



# The VOICE of Business

## Directors Express Views on the City and Chamber



Peter Krasny



Mike Stackhouse



Dustin Brears

COMMUNITY  
COURIER

**IN JANUARY, THE CHAMBER WELCOMED NEW DIRECTORS TO ITS BOARD.**

*We asked Peter Krasny, Mike Stackhouse and Dustin Brears for their thoughts on the following questions:*

**WHAT DO YOU MOST LIKE ABOUT YORKTON?**

**PK** - The people are the strength of this community. The values of family, friends and support for new arrivals is tremendous. I can speak from personal experiences that I felt welcomed and at home immediately. The benefits of a larger centre (shops, services and general day to day activities) but the comfort of a small town are a huge benefit. I can't believe how the people in Yorkton ALL get involved somehow, I think back to the Grand Slam Event and the bid for RBC Cup etc. and am amazed.

**MS** - like that it's a small city with many big city amenities. I can get anywhere I want within ten minutes or so, and still enjoy the same benefits larger cities have to offer.

**DB** - I grew up in the Yorkton Trading area, and for the most part, Yorkton has always had the services I

need. Now that I live in the city, my family has all of the recreational items, schools, shopping, etc that we need and more at our fingertips. It is nice to be able to run out on an errand and find the items you need locally.

**IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING IN YORKTON, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

**PK** - I guess a little more support from the municipal leaders as to dealing with and working together with the business community. I still have an issue with funding allocations and transparency with the way council works. I will say the diligence of the chamber helps keep some sense of accountability with council. When I first arrived I felt that the council and leadership at that time were more progressive in attracting new ventures to Yorkton, I feel the current administration is . . . *(continued on the next page)*

## Congratulations!

- To **Zaharia Electric** on 35 years in business.
- To **Good Spirit Air** on 10 years in business.
- To **Laurie Renton** of LR Future Insurance and investments on receiving the Woman of Distinction Award in the Entrepreneurship and Innovation category at last week's Gala sponsored by the YWCA Regina. Laurie was recognized for her vision, creativity and ingenuity in the management of her business.
- To **York Lake Golf & Country Club** on 90 years of serving the community.
- To **SIGN** on serving the community for 35 years.
- Selected from 18 contestants at the recent pageant in Saskatoon, **Kirsten MacDonald** was crowned Miss Teenage Saskatchewan. Kirsten will represent both Yorkton and Saskatchewan at the national pageant in Toronto in July.

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CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE . . .

looking very short term and not willing to partner to help grow the city.

**MS** - I would move Yorkton closer to the Trans Canada Highway as I love four lane travel!

**DB** - Open a lumber yard on Sundays.

**YOU HAVE 6 MONTHS EXPERIENCE AS A CHAMBER DIRECTOR.  
WHAT DOES THE CHAMBER DO  
THAT HAS PROVEN TO BE THE MOST INTERESTING?**

**PK** - I like the proactive approach the Chamber takes with local issues, the support for the business community as a whole, and the continuous work on improving the business climate in the City of Yorkton. Even though not all issues can be addressed to everyone's liking no own seems to back away.

The opportunity to work with some of the city's business leaders and the insight they provide has been immensely helpful to me in business and personal growth.

**MS** - I feel advocating for the business community is something that I always knew about, but the level with which the Chamber goes to bat for its members isn't widely known like it should be. People need to understand the Chamber can be your voice when you don't have the time or know-how when an issue comes up.

**DB** - I enjoy the candidness that the Chamber has with local businesses and with the city. While it may appear that there is friction between groups, at the end of the day, all parties ultimately strive for the same goal of making Yorkton a better place to live, work and play.

Welcome New Members to the  
*Yorkton Chamber of Commerce*

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**The Wireless Age**  
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*Communications*

**Molly's Garden Greenhouse**  
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*Greenhouse*

**New Horizons Senior Citizens**  
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*Senior Activity Centre*

*Member First Referral • May 2016 • Just to mention a few . . .*

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Auto Trim Design • Skinner Garden Classics • Molly's Greenhouse • Canadian Tire • Ramsay Health and Fitness  
Value Village • Yorkton Kinettes • Pumphouse Athletic Club • Vacations Yorkton • CAA • Chicken Chef of Langenburg  
Marlin Travel • Yorkton This Week • Saskatchewan Abilities Council • YBID • Ruff's Furniture • McMunn and Yates  
Yorkton Building Centre • Pet Valu • Parkland Outdoor Show • Yorkton Dream Centre • The Soup Haven  
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York Lake Golf and Country Club • Restore Yorkton • Joey's Children's Apparel • Sherring Gold  
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# Yorkton Chamber AGM



*Cathay Wagantall, MP Yorkton-Melville was the Guest Speaker at the Chamber's AGM. Cathay shared some of her experiences as a rookie MP and discussed the work she has begun to do on behalf of her constituents. Cathay has introduced a Private Member's Bill to the House of Commons and she has been appointed Deputy Critic for Veteran Affairs.*



*President Corey Werner presented Joel Martinuk with a plaque expressing the Chamber's appreciation for Joel's service as the 2015 President of the Chamber.*



*At the Chamber's AGM, Past President Joel Martinuk presented Director Kelly Price with the 2015 Director's Spirit Award. Kelly was selected as the recipient of the Award by the 2015 Board of Directors. Established in 1997 by Evan Ortynsky to honour former Chamber Manager Ruth Shaw, the Award "acknowledges dedication, enthusiasm and a positive attitude to the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce". Thank you Kelly for so strongly committing to your role as a Chamber Director.*

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- June 4 & 5**  
Painted Hand Casino PowWow, Gallagher Centre
- June 15**  
**Chamber Business Lunch**, Painted Hand Casino. Guest Speaker is **Collin Pullar**, President Sask Construction Safety Association. Topic: Safety as an Investment in Uncertain Times. This topic is relevant to all businesses.  
Deadline for submitting nominations for the **Sask Chamber ABEX Awards** is **June 15**. Self nominations are encouraged. Visit [saskchamber.ca](http://saskchamber.ca) to learn more.
- July 6 - 9**  
Yorkton Summer Fair
- Sept 21**  
Nominations close for City Council
- Sept 13**  
Chamber Business Lunch



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*At the recent Yorkton Film Festival, Chamber Director Gillian Potter, representing RBC, announced a \$30,000 gift to establish the RBC Yorkton Film Festival Membership Program.*



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## Did You Know?

- Over 10,000 visitors stop by Tourism Yorkton's Visitors Centre each year? As they walk about the grounds, they stop to look at the Chamber's sign board to the south of the building. Your business can get great 24/7 exposure for just pennies per day! To learn more about renting a space on the Board, call the Chamber office 306-783-4368.
- In 2015, 87% of Saskatchewan workplaces achieved Mission: Zero - zero injuries, zero fatalities, zero suffering.
- The Chamber of Commerce is preparing a document that will outline the issues facing the city. The document is intended to encourage dialogue prior to the City Election which will occur Oct. 26.

## Saskatchewan Chamber AGM . . .



Shawna Nelson is the new Chair of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce. She took her Oath of Office at the Chamber's recent AGM.

Shawna intends to visit local Chambers during her term and indicated she is looking forward to visiting Yorkton. Yorkton has been a member of the Sask Chamber of Commerce for many years.

Membership in the Sask Chamber enables the Yorkton Chamber to have input on policy and share the views of the Yorkton business community. Several businesses in Yorkton maintain membership in both the Yorkton and Saskatchewan Chambers.

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At the Sask Chamber's recent AGM, Hon. Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber, addressed the delegates. In his presentation he stressed the need to rid Canada of internal (interprovincial) barriers to trade as they restrict trade and labour mobility, frustrate investors and cost consumers billions of dollars each year.

Mr. Beatty also discussed the need for a pipeline that will enable its energy products to seaports. Earlier this year, the Canadian Chamber released its annual document Canada's Top 10 Barriers to

Competitiveness for 2016. Of these, the Yorkton Chamber indicated the 4 barriers most affecting business in Yorkton and area include: Poor literacy, numeracy and digital skills are limiting productivity in segments of Canada's workforce; Public policies block small companies from becoming bigger; Canadian resources cannot get to world markets; and Internal barriers to trade cost Canadians billions and restrict investment.

For more information, visit [www.chamber.ca](http://www.chamber.ca) or [www.yorktonchamber.com](http://www.yorktonchamber.com)

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## Presentation by the Yorkton Cardinals

#13 Derek Marshall stopped by the Chamber office to present a Yorkton Cardinals jersey to Sherry and Juanita. The Cardinals, of the Western Major Baseball League, host their Home Opener at 7:05 pm on May 29. The team consists of some local talent as well as players from other provinces and several states.

To view the Cardinals' schedule, visit [www.yorktoncardinalsbaseball.com](http://www.yorktoncardinalsbaseball.com) or their facebook page.