



COMMUNITY COURIER

The VOICE of Business

2016 Chamber Highlights

As the year draws to a close, it's important for the Chamber membership to know and understand how the Chamber has been working for you. As "the voice of business in Yorkton", the Chamber is charged with the task of advocating for its members and providing educational and networking opportunities for its members. The following is a list of the year's highlights:

- Advocated for members affected by road construction
- Advocated for members with issues at City Hall
- Celebrate Success Business Awards
- Honourary Life Member Induction
- Long Term Members Recognition Reception
- 18th Annual Chamber Business Dinner
- Provincial Candidates Election Forum
- "Election 2016" Talking Points Document
- Candidates for Council Forum & Candidates for Mayor Debate
- Chamber Business Walk
- Met with Cathay Wagantall, MP; Chief Isabelle O'Soup, Yorkton Tribal Council; and Premier Brad Wall and Hon. Greg Ottenbreit
- Met with Staff Sgt Jeff Simpson
- Attended the Painted Hand Casino PowWow Grand Entry
- Attended the Dinner for Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada
- Scholarships presented to 2 Parkland College students
- Several Business Breakfasts & Lunches featuring speakers discussing topics of interest to the business community

The Chamber looks forward to 2017 - another year to work on its mission: "To promote and advance the interests and growth of members and businesses in Yorkton and District".

For more information about the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce, contact the Chamber office 306-783-4368.



Corey Werner became the 118th President of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce in January



During the 2016 Business Walk, the Chamber visited 16 members

Congratulations!

- **Culligan Yorkton** for 35 years in business
- **Painted Hand Casino** for 20 years in business

Dr. Oluwole Oduntan was the recipient of the Partners in Settlement & Immigration Immigrants of Distinction Business Award sponsored by the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce. President Corey Werner presented the Award to Dr. and Mrs. Oduntan.



Photo by Joey Garcia

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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

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**YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL
NOVEMBER 2016**



- Baille Boys Towing • Under the Covers • Yorkton Exhibition
- Great Canadian Oil Change • Yorkton Business Improvement District
- Fedorowich Construction • Parkland Mall • Yorkton Distributors
- St. Mary's Cultural Centre • Guardian Angel Animal Rescue • City of Yorkton
- All Season Sales & Rentals • Hackman Feeds • Kahkewistahaw Gas • McMunn & Yates
- Yorkton Building Supplies • Canadian Tire • Tonkin Millwork • Duck's Unlimited • SIGN
- Habitat for Humanity • Terry's Cabinets • Chicken Cow Hearing
- Alexander's Mens Wear • KW Men's Wear • Yorkton Short Film Festival
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Ag Week in Yorkton



Doug Poirer was selected to apply the "brand" as the symbolic start to Ag Week in Yorkton Oct 31 - Nov 6. Doug and his wife Loreen owned and operated a business in Yorkton for several years and Doug is a long-time volunteer for the Yorkton Exhibition Association. Holding the board for Doug, and hoping his aim would be accurate were Chamber President Corey Werner and Yorkton Exhibition Association President Lori Walsh.



The Yorkton Exhibition's 28th Annual Grain Millers Harvest Showdown hosts the famous Grain Millers Oatmeal Eating contest. The Chamber's team consisted of Yorkton Terrier #16 Ryan Baier; Executive Director Juanita Polegi; Terrier's Director of Marketing Eric Anderson; and Chamber Director Kelly Price. Other teams in the contest included the Yorkton Kinsmen, Yorkton Lions, Yorkton Rotary, Yorkton Minor Football and Grain Millers. The Chamber finished in the Top 5!

Pumpkin Walk



The Yorkton Co-op held its 3rd Annual Pumpkin Walk that attracted hundreds of kids and adults! And the fireworks signalling a close to the evening were fantastic!

It took a great deal of coordination and cooperation for the event to be fun and safe for everyone. Kudos to the organizing committee! The Chamber's booth, manned by Carol Yaholnitsky, Joel Martinuk, Susan and Jack Stewardson and Juanita Polegi, became a popular spot for photo taking.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

January 12
Chamber Business Breakfast - Induction of Chamber Directors and Presentation from YRHS Junior Achievement classes

Did You Know?

- Building or updating your safety program? WorkSafe Saskatchewan's new **Foundational Pillars online safety resource** for employers has free, customizable forms, links to online and classroom training and more!
<http://pillars.worksafesask.ca/>
- WorkSafe has a new manual: **Guidelines to Managing Asbestos in Buildings** for anyone doing repairs, maintenance, renovations and construction. It will be useful for carpenters, insulators, electricians, plumbers, custodians, or anyone who is at risk for disturbing asbestos in their work.
- According to the Natural Resources Canada Energy Fact Book 2016 - 2017, Saskatchewan's GHG emissions in 2014 were 10.4% of the national total.

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Investment in Business Pays Back

Owners and managers of businesses which belong to the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce have made a conscious decision to **invest in their businesses**. They recognize that membership in the Chamber brings an **ROI** in a number of ways:

PROFILE ENHANCEMENT

- Chamber members are listed on the Chamber's website Membership Roster - a site that averages over 1000 unique views per month
- Chamber members who like the Chamber on facebook are in turn, liked by the Chamber
- When calls or emails are received with the question "Do you have any 'XYZ's' in Yorkton?" we implement the Member First Referral plan - refer only the members
- Beginning in February 2017, in addition to listing all **new members** of the Yorkton Chamber, we will list all **renewing members** in the Courier

CHAMBER BRAND

- Chamber members receive a Chamber decal every year for which they are a member. This demonstrates to their customers and clients that they belong to a business organization with a solid reputation
- Chamber members are encouraged to use the Chamber's logo on their promotional material indicating they are "**proud members of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce**"

AFFINITY PROGRAMS

- Vetted by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber offers a number of affinity programs and/or rates that are **available only to Chamber members**
- **Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan**
- Available only to Chamber members
- Designed for small businesses, farms and ranches with 1 - 50 employees
- **First Data Merchant Services**
- Preferred pricing rates available only to Chamber members
- And many more



VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS OF THE CHAMBER

- *To be the voice of the Yorkton & District business community, making Yorkton & District the best place to live, work and invest.*
- *To promote and advance the interests and growth of members and businesses in Yorkton and District.*

As 2017 approaches, consider how you will invest in your business. If you like the work of the Chamber and the benefits of membership, contact the Chamber office about how the Chamber can work for you.



Photography by Mitch

On behalf of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Staff, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year