

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

Employer Policies for Work-Life Balance

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

Employees have family and personal responsibilities and needs outside of work, whether it is the caring of children and/or elderly parents, or their personal interests, activities or hobbies. Finding ways to accommodate these responsibilities can make a real difference to employees and to your organization. Work-life balance is about creating supportive, healthy work environments for employees who are striving to better integrate their work and personal responsibilities. By implementing initiatives that support employees, organizations can strengthen employee commitment and loyalty, resulting in higher productivity, improved customer satisfaction and healthier bottom lines.

Benefits associated with work-life balance policies include:

- Improved recruitment and retention of employees.
- The potential for increased service coverage if some employees arrive earlier and others stay later.
- Greater flexibility in employee schedules may help meet customer demand.
- Improved employee health and well-being.



Greater flexibility in employee schedules may help meet customer demand

- Reduced stress related illness, reduced absenteeism and reduced numbers of short term disability claims.
- Increased employee commitment, satisfaction and resiliency.
- More effective workload management, reduced interruptions and distractions in the workday.
- Increased capacity to meet work targets and make customer needs their top priority.

SEER Celebrates Small Business Week

During Saskatchewan's Small Business Week, Oct 16 - 22, SEER will host its annual Regional Small Business Recognition event. Businesses to be recognized will be selected on the basis of their outstanding business achievement, innovative spirit and community involvement. Deadline for nominations is September 8th. Nomination forms are available on SEER's website www.saskeast.com. For additional information contact Elyse at 306-728-2740 or email elyce@saskeast.com.



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Interested in becoming a Chamber Member?

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email to yorktonchamber@sasktel.net

YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL

August - 2011

Service Canada • Herbal Magic Systems • Ottenbreit Sanitation • SK Abilities • Yorkton Exhibition • City of Yorkton • Gardon Securities
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 Good Earths Shop • Schrader's Honda • Shelwin House • King's Sports • Ochs Motor Sports • Western Development Museum
 Haas Nissan • Finishing Touch • Brown's Leisure World

Just to mention a few . . .

BAH

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2011
PAINTED HAND CASINO AT 5PM TO 8PM

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce hosts an annual mini-tradeshow
called "BAH" or Business After Hours

BAH is a fantastic business networking opportunity for anyone! Whether you wish to sign up a booth for
your Business or bring your personal business cards and network, everyone will surely benefit from BAH.

If you wish to register your business for a booth (hurry booths are going quickly!) Please call 783-4368.
We hope to see everyone on September 29th at the event!



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Pennies a Day Advertising

Located just south of the Chamber/Tourism Building, the Community Sign Board stands in the open, surrounded by acres of grass. The perfect location for a Sign Board that thousands of tourists every year gaze at when they stop to stretch their legs and let the kids and pets have a bit of a run.



A single sign, measuring 2.5 feet x 5.5 feet, is priced at only \$525 plus GST for a 3 year term - that's just 48¢ per day for 3 years of 24/7, all weather advertising!

If you're interested in a larger advertisement, signs are also available.

Call the Chamber office 783-4368 if your business can benefit from a low-cost, highly visible advertising opportunity.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sept 21

Chamber Business Dinner
with Premier Brad Wall
St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Sept 22

Chamber Business Lunch with representatives
from BHP Billiton as the Guest Speakers
St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Sept 29

Business After Hours - Painted Hand Casino

Oct 16 - 22

Sask Small Business Week

Oct 17 - 23

Canadian Financial Planning Week

Oct 19

Provincial All Candidates' Forum
Gallagher Centre

Oct 31

Nominations due for Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors

Where Are You?

As a Chamber member, have you checked the Member Roster recently? Is your business listed in the correct category? Does it need to be added to other categories? It is the responsibility of the business to ensure that all contact info is correct and that the business is in the proper category/categories.

To view the Member Roster, visit the Chamber Website www.yorktonchamber.com and click on Member Roster. If you want changes made, just give Sherry a call at the Chamber office - 783-4368.

Crops of Parkland



Agrologists Thom Weir and Jim Gorman made sure the crops emerged above the weeds in the Crops of the Parkland plots situated just north of the Tourism Yorkton/Chamber building.

The plots were once again an attraction for the many tourists stopping at Tourism Yorkton.

Thanks are extended to the City of Yorkton crews for keeping the pathways mowed and tidy.



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Did You Know?

- Morris Industries is open for tours of its plant. Please contact Reception at 783-8585 to make tour arrangements.



- Yorkton is within the boundaries of the Saskatchewan East Enterprise Region (SEER). SEER is one of thirteen enterprise regions in the province. Its boundaries extend from the Manitoba border in the east to Foam Lake, Ituna and Montmartre in the West, and from Canora and Kamsack in the north to Moosomin in the South. SEER's Head Office is located in Melville.
- Local residents serving on SEER's Board of Directors include Dave Akister, Neil Thom, Jack Powell and Juanita Polegi.



- Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) will mark its fifteenth year of operations as a trade and market development organization.

- Prior to the inception of STEP, provincial international exports were approximately \$8 billion per year and accounted for less than 50% of Saskatchewan's gross domestic product. In 2010, Saskatchewan exported \$24.2 billion worth of goods and services to international markets reflecting a 20% increase in Saskatchewan's gross domestic product.
- STEP has served as a catalyst to initiate sales, contracts, and projects for provincial exporters with an aggressive focus on incoming and outgoing trade missions and customized trade services. Trade development, market intelligence, export services and international projects are also offered.
- STEP is a non-profit, membership driven, government/industry partnership, designed to promote the growth of Saskatchewan's export industry. For more information, visit www.sasktrade.sk.ca.



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Thanks to Chamber Members

Throughout the summer, Chamber staff Sherry MacDonald and Juanita Polegi, undertook a project to visit a number of randomly selected Yorkton businesses which are Chamber members. Thank you to all the businesses that welcomed the staff and spent some time with them. Each visit was an opportunity to discuss the respective enterprise and its relationship to the Chamber. The comments and suggestions are much appreciated and will be shared with the Board of Directors in a composite report.

Juanita and Sherry agree that the visits were interesting and they enjoyed meeting the members.

CMHC Welcome to Canada

Canada's national housing agency, the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) provides Canadians, including new Canadians, with information and tools to help make informed decisions.

www.cmhc.ca/newcomers is a one-stop on-line source for housing related information. Information guides have been developed in 8 languages covering 3 main topics: Renting an Apartment; Buying a Home; and Looking After Your Home. Three videos in 8 languages are also available on-line covering the topics of Renting a Home; Buying a Home; and Renovating a Home.



Chamber Joins 21st Century!

Yorkton Chamber is now on facebook and Twitter! Follow us on twitter at <http://twitter.com/#!/YktnChmbr> and stay up to date on Chamber Events/happenings throughout Yorkton!