



# COMMUNITY COURIER

# The VOICE of Business

## Yorkton - A Good Place for Business

At the Business Summit in March, key note speaker Ben Voss, CEO & President of Morris Industries, challenged the businesses of Yorkton to focus on what differentiates Yorkton from cities of similar size.

When we say Yorkton is the place where good things happen, it's the truth. It's the hub of east central Saskatchewan. Two railways run through it; four highways lead to it and it has a certified airport. Yorkton is home to the Regional Hospital and a host of medical specialists. Provincial and federal government offices are located here.

Yorkton is a hub for **manufacturing and food processing**. In recent years, both the Richardson and Louis Dreyfus canola crush plants have expanded their capacity since opening. Grain Millers began an expansion project that will see their capacity nearly double when it's complete and will add 25 to 30 jobs. Harvest Meats is ramping up its production which will result in the addition of 10 - 12 full time positions over the next 6 months. In the past couple of years, TA Foods has doubled its work force and added the processing of camelina and hemp oil to its line of products. Over the course of the next four months, it will double its capacity in oil production. Leon's Mfg Company and Ram Industries have been cornerstones of Yorkton's manufacturing sector for decades.

In the **agriculture sector**, Parrish & Heimbecker recently built a new Crop Input Centre just north of the city. In the past few years, Morris



*The \$100 Million expansion at Grain Millers Canada will add 25-30 jobs.*

Industries has invested over \$30 million on improving its manufacturing process. It currently exports to 34 countries.

As for **construction projects**, a large commercial space is in the construction phase on the east side of the city and new restaurants are under construction on both the east and west side.

A number of **small businesses** have opened over the past couple of years offering a variety of retail and personal services.

Yorkton has 8 elementary schools and 2 high schools. The Parkland College Yorkton campus offers a variety of courses including some 4 year university degree programs and is the home to the Trades & Technology Centre.

In terms of **tourism**, the Western Development Museum, Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre and Painted Hand Casino are popular with residents and tourists alike. The Yorkton Arts Council's Stars for

Saskatchewan attracts people to Yorkton from all across the Region. The Yorkton Cardinals of the Western Canadian Baseball League, attracts players from all over Canada and the United States as they play summer collegiate baseball. And the Yorkton Terriers have attracted people to Yorkton for years. The Film Festival, Summer Fair and the upcoming PowWow are also large economic drivers in the city.

A safe community, Yorkton hosts a variety of sport, recreation and cultural activities. It's a beautiful city with parks, hundreds of trees and in the summer, dozens of planters of flowers.

**Investors like places where there is optimism and the appearance of prosperity.** It's time to talk about all the positives in Yorkton. Show your pride in Yorkton by sharing all that is good in the city. Yorkton - it's a place where good things happen!

## Congratulations!

- **Countryside Motors** on 45 years in business
- **To NL Construction** on 10 years in business
- **Canadiana Agri-Motive** on 40 years in business
- **To Randy Goulden** on receiving Saskatoon's YWCA Distinguished Women Spirit Award
- **To Fuzztone Music** on 15 years in business

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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce*

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## Applications Open for ABEX

Applications are now open for the Sask Chamber's 36th ABEX Awards. A company may submit its own entry, or it may be sponsored by a third party.

Benefits of being an ABEX Award recipient include:

- " Public recognition
- " Confirmation of business excellence
- " Benefits of province-wide recognition
- " The right to use the ABEX symbol in advertising

Applications are available on the Sask Chamber's website [www.saskchamber.com](http://www.saskchamber.com)

**Deadline for submitting applications is June 28, 2019.**

Award categories include New Venture; Growth & Expansion; Community Involvement; Innovation; Export; Indigenous Engagement; Young Entrepreneur; Service; and Marketing.



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Watterson Homes • Parkland Mall • Marlin Travel • The Cooperators  
Outta Here Travel • Brendonn Holdings • RHF Fitness • Magic Mirrors  
Anytime Fitness • City of Yorkton • Pumhouse Athletic Club  
Brown's Social House • Sunrise Landscaping • XEROX  
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## Chamber Concerned About Canola

It's no secret that canola plays a HUGE role in the economy of Yorkton, the province and the country. In fact, according to Statistics Canada, canola seed exports to China are valued at \$2.7 billion; and canola oil exports are valued at \$1.1 billion.

The Yorkton Chamber is very concerned about the dispute over canola between Canada and China. And now field peas and pork, also important to this region, are experiencing difficulties upon arrival in China.

In late March, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, with

reference to the Yorkton Chamber, sent a letter to the Federal government urging it to take action to resolve this situation. The Yorkton Chamber sent a letter to Cathay Wagantall, MP urging her to make our concerns known to the Federal government. And the Yorkton Chamber has written to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce requesting action on this dispute. We have since received a copy of a letter from the Canadian Chamber addressed to the Prime Minister urging his government to take action and informing him that the Canadian Chamber is also working to find a resolution to this dispute.



In the opinion of the Yorkton Chamber, it's imperative that this dispute be resolved quickly. The financial health and wellbeing of numerous farms and small businesses are dependent upon it.

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- June 5**  
Chamber Book Club 6:30 PM at Mano's
- June 12**  
Chamber Business Lunch with Guest Speaker James Bogusz, CEO of the Regina Airport Authority as Guest Speaker
- July 3 - 6**  
Yorkton Exhibition Summer Fair
- September 12**  
Honourary Life Member Lunch
- October 2**  
Chamber Business Dinner
- October 9**  
Federal All Candidates' Forum

## Long Term Members



At a recent Chamber Luncheon, 5 businesses were recognized for their long term membership in the Yorkton Chamber. All of these members have been with the Chamber for 20 - 25 years. President Mike Stackhouse presented the Certificates of Recognition to (L to R): Tony Ripa from Brendonn Holdings; Dale Balazeiko from Blaze Locksmithing; Steve Procyhen from Parkland Printers; David Dunge from Canadian Tire; and Kevin Mundt from DR Auto Extras. These businesses recognize their membership in the Chamber is an investment in both their businesses and the community.

## GTH Connects Saskatchewan

Stevyn Arnt, Vice President Business Development at the Global Transportation Hub was the Guest Speaker at a recent Chamber Business Lunch. The GTH is the gateway that connects Saskatchewan and its products to the world. A Government of Saskatchewan corporation, it's Canada's only self-governing inland port offering a streamlined approach to efficiently assist in company development on site with unprecedented direct access to highway infrastructure and is only minutes away from an international airport. Interesting facts: 1) Saskatchewan has over 40% of Canada's arable land and over 80% of that production lies within a 4 hour



drive of the GTH. 2) Saskatchewan has one of the most competitive business environments in North America.



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## Chamber Supports Roundabout



At the May 6 Council meeting, President Mike Stackhouse addressed the Mayor and Council to reconsider its decision to delay the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Mayhew Avenue and Darlington Street. The chamber views a roundabout to be a cost effective, long term solution to the heavy traffic at that intersection.



Following President Stackhouse's presentation to Council May 6, the City Clerk received a written intent to reconsideration at the May 27 Council meeting. This will allow reconsideration of the April 15 resolution that resulted in the delay of construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Mayhew Avenue & Darlington Street. The report outlining the options for that intersection presented by Administration at the April 15 meeting can be found on the city website [yorkton.ca](http://yorkton.ca) under City Council Highlights (May 6).

## Be Prepared!

While governments at all levels are working hard to keep Canada safe, everyone has a role to play in being prepared for an emergency; and being prepared means having the knowledge and equipment necessary to better cope during an emergency. There are many ways to "Be Emergency Ready". Go to [www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca) for the publication "Your Emergency Preparedness Guide". This Guide will help you prepare to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours. It will help you create your own emergency plan and provides checklists for you to build a 72 hour emergency kit. The guide includes sections on Know the Risks; Make

READY?  
BE PREPARED!

a Plan; and Get an Emergency Kit (you can make your own).

## YQV Receives CAP Funding



Hon. Greg Ottenbreit, on behalf of the Ministry of Highways & Infrastructure, announced that the Yorkton Regional Airport will receive \$257K through the Community Airport Program (CAP). The City will match that grant for improvements at the Airport. Mayor Bob Maloney said, "The Airport is an important piece of our local and provincial transportation infrastructure and provides economic benefits throughout the region."

President Mike Stackhouse said, "As an advocate of the Airport, the Chamber is pleased with this announcement."

## Let's Talk About You

This summer, the Chamber staff will visit Chamber members to do a 15 second video on why you have established your business in Yorkton. It doesn't matter if you have been a member for 5 months or 55 years, the Chamber wants to hear from you.

If you're interested in having a staff member visit your business to do a brief video, let us know at the Chamber office 306-783-4368 or [info@yorktonchamber.com](mailto:info@yorktonchamber.com). The videos will appear on the Chamber's facebook page. **Call us today so we can set up an appointment to TALK about YOU!**

