

# The VOICE of Business

## The Members are Saying

Throughout July and August, as the Chamber staff were out and about in the city, they dropped in on Chamber members for a brief visit. The Staff appreciates the time each business owner or manager spent to talk about their business and to answer 4 questions.

For an organization that is 120 years old, the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce continues to be relevant and thriving, according to its members. The members had the following to say about the Chamber:

### 1. Why do you do business in Yorkton?

- The overwhelming response, over 75%, indicated they continue to do business, or came to Yorkton to set up a business, due to its opportunity for growth.
- **Other reasons:**
  - o Large trading area
  - o Biggest city in the trading area so people come for medical appointments and to check out the big box stores resulting in visits to other businesses
  - o 4 highways leading to Yorkton are a great asset
  - o Yorkton is a great community to raise a family - one that is safe and has all the amenities

### 2. You invest in your business by renewing your membership in the Chamber year-after-year. What is it about the Chamber that is so important to your business?

The responses to this question can be categorized into 3 main themes:

- **45% indicated they appreciate the work the Chamber does on its behalf:**
  - o Meeting with the city to discuss concerns and opportunities or to discuss specific problems a business or group of businesses has encountered with the city
  - o Letters sent by the Chamber to the provincial and federal governments on issues relevant to business
  - o Encouragement from the Yorkton Chamber to its members to participate in campaigns initiated by the Canadian Chamber such as opposition to the taxing of employee health benefits and the changes to the income tax rules
- **35% talked about the networking opportunities through the Chamber:**
  - o Opportunities to meet other business people at Chamber events
  - o The "connectedness" the businesses feel to one another and to the community at large through the email blasts
  - o Supporting the Chamber through membership is viewed as important. As one member said, "The Chamber is people working together to make the community grow and be a better place to live and do business."



*While out and about during July and August, the Chamber staff stopped in at various member businesses to have a chat and ask a few questions. Once the questions were answered, a photo was taken of the member and posted on the Chamber's facebook page.*

### • 25% cited the affinity programs available through their Chamber membership:

- o The Chamber Group Insurance Plan and the preferred member rates on data processing offered through First Data are important to the membership
- o Mentions in the Chamber's newsletter the Courier and on its facebook page, member first referrals and being listed on the Member Roster on the Chamber's website

### 3. Would you recommend to your fellow business owners that their businesses become Chamber members? Response to this question was either "Absolutely!" or "Yes!"

### 4. When was your business started?

The reason for this question is to expand the Congratulations section of the Courier. Whether you have been in business for 5 years or 55 years or 105 years (some of our members have actually been in business that long), it's worth noting and celebrating. The Chamber staff noted these dates and have them filed for future reference.

### We ♥ the Chamber because:

- The Chamber can help you out
- It can help you promote your business
- It's a way to network with other businesses and develop your professionalism
- The Chamber is all about business. It goes hand-in-hand with doing business in Yorkton
- The Chamber takes care of the "little guy"
- You never know when you will need the Chamber to help you or answer your questions

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*Welcome New Members to the  
Yorkton Chamber of Commerce*

**Haas Nissan**  
386 Broadway Street East  
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Auto Dealer

**Painted Hand Community Development Corp.**  
Suite 2 - 21 Broadway Street West  
Yorkton, SK  
Non-Profit Organization

**Interested in becoming a Chamber Member?**  
Call the Chamber office at 783-4368

**YOUR MEMBER FIRST REFERRAL  
August 2018**

Eecol Electric • Discovery Motor Sports • Countryside Motors  
Sharp's Automotive • Mid City Service • Yorkton Concrete  
DQ Grill • LR Future Insurance • Dream Weddings  
East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre  
Yorkton Lion's Club • City of Yorkton • The Owls Nest at Deer Park  
Yorkton Bucket Truck Services • Growth Media Strategy  
Flashpoint Media • Tweed Grasslands  
The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy • Prairie View Physiotherapy  
Yorkton Community Band • Mortgage Alliance  
ALL Bookkeeping • McMunn & Yates • Hearn's Pharmacy  
Painted Hand Casino • Louck's Pharmacy  
AJ Upholstery • Brown's Social House  
RCM Safety Services  
*Just to mention a few . . .*



**The Saskatchewan Order of Merit** was established in 1985 to recognize excellence, achievement, and contributions to the cultural, social and economic well-being of the province.  
The deadline for nominations is November 1.  
The Nomination form is available at [www.saskatchewan.ca/honoursawards](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/honoursawards)

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## Countdown to Celebrate

By the time this edition of the Courier reaches your mail boxes, the nominations will have been received and the Judging Panel selected.

The Chamber is pleased with the number of nominations received for the 13th Celebrate Success Business Awards. Awards will be presented to businesses in 10 categories and to 3 organizations in the Community Merit category. The Judging Panel will also be tasked with selecting the Large and Small Business of the Year Awards.

To learn who will be the Finalists for each of the Awards, you will want to have tickets to the **Countdown to Celebrate Finalists Lunch** September 20 at the Painted Hand Casino. To register for the lunch, send an email to [info@yorktonchamber.com](mailto:info@yorktonchamber.com) or call 306-783-4368.

The **Awards Night** will be held **October 3** at **St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre**. For ticket information or to order seats at this Dinner and



*Collins Barrow is the Patron Sponsor of the 13th Celebrate Success Business Awards*



*SiGA/Painted Hand Casino is the Production Sponsor of Celebrate*

Awards presentation, contact the Chamber Office.

The Chamber appreciates its many sponsors which ensure the event is a success. We look forward to seeing you celebrate business excellence in Yorkton!

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

### September 7 - NOON

Deadline for submitting Nominee Packages for the Celebrate Success Business Awards

### September 20

Countdown to Celebrate Finalists' Lunch at Painted Hand Casino

### October 3

Celebrate Success Business Awards at St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre

### October 31 - NOON

Nominations close for Chamber Directors

### November 8

Honourary Life Member Lunch at St. Gerard's Parish Hall

## Keep Trade Free

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has created a Coalition to Keep Trade Free and you are invited to participate in a number of ways:

- Send your logo to [keeptradefree@chamber.ca](mailto:keeptradefree@chamber.ca)
- If you're on twitter, follow the @keeptradefree account - content is posted daily

- A toolkit is available that has ready-made social content that you can share on your accounts, and an infographic with trade facts that you can download and share. Also included is a "supporter" button you can display on your own website.

## 2018-19 Terriers



*The Yorkton Terriers held their Season Launch August 17 where the staff and some of the players met the community. The Terriers play their home opener Friday, September 21.*



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## Did You Know?

- The South Saskatchewan Community Foundation has available grants for registered charities. Deadline for applications is September 1 and March 1. For information, visit [www.sscf.ca](http://www.sscf.ca)
- No two nations depend more on each other for their mutual prosperity and security than the United States and Canada.
- The U.S.-Canada trade relationship is a model for the world: it is growing, it is balanced, it is equitable, and it supports growth, innovation and good-paying jobs in both countries.
- Millions of good, middle-class jobs on both sides of the border depend on our partnership. In the United States alone, nearly 9 million jobs are linked to Canadian trade and investment. Trade is responsible for 28,500 jobs in North Dakota



- Canada is the #1 market for most U.S. states and is among the top three customers for the majority of them.
- Saskatchewan imports more than \$1.5 billion in goods from North Dakota.
- Trade exports to North Dakota are valued at just over \$510 million from Saskatchewan.

## Chamber Hosts Coffee House



August 9 was a very hot day so the Chamber offered some very cold beverages to its members who stopped by during the Chamber Coffee House to discuss the Chamber, the City and for Calvin Daniels - disc golf!

## P & H Holds Grand Opening



General Manager of Parrish & Heimbecker in Yorkton, David Thomas, welcomed the many guests and farmers to the Grand Opening of P & H's new Crop Input Centre located north on Hwy 9. P & H has been serving Yorkton and area for more than 75 years and has been a member of the Chamber for more than 45 years. Congratulations!

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## Congratulations!

- To **Good Earths Shop** on 40 years in business
- To **Crystal Clear Imprints** on 25 years in business
- To **Custom Printers** on 20 years in business
- To **Debbie Jones** on 5 years as the owner of The Plum Tree
- To **RH Electric** on receiving the Corporate Leadership in Safety Award from the Sask Construction Safety Association (SCSA)
- To **Brian Hilderman of RH Electric** on receiving the Safety Practitioner Award from the SCSA