



COMMUNITY COURIER

The VOICE of Business

Business Dinner Speaker Announced

Chamber Events Committee Co-Chairs Stephanie Buckle (left) and Carol Yaholnitsky (right) announced at a recent Media Conference that Manjit Minhas will be the Guest Speaker at the Chamber's Annual Business Dinner, October 7. The co-founder and co-owner of Calgary's Minhas Microbrewery and the Minhas Creek label beer (it's slogan is "damn good beer!"), Mrs. Minhas is the newest member of the panel on CBC's television series *Dragon's Den* airing this fall. Tickets are now on sale for the Dinner.



You're Being Robbed!



RCMP Constables Alison Morris and Trevor Pieterse were the Guest Speakers at a recent Chamber Business Lunch about robbery - what to do in a situation and how to prevent a robbery. Cst Morris indicated that as a robbery is occurring, it's important to remain calm. Explain to the robber each action you are undertaking. Do not resist.

Cst Pieterse asked 2 students to stage a "robbery" at the Lunch and then by asking

questions of the audience, demonstrated how people notice different things. Once a robbery has occurred, it's very important that the area not be contaminated so lock the doors of the business until the police can inspect the area. It's also important for witnesses not to talk to one another about what they saw or heard. A witness should write down what he/she saw before talking to anyone else.

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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

Website: www.yorktonchamber.com

Congratulations!

- To **Yorkton SARCAN** on receiving the Cleanliness Award in the Extra Large Depot category at SARCAN'S Customer Service Awards.
- To **Dr. Fay Myers** on being awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Colleges & Institutes Canada.
- To **Sask Abilities Council** on providing 65 years of programs and services to people with disabilities in Saskatchewan! And to the Yorkton Branch for its service for 55 years!

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Interested in becoming a Chamber Member?

Call the Chamber office at 783-4368

Member Fees Change July 1

Have you been meaning to join the Yorkton Chamber but just haven't "got around to it" yet? You can join the Chamber at any time of the year. If you join after July 1, the fees are discounted 50%! Talk to Sherry at the Chamber office and she will take your membership application, get your business on the Chamber's website, "like" your business on facebook and ensure you are receiving the Chamber's email blasts about events and activities in the community. Sherry can be reached at 306-783-4368 or you can complete a membership application on-line at www.yorktonchamber.com

Flashpoint Media has this to say about its Chamber membership:

“Being a member of the Chamber has most definitely strengthened my business. I would not feel as accomplished and successful without them.

From newsletters to special events, all of which inform and inspire me to make better business decisions, the Chamber supplies me with the necessary information to ensure my business thrives. I also feel validated as a small business due to the efforts of the Chamber and how they promote my success through events and awards. It is the Chambers' commitment to small businesses that makes my efforts feel supported.

The Chamber has helped build my relationships within the community; relationships that will secure my success in the future. I am able to network with fellow members and communicate a unified vision that not only helps me, but helps Yorkton.

In regards to my business, being a part of the Chamber has been invaluable. With the continued support of the Chamber, my business gains not only strength, but connections. Overall, being a Chamber Member has brought me community.”

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YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL June 2015

- Yorkton Exhibition • Domino's Pizza • Yorkton Faith Ministries
Logan Stevens Construction • Sask Jobs
Harley Davidson of Yorkton • Richard's Auto Detail • Isagenix
SIGN • Yorkton Cardinals Baseball • Lillian Timms • CMA
Kahkewistahaw Gas • Godfrey Dean Art Gallery • Dream Weddings
Access Communications • Audio Warehouse • Edward Jones
York Inn • Medical City Centre • The Plum Tree
Joe Beeverz Bar & Grill • Sunrise Health Region
Browns Social House • Farm Credit • Performance Promotions
Brendonn Holdings • Yorkton Dodge • Acklands Grainger
Penguin Refrigeration • Greg Ottenbreit MLA
Good Spirit Air Services • Gallagher Centre • Yorkton Bowl Arena
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Meeting with CN



Brent Kossey, Senior Manager, Government & Stakeholder Relations, CN(second from right) pointed out to Vice President Corey Werner; Susan Stewardson, Policy Chair; and President Joel Martinuk, statistics about the number of people employed and miles of railway the company has in Saskatchewan. Mr. Kossey met with the Chamber recently to discuss rail safety in Yorkton.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- July 1 - 4**
Yorkton Exhibition' s Annual Summer Fair. Parade morning of July4; RCMP Musical Ride July 3 & 4.
- July 1**
Canada Day celebrations at the Western Development Museum
- October 7**
Annual Chamber Business Dinner with Manjit Minhas as Guest Speaker.

Imagine an ABEX Award!

Just imagine sitting in the audience at the ABEX Gala, your business has been introduced as a Finalist in one of the categories. The person at the Podium rips open the envelope and announces YOUR BUSINESS is the recipient of the ABEX Award! Don't think it will happen to your business because you're in Yorkton? Just ask Royal Ford, Yorkton Plumbing & Heating and NL Construction what it's like to hear your name announced. They are all Yorkton businesses which have received awards. And several more Yorkton businesses have been named as Finalists.

The only way to get to become a Finalist for an ABEX Award is to nominate your business. Don't think it's worth the time or effort? Then consider the ROI just by being named a Finalist:

- Mention in the Sask Chamber's ezine with a distribution of 1300+
- Mention in the Yorkton Chamber's Courier; weekly radio report; and facebook & twitter
- Website recognition

- Inclusion in Finalists media release
- Rights to use the ABEX Finalist Award
- Video vignette played at ABEX
- Limited edition artwork sponsored by Mosaic

If selected for an Award there's an even greater ROI. In addition to all the above, your photo will appear in the Regina Leader Post and Saskatoon Star Phoenix and you will have the opportunity to speak to 700 business leaders at ABEX.

Nominations are due before June 30 and the nomination forms can be found on the Sask Chamber's website at www.saskchamber.com.



Street Cleaners



Corey Kobelka and Chris Chevelday are employed by the YBID Clean Sidewalk Project in partnership with SIGN. The Program, which has been in existence for 5 summers, ensures the downtown area is kept neat and clean.

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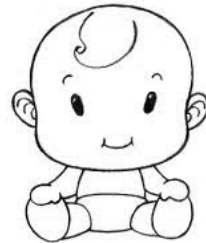


Did You Know?

- In 2014, 87% of Sask companies achieved Mission: Zero
 - Zero injuries
 - Zero fatalities
 - Zero suffering
- That the Sunrise Health Region provides a list of all the Doctors and Nurse Practitioners practicing in the Region. Visit the website at www.sunrisehealthregion.sk.ca click on Patients, Clients & Visitors and scroll to Find a Doctor or Nurse Practitioner. The list also includes the Specialists currently serving the Region.
- Canadian agriculture opportunity: World food demand is set to grow 60% by 2050. Source: CropLife Canada
- The Sask Chamber will soon be releasing its OnTrack 2016 - a document that identifies the top 8 opportunities for continued growth in the province. Businesses will have access to the document and will be able to use it when discussing policy platforms with political candidates.

Is Your Business "Baby Friendly"?

The Sunrise Health Region has undertaken an initiative to encourage businesses to create a space that is welcoming to mothers who can "breastfeed without fear of disturbance and confrontation." Businesses that are deemed Baby Friendly, are provided with a sticker to put in their window and a tool kit to help educate staff. If your business is interested in becoming designated as a Baby Friendly Business contact Heidi Russell, Lactation Services 306-786-0886 or 306-620-7201.



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What are Students Saying About Employers?

During the second semester of the 2014-15 school year, YRHS Grade 12 student Kirsten MacDonald worked at the Chamber office every day through the Work Experience 12 class. Kirsten was assigned a number of duties from tidying the store room to addressing envelopes to researching the Chamber's history. Her biggest assignment was to interview fellow students about their employment.

Kirsten randomly interviewed 42 Grade 11 & 12 students - 24 girls and 18 boys. Of those, 33 indicated they have jobs. When asked how many hours per week they worked, the answers ranged from 2 to 50 hours with 61% of the respondents working between 8 and 20 hours per week. When asked if their employer gave them time off for extra-curricular activities (such as sporting events, drama, arts); family time; exam schedule, 91% responded yes. Eighty five percent indicated that they felt they had sufficient training prior to beginning their job; and 91%

indicated their employer provides enough help and direction for the students while on shift. As to their pay, 40% indicated they received minimum wage when they first began working at their current job while 60% indicated they received above the minimum wage.

The question with perhaps the most interesting answer was the one asking **what their employer does to make them feel like a valued employee.** 40% indicated the employer was nice, created a good environment; made them feel comfortable; and was positive. 24% indicated the employer either provided free food and drinks or discounts. Other comments included "treats us like family"; "asks how I am doing"; "offers help when I need it".

While the survey won't stand up to scientific scrutiny, it is interesting to learn what this small sample of YRHS students think about their current jobs and their employers.



Kirsten MacDonald (right) surveying Michayla Neufeld about student employment. The majority of students responding to the survey indicated that they feel valued as an employee because "their employer is nice; makes them feel comfortable; and creates a positive environment."

The Chamber thanks all the students for participating in the survey and Kirsten for conducting it.

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Website Updates

Visit the Chamber's website www.yorktonchamber.com to view the addition of Director Profiles. The Profiles tell you a little bit more about the people you have elected to serve on the Board of the Chamber.

Also, the history of the Chamber has been updated, encompassing the years 2010 to May 2015.