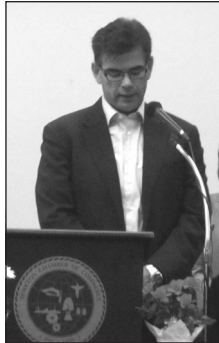




COMMUNITY COURIER

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Employee Recognition Night 2015



In his remarks during the ERE, President Joel Martinuk said, "On behalf of the Chamber Board of Directors, I congratulate all nominees. It's truly an honour to be recognized by your employers, peers and customers for your contributions to the work place. The hard work of both the Front Line and Support employees needs to be recognized as any successful business obtains its success from its people, not just the ownership, management or Board that runs the firm."



Rachel Leshchyshyn (left) accepted the Support Employee of the Year Award from Alison Dubreuil of the Parkland College, the sponsor of the Award. In Rachel's nomination, she was described as "a very valuable resource to the City of Yorkton due to her knowledge about practices at City Hall and her experience with many computer programs. She always has a smile and is always willing to assist whoever asks for help. Rachel played a major role in the City achieving COR in the area of Health and Safety."



Dave Blommaert, left is presented with the Front Line Employee of the Year Award by Corey Werner, of CORE Real Estate, the sponsor of the Award. In his nomination, Dave was described as "being gentle, kind, always willing to lend a hand and is involved with several community organizations. His vast knowledge about Canadian Tire, especially the hardware department, has contributed to the local store's success."



The Hot Tamales, a musical duo from Saskatoon, entertained the crowd with their music and antics on stage!

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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

Website: www.yorktonchamber.com

Congratulations!

- To **RH Electric** on receiving the 2015 Safe Employer Award from Work Safe Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Safety Council! This Award is presented to an employer who shows leadership in Health & Safety above and beyond the requirements of industry and legislation.
- To **Lori Walsh**, former President of the Chamber (2008 & 2009) on being named one of CBC Radio's Future 40 Under 40! A Judging Panel selected 40 people under the age of 40 who are making a difference to their communities. Over 300 nominations were received.

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Yorkton Regional Airport - An Invaluable Asset

"When you have a mile of highway, you can travel one mile. When you have a mile of railroad, you can travel one mile. When you have a mile of runway, you have the whole world."
- Anon



Yorkton Regional Airport is fortunate in that it has not one, but two runways! Imagine the possibilities!

Operational year round, the Airport boasts 5 businesses with 50 - 63 employees (depending on the season). According to the city's publication Yorkton Regional Airport Profile, over the next 25 years, the Airport is expected to grow into a freight and transfer point for

communities in northern Saskatchewan and western Manitoba. The number of air movements per year has been gradually climbing from 10,129 in 2007 to 13,263 in 2013 (Source: Statistics Canada Annual Movement Data).

As Yorkton is located within the Ports to Plains Corridor, the Airport links it to major transportation networks throughout Western Canada and the United States.

Between 2008 & 2013, the City of Yorkton and funding from the province's Community

Airport Program have contributed **more than \$2.5 million** towards upgrades of the runway and lighting and other projects.

To learn more about the Airport, view the *Yorkton Regional Airport Profile* on the city's website www.yorkton.ca and click on Hot Topics and Yorkton Marketing Materials.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

April 28

Yorkton Chamber AGM at Painted Hand Casino NOON LUNCH

Please plan to attend

- Agenda
 - Resolution to Amend Chamber Boundaries
 - Auditor's Report
 - Appointment of 2015 Auditor

May 5 & 6

Sask Chamber Annual Conference on Business, Regina

May 12

Sask Chamber Policy Round Table in Yorkton 1:00 - 4:00 PM Ravine Room, Gallagher Centre

May 21 - 24

Yorkton Film Festival

Meeting with CP Rail

Directors Rob Bear and Krissy Morrison and Business Development Committee Chair Corey Werner, viewing the demonstration of an app that Mike LoVecchio, Director of Government Affairs for Canadian Pacific can use to track rail cars. As each car has a unique number, the app indicates the location of the car and its contents. This is especially useful for community First Responders in the event of an accident. Mr. LoVecchio met with the Chamber recently to



discuss a number of items including the length of trains, the use of drop down arms at crossings, overpasses, transport of dangerous goods and emergencies. Some interesting facts shared by Mr. LoVecchio: Yorkton, like so many prairie communities, grew up around the train tracks. Trains moving through Yorkton can have as many as 172 cars. Between 6 and 8 CP trains move through Yorkton in a 24 hour period.

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Did You Know?

- 2015 is the International Year of Soils.
- 44% of Canada's cultivated farmland is in Saskatchewan.
- Yorkton Kinsmen/Kinettes delivered a cheque to Telemiracle 39 for nearly \$32,000.
- The 4100 square foot Community Club House currently under construction on Century Field is the only one of its kind in Saskatchewan.
- Ready for use in June, the Club House will be available for rent by the public; no charge for non-profits.
- Construction of the Club House was made possible through donations, both monetary and in-kind, by the local business community and local contractors.
- Go to communityhero.ca for updates and how to get involved.

Can't Afford HR? Can You Afford No HR?

Hiring and managing employees is becoming more complex. Legislation can and does change. If you aren't aware of the changes, the results can become quite costly.

In the past, only larger businesses had HR departments - people devoted entirely to making sure your company's policies and practices were lawful and fair. Increasingly, it's becoming more difficult for small businesses to keep abreast of changes in legislation and HR Best Practices.

There are a number of private HR consultants who may be interested in handling your business' HR duties. If you are interested in speaking to a Human Resource consultant, contact small businesses in the area and ask for a referral.

Another alternative is to take advantage of one of the many affinity programs available to Chamber members - First Call. **First Call delivers Human Resource solutions to Chamber members and offers exclusive rates to Chamber members.** Dedicated HR Managers can look after all the HR needs of your business including recruitment & hiring; legal employment documentation; consultation on all employment issues; consultation on legal issues; and employee records management.

To learn more about First Call, visit www.firstcallhr.ca or call 1-855-440-9449

The Chamber has a number of affinity programs that offer exclusive rates to Chamber members. To learn more, contact the Chamber office.

The Canada Saskatchewan Job Grant

The Canada Saskatchewan Job Grant can assist employers in receiving 2/3 of eligible training costs, up to \$10,000 per individual, in government funding to support developing the skills needed for employees.

The Parkland College has been approved as a third party training agency. And the good news is that many of its existing programs meet eligibility criteria! Another appealing feature of the College, in addition to being

local, is that it can deliver customized training to meet the needs of your business and employees.

For more information about the Canada Sask Job Grant, contact the Ministry of Economy - Labour Market Services in Yorkton: 306-786-1354. To learn more about how the Parkland College can assist with your training needs, contact Darrell Landels at 306-620-9171 or Ed Hourd at 306-641-9171.

Policing Issues



Melissa Honour, Director and Joel Martinuk, President chat with Staff Sgt Greg Nichol following a recent meeting of the Chamber's Business Development committee. Staff Sgt Nichol and Sgt Rob Nicholas stopped by the meeting to discuss policing issues and initiatives and the business community.

Member Roster Popular

One of the many benefits to being a member of the Yorkton Chamber is that your business is listed on the Member Roster on the Chamber's website. And if you've provided it, a live link to your website is there, too.

The good news is that the Member Roster page is the most popular on the website. And who's looking at it? Views are coming from all over Canada with the greatest number of hits from Yorkton, Regina and Saskatoon.

Watch for details about an upcoming contest for Chamber members with prizes of free advertising on the website and sign board!

The Chamber is also on facebook and twitter.