your right to vote", he said.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

October 31

Nominations close for Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

November 2 - 5

Harvest Showdown

November 8

Chamber Business Lunch - Gallagher Centre
Guest Speaker: Kim Wondrasek, CEO SEER
"Economic Activity in the Region"

November 11

Remembrance Day Service 10:30 am at the Flexi Hall Gallagher Centre. Banquet to follow.

November 17

Chamber Business Lunch - St. Gerard's Parish Hall
Guest Speaker: Eric Clark PFM Capital
"Attracting Private Equity"

November 26

5:30 pm Yorkton's 14th Annual Santa Claus Parade

December 5

for Yorkton's entry into the Aviva Community Fund begins www.avivacommunityfund.org

Aviva Community Fund



City of Yorkton makes the semi-final round in the quest to win \$150,000 for the community in the Aviva Community Fund contest! The next round of voting begins in early December.

Photo courtesy Peter Baran Photography

Chamber Business Breakfast



Executive Director of The Health Foundation, Ross Fisher shared information about the need for a new Regional Health Facility at a recent Chamber Business Breakfast.



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Employer Work-Life Balance Checklist

This is another in a series of articles submitted by the Family Life Work Balance Committee

WORKPLACE CULTURE

- Managers encourage employees to stay home with children or elderly parents in the event of a medical emergency or when usual care arrangements become unavailable.
- Managers are aware of the need to help employees manage their workloads to enable them to participate fully in the personal life.
- Managers are flexible around hours of work to assist employees in balancing their work and family life.
- Managers are supportive of work-life balance by encouraging employees to take advantage of the work-life balance policies that are in effect.
- One of the criteria for hiring into management positions is a solid understanding of work-life balance.



*How many items on the
Checklist does your
business meet or exceed?*

WORKPLACE PROGRAMS

- Our organization has consulted with our employees to learn about their work-life balance needs.
- Our organization has a formal work-life balance policy in place.
- Our organization offers or plans to offer one or more of the following programs:
 1. Dependent care initiatives (emergency child or elder care/workplace child care)
 2. EAP program or wellness/health promotion activities.
 3. Flexible work arrangements (flextime, compressed work week or telework)
 4. Reduction in hours (job sharing, voluntary part-time or gradual retirement).
 5. Flexible vacation and other leaves (personal leaves, family leave, sick leave).
- Our organization monitors usage of work-life balance programs.
- Work-life programs are linked to recruitment and retention strategies

COMMUNICATION

- Employees are aware of the work-life balance policies in our organization.
- Employees are given opportunities to discuss work, life and family balance.
- Managers have received training and have the skills to implement organizational work-life balance policies.
- Our organization regularly reminds managers and employees that work-life balance is important.



Remembrance Day

If your business is open on November 11, ask all your staff to stop working at 11:00 am and take a moment to remember. Your customers will understand. A special song has been written by songwriter Terry Kelly that captures this idea very well. Perhaps you can play the music over your sound system. See a video and hear the song at

http://www.terry-kelly.com/pittance/pittance_en.htm