

The Voice of Business

President's Message

Wow! 2013 has arrived and I am very honoured and excited to be President of the Yorkton Chamber for the next year. I am often asked why I volunteer on the Chamber and thought I would take this opportunity to highlight some of the reasons I choose to give my time to this organization.

This will be my 5th year on the board - this has given me the opportunity to work with some really great, dynamic directors who have all collaborated to help make Yorkton the place you want to be. With all the different backgrounds and expertise, it has been a rather powerful experience to all work together to make things happen.

The Chamber of Commerce's mission is to promote and protect the interest of members and businesses in Yorkton and district". Our chamber is one of the most active in Saskatchewan and has worked really hard to be a true advocate and voice of business in the community. Supporting the business community's development including the local airport and the

Parkland College's Trade and Technology Center have been two important initiatives for me as I believe they are both vital to our city's growth. I also believe the Chamber is a valuable link and important liaison between business and all 3 orders of government. Meeting with and ensuring opinions and suggestions of the community are made known to City Council, and to both municipal and federal governments, is also an important function of the Chamber and has proven to be a great learning experience for myself as well.

What first got me interested in and has become my favourite part of being involved with the Chamber, are the events that are put on. Celebrate Success Awards, Employee Recognition Event, Yorkton Chamber Business Dinner, Election forums, debates, conferences, breakfasts, luncheons, and dinners have all provided me with awesome networking opportunities. Meeting new people, listening to challenges, congratulating successes, expressing opinions, and sharing knowledge



Amie Zamonsky is the President of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce for 2013.

are all things I've experienced by attending these functions. We have a lot of incredible people in our city, and a lot of fantastic things happening in the business community, and I encourage you to become involved, attend an event, or join a committee and see just what I'm talking about. I am looking forward to the year ahead, cheers!

Is this a Milestone Year?

If you are a member of the Chamber and your business is celebrating a milestone year, let the Chamber office know. The Chamber wants to help you let the community know about your business success. If you

know the month your business began, we will try to mention the milestone year in that month's Courier.

Congratulations!

- To the **Yorkton Chamber of Commerce** on its 115th Anniversary!
- To **Park's Jewellery** celebrating 85 years in business in 2013
- To **Brown's Leisure World** on 70 years of operation in 2013
- To **Alexander's Mens' Wear** on 30 years in business in 2013



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Pita Pit
#9 275 Broadway St E
Yorkton, SK
Restaurant

NAPA Auto Parts
30 Palliser Way
Yorkton, SK
Automotive Parts

Kambuster's Drag Racing Association
Box 644
Yorkton, SK
1/8 Mile Drag Racing Annual Event



Interested in becoming a Chamber Member? Sherry at the Chamber office at 783-4368

YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL January 2013

Custom Microsystems • Flashpoint Media • HiTech Solutions • Bright Tree Design • LNX Hosting • Uncommon Sense Solutions
Raw Tec Consulting • Microage • Merle Norman Cosmetics • Laurie's Electrolysis • Yellowhead Sales & Leasing • Thoen's
Northern Auto Leasing • Kev Chev • Yorkton Toyota • McKenzie Sales & Leasing • Royal Ford • Yorkton Hyundai • Yorkton Dodge
Truck Prox • Olson Diesel • Countryside Motors • Litvanyi Motors • KM Auto Care • A & B Alternators • Canadiana Agrimotive
Auto Electric Service • Acklands Grainger • Deneschuk Homes • Joe Beeverz Bar & Grill • Western Development Museum
Auto Hire Rental Car • SaskTel • Maple Communications • DR Auto Extras • Sharp Automotive • Merv's Frame & Wheel
York Auto Supply • NAPA Auto Parts • Auto Electric Service • Minute Muffler

Just to mention a few . . .

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce always refers their Members First...



Parkland College's proposed Trades & Technology Centre will have the capacity to deliver 350 new graduates per year to the province's skilled labour force.

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269B Hamilton Road, Yorkton, SK S3N 4C6

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YORKTON OFFICE
Box 188, 36 - 4th Ave. N.
Yorkton, SK S3N 2V7
Phone: **(306) 783-8541**
Fax: (306) 786-7484
reception@lelandcampbell.com

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Did You Know?

- That the Government of Saskatchewan has estimated that this region needs to add 1000 skilled employees to its labour force per year for the next 10 years.
- That many businesses in Yorkton and area are unable to expand due to the unavailability of a skilled labour force.
- That the Parkland College's proposed Trades & Technology Centre will be able to provide 350 graduates per year.
- That 350 new students at the Parkland College will directly spend approximately \$5,000,000 per year.
- In addition the Trades & Technology Centre can help upskill 2,200 currently employees within the region per year.
- That the College welcomes any size funding commitment from Business. Every dollar committed to the Trades & Technology Centre is valuable.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

February 15
Chamber Member fees due

March 6 & 7
TransACTIONS Conference,
Gallagher Centre

March 31
Deadline for renewing City of Yorkton
Business Licences

April 16
Employee Recognition Event,
St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Installation of Directors



The Installation of the Directors is a decades old tradition of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Maloney happily led the Installation of the Directors at the recent Chamber Business Breakfast.



Guest Speakers



Representatives from the YRHS's Junior Achievement program were Guest Speakers at the Chamber Business Breakfast. Both companies, Country Creations (left) and Red Letter Design (right) were happy to report that their business ventures were successful and that they both turned a profit. Country Creations donated 10% of their profit to the Chase Kraynick Pay It Forward Splash Park while Red Letter Design donated 10% of their profit to Habitat for Humanity.



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Facsimile: (306) 783-8668
CANORA: (306) 563-4408
E-mail: rbkr@rbklaw.com

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Small Business Advisor



Amie Zamonsky
306-786-4800, ext. 246
amie.zamonsky@td.com
63 Broadway St. E.
Yorkton, SK



Welcome & Farewell

As of December 31, the terms ended for 2012 Chamber Directors Dolores Harris, Cassidy Wagner, Evan Ortynsky and Ryan Hoffman. Dolores served on several committees while a Director and was President of the Board in 2011. Cassidy served on both the Events and Marketing & Communications committee. Evan served the Chamber Board in the mid 90's and was President in 1997. Most recently he served on the Events committee. Ryan Hoffman was the Chair of the Business Development committee and served for a few years on the Executive. Thank you to all the retiring Board members. Your interest in the Chamber, your ideas and your knowledge were greatly appreciated.

Ron Irvine also retired from the Board but will remain in an ex-officio capacity as the Past President.

On January 1, 5 new Directors joined the Board. Charlene Gibler, Cheryl Kustra, Greg Donnelly, Joel

Martinuk and Laurie Fedorowich have already participated in the Chamber Board planning session and undertaken Director Orientation. The Chamber welcome the new Directors to the Board and looks forward to their fresh insights and new ideas. Welcome!



Director Tom Seeley lead the 2013 Board through a Planning Session in January 4. Goals and Priorities were set for the year.



It wasn't all hard work at the Planning Session. Much laughter was shared as well!

TransACTIONS Will Return!

TransACTIONS, the conference with the objective of highlighting the benefits and resulting positive relationships derived from Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities working together, will return!

When: March 6 & 7 at the Gallagher Centre, hosted by the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce and the Yorkton Tribal Council (YTC).

Why: TransACTIONS is a conference for businesses and community leaders interested in developing youth entrepreneurs and community economic development. It engages the Business and Aboriginal communities, offering educational presentations and networking opportunities for communities and leaders interested in ensuring continued economic activity in the province.

Who: Some of the speakers confirmed for TransACTIONS 2013 include young entrepreneurs as **Devon Brooks** from Vancouver; Saskatoon's **Kendal Netmaker**, founder of Neechie Gear; and the **Carrier brothers** from Ituna. Speaking in the area of Economic Development some of the speakers include **Tonya Surman** of Toronto; **Milton Tootoosis**, Office of the

Treaty Commissioner; and Steve McLellan, Sask Chamber of Commerce.

Also in this day of social media usage, **Mike Klein** of Meshy Communications will discuss **Social Media Use and Its Impact for Both Young and Old**.

For a conference agenda or registration form, contact Dale Domres, YTC (306) 782-3644 or Juanita Polegi, YC of C (306) 783-4368.

