



COMMUNITY COURIER

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 Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

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The Voice of Business

2012 Celebrate Success Business Awards

2012's Celebrate Success Business Awards Gala was a highly successful, sold-out event! Over 100 nominations were received for the 10 categories. From these, the Judging Panel narrowed the field down to 36 finalists. The Judging Panel was also charged with the task of selecting Business of the Year.

Representing the judges, Sherry Grunert in her remarks, indicated that the judges were all very impressed with the successes, achievements and contributions to the community of the nominated businesses. As a result, the selection process was a very difficult one.

In an effort to ensure fairness, any judge who felt he or she had an interest in a particular category indicated the conflict and voluntarily removed himself/herself from the discussion and voting in that category.

Completed Nominee Information Packages and fully answered questions assisted the judges in making their decisions. Photos, videos and other documentation such as testimonials were also helpful.

Sherry encouraged all the nominees and finalists to allow their names to stand again for future Award consideration.

Following the Judges' comments, the presentations of the Awards began. The Chamber thanks all who contributed to the success of the Awards Gala. And a big thank you is extended to Amie Zamonsky and Lori Walsh for serving as the evening's MCs. They were well prepared, entertaining and kept the presentations moving along. Celebrate Success will be back in 2014.



Greg Ottenbreit, MLA Yorkton (front row far right) presented the Business of the Year Award to Ram Industries on behalf of SaskPower.



Linda Turta, President of Ram Industries immediately following the presentation of the Business of the Year Award sponsored by SaskPower.



Jonas Haywood presented the Young Entrepreneur Award on behalf of TD Canada Trust to Justin Yawney of Yorkton Plumbing and Heating.

Photos by Shannon Deveau

Congratulations!

- To **Western Financial Group** (Independent Agencies) for being in business for 75 years!
- Congratulations to **Crusader Drilling Corp.** on the recent commissioning of its third rig. As well, Crusader Drilling has been recognized across North America for having the highest utilization rates and highest average metres drilled by its rigs in 2011.
- Congratulations to the Chamber's Events committee for organizing another highly

successful Celebrate Success Business Awards Gala. Committee members include Amie Zamonsky, Cassidy Wagner, Dolores Harris, Evan Ortynsky, Carol Yaholnitsky, Susan Stewardson, Lori Walsh, Sherry MacDonald and Juanita Polegi.

- To **Neil Thom** on being selected for the Fred Heal Tourism Ambassador Award at the recent Saskatchewan Tourism Awards of Excellence. The Painted Hand Casino was a Finalist for the Human Resource Development Award.



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Gerry Smysnuik (front row far left) presented the Award of Excellence on behalf of ParkerQuine LLP to the firm of Rusnak Balacko Rusnak Kachur.



Crusader Drilling displays the Business Expansion Award sponsored by Bank of Montreal.



Joel Martinuik on behalf of Key Chevrolet Cadillac Buick GMC Inc presented Gord Kennedy of Richardson International with the New Business Venture Award.

Harley Davidson Yorkton was also a recipient of the Award of Excellence sponsored by ParkerQuine LLP.



Access Communications was also a recipient of the Community Merit Award.



The Award of Excellence sponsored by ParkerQuine LLP was also presented to Yorkton Aircraft Services.



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Councillor Ross Fisher presented the Property Restoration Award, sponsored by the City of Yorkton, to Ray and Nadine Sharp of the Yorkton Hotel.



Greg Ottenbreit, MLA Yorkton presented the Community Merit Award, sponsored by SaskTel/Direct West to the Yorkton Exhibition Association. Accepting the Award is Penny Sandercock.



Richard Okrainec presented the Work & Family Balance Award, sponsored by the Parkland Mall, to the Yorkton Co-operative Association. Accepting the award is Bruce Thurston.



Receiving the first Diversity Leadership Award, sponsored by CIBC, was McDonald's Restaurant. Tricia Shyiak accepts the Award from Chad D. Hilton.



Directors, Office Staff, Coaches and Players from the Yorkton Terriers organization also accepted a Community Merit Award.

Corvyn Neufeld (front row far left) presented the Community Involvement Award, sponsored by Cornerstone Credit Union, to TD Canada Trust.



The Customer Service Award, sponsored by RBC Financial Group, was presented Kelly Price to Farrell Agencies.

Photos by Shannon Deveau

Upcoming Dates to Remember

April 26

Chamber Business Lunch and AGM at Royal Canadian Legion. Guest Speaker Mr. John Nilson, Leader of the Opposition. Call the Chamber office to pre-register. \$15.

May 24 - 27

May 24 - 27 Yorkton Film Festival. For more information, call the Festival office 782-7077 or visit www.goldensheafawards.com

July 4 - 7

Yorkton Exhibition Association Summer Fair. Parade July 7. For more information, contact the YEA office 783-4800 or visit www.yorktonexhibition.com


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Director Evan Ortynsky accepted the responsibility of ensuring every table received its share of the wine!

More from Celebrate Success 2012



Directors Dolores Harris and Amie Zamonsky coordinated the stage decorations. The lighting provided by Freedom Sound during the Gala illuminated the Award trophies.



Directors Cassidy Wagner and Carol Yaholnitsky were kept busy organizing and building the table centrepieces.

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In addition to the Award sponsors, other sponsors included Production Sponsor - CTV; Event Sponsors - Access Communications, Yorkton This Week, GX94/94.1 The Fox and 98.5 the Rock; Ceremony sponsors - Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID), SecurTek, Richardson International, Partners in Employment, Parkland College, Painted Hand Casino, National Bank Financial Wealth Management, Maple Farm Equipment, Loucks Medi-

Health Pharmacy, Logan Stevens Construction, Leland Campbell LLP, Farrell Agencies, Crusader Drilling, CORE Real Estate, Current Motion Media, C.A. Reed & Associates, and BHP Billton; D's Signs & Designs for the Wall of Success; Welcome Home Floral & Gift Shop for the bouquet presented to the Business of the Year; Freedom Sound for the lighting; and Wine Sponsors - HJ Linnen Associates, Leland Campbell LLP, LDM Foods, Scotiabank and Western Financial Group.

Did You Know?

- For three straight years, compared to all the cities in the province, the City of Yorkton has the lowest percentage of tax increase:
 - 2010 - The budget was approved with a tax increase of 3.7%
 - 2011 - The budget was approved with a modest tax increase of 2.4%, plus an increase

in the capital works base tax of \$10. This equals about 2.8%

- 2012 - There is to be a tax increase of 2.5% - the same as the rate of inflation
- Other cities range anywhere from 4 to 9% for this same period of time.

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

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