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Chamber Releases "Election 2016"

Since 2006, Yorkton has experienced steady growth. It's been an exciting time for the city as both its business and residential sectors have grown. The construction and opening of the Sunrise Health & Wellness Centre and the Parkland College's Trades & Technology Centre, the development of the Skateboard Park and the creation of the drainage system have contributed to the city's sense of growth and revitalization.

Ensuring growth continues is the responsibility of City Council. It is important that the Mayor and Councillors elected in 2016, have the vision and creativity necessary to drive growth for the next four years.

As the "voice of business in Yorkton", the Chamber represents over 470 businesses and is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of 16 elected members. It is the Chamber's responsibility to provide information and leadership on key business issues, and to build support for concepts and practices that will enable Yorkton to continue on its path "where good things happen"!

This responsibility, the Chamber's "raison d'être", inspired the creation of the Election 2016 Talking Points document. Prepared by the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the document is intended to stimulate discussion prior to, and during, the upcoming municipal election about the issues and opportunities facing the business community. It offers recommendations for the electorate and candidates to consider and discuss. Working on the premise that "when the business community is



The Yorkton Chamber Board of Directors has created the Election 2016 Talking Points document. The document is intended to stimulate discussion prior to, and during, the upcoming municipal election about the issues and opportunities facing the business community. It offers recommendations for the electorate and candidates to consider and discuss. Working on the premise that "when the business community is strong, the entire community is strong", the Chamber is confident that these recommendations will ensure Yorkton continues to thrive.

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The Chamber has made recommendations for the 2016 - 2020 Council to consider in 5 areas including Transparency & Accountability; Business Property Taxes; Yorkton Regional Airport; Business Growth; and Infrastructure Needs. The document also provides information on how to be nominated for Council.

The Election 2016 Talking Points document has been included as an insert in each July edition of the

Courier, delivered to every Yorkton business with a Canada Post address. It's also available on the Chamber's website www.yorktonchamber.com

The 2016 Municipal Election is very important to the future of the City of Yorkton. As a member of the Business Community, it's important for you to discuss the Talking Points with the candidates for Mayor and Council.

More importantly, on October 26, it's important that you vote for those candidates you believe understand the needs of business.

Congratulations!

- To **RE/MAX Blue Chip Realty** on receiving a number of awards in Las Vegas recently including the Top Office in western Canada for closed transactions 2015 (small market) and Top Office in Canada for closed transactions 2015 (small market)!
- To **Yorkton Auction Centre** on its Grand Opening in its new location.
- To **Miccar Aerial** on 20 years in business.
- The **Fox 94.1 FM** on air for 15 years.
- To **CORE Real Estate** on 5 years in business.
- To the **Sask Chamber of Commerce** on being named one of 3 finalists for the Chamber of the Year Award - Province/State category by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). The Sask Chamber is the only Canadian Chamber which has been selected as a finalist for an Award at this year's ACCE Conference.

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Did You Know?

- The Yorkton Regional Airport has received \$61,961 from the Sask Government's Community Airport Program (CAP).
- The Sunrise Health and Wellness Centre (2 - 259 Hamilton Road) is one of eight innovation sites in the Province of Saskatchewan testing new

models of primary health care. Its holistic approach emphasizes prevention, education and action.

- 74¢ of every tax dollar submitted to Regina goes to Health, Education and Social Services.

Coin Sets Available



Looking for a gift that is unique to Yorkton? For only \$10 (plus GST), you can purchase a 4 coin set minted by the Great Canadian Mint in Edmonton featuring 3 historic buildings of Yorkton - the Balmoral Hotel built in 1897; the Post Office/City Hall built in 1908; the Hudson Bay Store built in 1912 - which still stands on the corner of Second Avenue and Broadway; and Yorkton's brand - "Yorkton, where good things happen" - which was announced in 2004. The sets are available at Tourism Yorkton. A great keep sake!

PowWow Brings Visitors



Executive Director Juanita Polegi had the pleasure of participating in a Grand Entry at the Painted Hand Casino's 16th Annual "Heartbeat Keeps Us Strong" Powwow. The Grand Entry was a colourful, spectacular event with the drums and singers and hundreds of dancers. Following tradition, the Powwow paid homage to Canada's Veterans during the Grand Entry. Attracting people from all across North America, everyone is welcome at the Powwow. While in the queue for the Grand Entry, she met Chief Cadmus Delorme, Cowessess First Nation.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

July 6 - 9

Yorkton Summer Fair

September 13

Chamber Business Lunch - Induction of Honourary Life Members

September 21

Nominations close for City Council

October 5

Chamber Business Dinner at St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre. Guest Speaker Howard Green, Journalist and Bestselling Author. Sponsorship and tickets available from the Chamber office.

Ambassador Visits



MP Cathay Wagantall (right) was instrumental in bringing to Yorkton for a visit His Excellency Andriy Shevchenko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada. Chamber Director Carol Yaholnitsky (left) and Executive Director Juanita Polegi had the opportunity to meet Mr. Shevchenko at a recent Dinner. The purpose of the Ambassador's visit was to strengthen the ties between the Ukraine and the Ukrainian-Canadian community.

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Investing in Safety

Collin Pullar, President of the Sask Construction Safety Association was the Guest Speaker at a recent Chamber Business Lunch. Collin spoke about the need for all businesses, not just those involved in construction, to invest in and implement safety programs. He said that **managing safety is a reflection of how you approach other management aspects of your business.** He suggested that in uncertain economic times, safety not be given lower priority but that it be embraced as a value added proposition that has direct benefit to bottom line issues like long term profitability, an enhanced reputation and the retention of high value employees.



Budget 2016-17



The Hon. Kevin Doherty, Minister of Finance was the Guest Speaker at a recent Chamber Business Lunch where he discussed the province's new budget. He said his government will keep Saskatchewan strong by controlling spending, investing in people, investing in infrastructure and not increasing taxes. He indicated that it is "prudent to run a manageable deficit" when interest rates are so low. He told the audience that by the end of the fiscal year, SK's Debt: GDP ratio will be 19% - one of the lowest in the country.

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Howard Green to Speak at Dinner



Events committee members Carol Yaholnitsky and Gillian Potter announced at a recent Media Conference that Howard Green will be the Guest Speaker at the Chamber's 18th Annual Business Dinner, October 5. Sponsorship and tickets are now available from the Chamber Office.



Howard Green is a journalist, the founding anchor of Business News Network (BNN) and a bestselling author. Known for hosting BNN's flagship show, *Headline with Howard Green*, he has interviewed a variety of influential people and politicians. 2013 saw the release of his book *Banking on America: How TD Rose to the Top and Took on the USA* which was a bestseller. His next book will be released later this year. Mr. Green is also a recipient of a Golden Sheaf Award in the Best Documentary by a Broadcaster category.

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18th Annual Chamber Business Dinner

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Guest Speaker Howard Green, Journalist,
Author and founding Anchor of BNN

Tickets available from the Chamber Office