

# The VOICE of Business

## 2018 Chamber Highlights

2018 has been a milestone year for the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce! In addition to some celebrations to mark the anniversary, the Chamber, as always, has endeavoured to advocate for the business community and to provide educational and networking opportunities for its members. Some highlights include:

### Advocacy - City

- Meeting with City Council to discuss the City's budget
- Letter expressing concern about the placement of Needle Drop Boxes and their impact on businesses
- Letter requesting a business's expansion plans be allowed to proceed
- Letter requesting the Chamber be included in developing a "Master Plan" for the Gallagher Centre

### Advocacy - Provincially

- Meeting with the Ministers of Rural & Remote Health and Government Affairs to discuss the effects of cuts to Grants-in-Lieu to the city budget and ultimately the business community
- Hosting the Sask Chamber's AGM and CCES Spring Conference

### Advocacy - Federally

- Discussing the Canadian Chamber's document "10 Ways to Build a Canada that Wins 2018" with MP Cathay Wagantall and sharing with her those points most relevant to Yorkton and area
- Joining the Coalition to Keep Trade Free
- Letter sent requesting tax changes not harm small businesses
- Letter of support for the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion

### Education for Members

- Hosting the Sask NDP Leadership Debate
- Hosting kijiji.ca founder Janet Bannister as the Guest Speaker at



Mike Popowich became the 120th President of the Yorkton Chamber in January



The Yorkton Chamber was pleased to host a Business Lunch with Premier Scott Moe as the Guest Speaker

the Chamber's 20th Business Dinner

- Hosting a Lunch with lawyer Mark Persick presenting information to employers about the upcoming legalization of cannabis
- Hosting a full day seminar about the Rights & Responsibilities of Employers and Employees regarding cannabis in the work place
- Hosting the Minister of Finance at a Lunch to share details of the Provincial Budget
- Hosting a Lunch for the CEO of the Sask Trade & Export Partnership to share the province's good news export story
- Hosting a Lunch for our new Premier for him to meet the business community and to share his views on a variety of subjects

### Other highlights include:

- Receiving the Accreditation designation from the Chamber Accreditation Council of Canada for achieving a standard of excellence
- Hosting a Past President's Reception in celebration of the Chamber's 120th
- Hosting a Chamber Coffee House

- Hosting a New Member Lunch
- Hosting the 13th Celebrate Success Business Awards
- Presenting 2 scholarships to students enrolled in the Business program at the Parkland College
- Meeting with the YBID Board to discuss ways to collaborate
- Over the course of the summer, Staff visited over 60 member businesses who shared why they ♥ the Chamber. The businesses were then featured on the Chamber's facebook page
- Affinity programs (those which are available only to Chamber members) such as the Chamber Group Insurance Plan and First Data Merchant Services continue to provide value to members

The mission of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce is "to promote and advance the interests and growth of members and businesses in Yorkton and District". The Yorkton Chamber is governed by a 16 member Board of Directors. The Board discusses issues and opportunities facing the business community and how best to work on these. Currently, over 460 members invest in their businesses by belonging to the Chamber.

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## Welcome New Members to the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

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Performance Promotions • Olson Diesel • Pattison Agriculture • Gladstone Residence • The Bentley • YBID • Yorkton This Week  
Gallagher Centre • St. Gerard's Hall • Prairie Paint Centre • Sensus Accounting • Harvest Meats • Painted Hand Casino  
KD Studio & Spa • The Health Foundation • Quark's Shoes • Yorkton Housing Authority • Auto Electric Service  
Rawlco Radio • AJ Upholstery

*Just to mention a few . . .*

## Congratulations!

- To **RH Electric** on 35 years in business
- To **Yorkton Coop** on being named to the Saskatchewan Business Magazine's Top 100 List ranking 69th. The Association has 215 employees.
- To **Dustin Brears**, Chamber Director and EHS Division Manager at EMW Industrial on receiving his CRSP designation from the Board of Canadian Registered Safety Professionals
- To **Jamie Moore** of Yorkton Auction Centre on being one of 3 finalists in the Auctioneering competition at Agribition

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<b>THOMAS P. CAMPBELL</b>	
<b>NOLAN R. KONDRATOFF</b>	<b>KAMSACK</b> 445 Second Street Ph: 306-542-2646 Fax: 306-542-2510
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## Honourary Life Member Inducted

At a Luncheon on November 8, the Chamber inducted former Yorkton television personality and tireless volunteer, Geraldine (Gerry) Pepler, as an Honourary Life Member.

Every week day morning for 27 years, Gerry Pepler was in the homes of residents in the Shamrock TV station viewing area as hostess of the Morning Show. She has been described as the "face of the Yorkton TV station" for the 32 years in which she was employed there.

During her career and since her retirement in 1992, Gerry has devoted countless volunteer

hours to organizations and causes which seek to enhance the community. She continues to serve on a number of Boards and can often be spotted greeting and assisting people at the doors of the Yorkton Regional Health Centre; and behind the counter in the Health Centre's Gift Shop. In 2017, she logged 337 volunteer hours!

Due to the many years he worked with Gerry, Mayor Bob Maloney was invited by the Chamber Board to read her citation.



*Gerry Pepler was recently inducted as an Honourary Life Member of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce*

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

### December 7

Chamber Business Lunch with Hon. Jeremy Harrison, Minister of Trade and Export Development discussing the USMCA and its impact on Saskatchewan at the Ramada

### January 16

Chamber Business Breakfast. Presentations by YRHS Jr. Achievement businesses and installation of 2019 Board of Directors.

### January 29

Business Lunch at the Gallagher Centre with Guest Speaker Roy Prevost from Burnaby, BC - Topic: Customer Service Superstars. Watch for details.

Employment Standards Division of the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety will host a series of free webinars for Saskatchewan employers, employees and organizations. Webinars begin at 1:30 PM and take approximately 45 - 60 minutes. For more information contact the **LRWS Webinar Team** (LRWSWebinarTeam@gov.sk.ca) or visit [saskatchewan.ca/business/employment-standards](http://saskatchewan.ca/business/employment-standards)

### December 5

Schedules & Hours of Work

### December 19

Public Holidays & Premium Pay

## Parkland Victim Services Serves 25 Years

Cheryl Tiller, Executive Director of Parkland Victim Services spoke at a recent Chamber Business Lunch. Parkland Victim Services was first organized in Yorkton 25 years ago. It's a not-for-profit organization governed by a local Board of volunteers, receiving its funding from the Ministry of Justice. Its purpose is to assist victims of crime and traumatic events. Police from 10 RCMP detachments call upon Parkland Victim Services to assist victims. It's staffed by 7 full time employees; 3 part time employees; and 29 volunteers. Between April 1 2018 and

November 8, Parkland Victim Services has assisted on 300 files.

If you're interested in serving as a volunteer for this invaluable organization, contact the Yorkton City RCMP (306-786-2400).



*Cheryl Tiller, Executive Director of Parkland Victim Services described the services provided to victims of crime and traumatic events in the region.*



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# Season's Greetings



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## from the 2018 Yorkton Chamber Board of Directors & Staff