

The VOICE of Business

Yorkton Business Summit Successful



Ben Voss, President & CEO of Morris Industries indicated over \$30 million has been invested in cutting edge technology at the Yorkton plant in recent years.

Over 100 people attended the Chamber's first Business Summit held March 27. The Agenda was packed with a variety of local speakers sharing their expertise and vision for the Yorkton business community.

Key Note Speaker was Ben Voss, President & CEO of Morris Industries. He indicated that Morris Industries got its start in Bangor in 1929 and moved to Yorkton in the 1940's. While the focus of Morris Industries has evolved over the decades, the foundation of the company continues to be in Yorkton due to the people and the community. When Morris Industries is recruiting employees to Yorkton, the questions asked most are "how family friendly is the community?" and "are there jobs for my spouse?" Ben urged Yorkton maintain its reputation as a "full service community". In recent

years, Morris Industries has spent \$30 million on world class technology at its Yorkton plant and currently exports ag equipment to 34 countries.

Doug Jones, CEO of Cornerstone Credit Union shared how even the smallest business could incorporate an Advisory Board to help the business grow and thrive.

Tamara Johnson, owner of SIEL Human Solutions spoke about the many tools available to help business owners select the right people to build their various teams.

Introducing the session on Building Your Brand and Online Presence, **Cam Mehling of elev8 Consulting** said that business is changing at a pace never before seen so we have to keep up.

Corey Werner, owner of CORE Real Estate shared how his business undertook the process of building and improving on an existing brand. He said that marketing is about "nurturing connections with your desired audience".

In a fast-paced presentation, **Kellsey Stabner owner of Growth Media Strategies** shared the importance of having an accurate and up-to-date home page on your website as that is the foundation to your online presence. She then described the various forms of social media and how they might be used by a business.

Chief Evan Taypotat shared the many economic development initiatives undertaken by **Kahkewistahaw First Nation**. In Yorkton, the land along Broadway Avenue West on which the Painted

Hand Casino, Petro Canada and the Home Inns & Suites are located is owned by KFN.

Councillor Amber Sangwais of theZagiméAnishinabēk First Nation also shared her Nation's economic development initiatives. She indicated that the plan is to have the building located at 30 Third Avenue North opened this fall.

In the session entitled "State of Business in Yorkton", **Laurie Renton of LR Futures; Jordan Schenher of Modern Mattress and the Bed & Bath Boutique; and Evan Ortynsky of Key Auto Group** each took time to share their experiences as business people in Yorkton. Laurie encouraged businesses to market the city like they market their own business. Jordan outlined a number of recommendations that could help to bring consumers to the city. Evan shared the lessons he has learned from being in business and his extensive community involvement. He threw out the challenge with the question: How prepared are we for the City of Yorkton to grow?

The tabulation of the completed evaluations revealed that 95% ranked the Summit as Very Good to Excellent and 96% indicated that the Return on Investment in terms of the time and money spent for the Summit was Just Right. And of course, there were numerous suggestions for speakers and topics for the next Summit!

Congratulations!

- To **Morris Industries** on 90 years in business
- To **SIGN** on 50 years of serving the community
- To **Under the Covers** on 15 years in business
- To **Modern Mattress & Bed & Bath Boutique** on 5 years in business



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Yorkton Auction Centre • Pattison Group • Morris Industries
Budget Blinds • The Plum Tree • Health Foundation of SK

Just to mention a few . . .

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

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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Broadway Resurfacing Continues

Invitations were hand delivered to over one hundred businesses to attend an Information Session about the planned resurfacing of Broadway Avenue this summer. Trent Mandzuk, Director of Public Works indicated that the plan is to begin the resurfacing project in early July and that it will be undertaken in 4 phases. Phase 1 will begin at the CN tracks and move eastward to First Avenue. Trent said that only one lane will be closed at a time and that it takes about one week (depending on weather) to complete a lane. Once the eastbound lane is complete, then the westbound lane in that phase will be resurfaced. The

resurfacing will end at the junction of Highway #9.

In planning for the disruption of services, Trent indicated that one week prior to the start of each Phase, the City of Yorkton and the contractor will contact each business affected. Information will also be posted on the city's website and facebook page and through the local media. Detour signs will name affected businesses and will show how to access them.

Maps and Qs & As are posted on the city's website Yorkton.ca/construction and also under Hot Topics.



Trent Mandzuk, Director of Public Works outlined the city's plans for the resurfacing project on Broadway this summer.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- May 8 & 9**
Sask Chamber Annual Conference and AGM, Regina
- May 10**
SIGN 50th Anniversary!
- May 16**
Chamber Business Lunch at the Gallagher Centre with Stevyn Arnt, Global Transportation Hub as Guest Speaker
- May 23 -26**
Yorkton Film Festival
- June 12**
Chamber Business Lunch with Guest Speaker James Bogusz, CEO of the Regina Airport Authority as Guest Speaker
- October 2**
Chamber Business Dinner
- October 9**
Federal All Candidates' Forum

Opposition Visits Yorkton

Leader of the Opposition Ryan Meili and Trent Wotherspoon, Finance Critic were the Guest Speakers at a recent Chamber Business Lunch. Mr. Meili described the 2019-20 Provincial Budget as "not the worst he has seen". He gave that dubious honour to the 2017 - 18 Budget. That was the budget in which the City of Yorkton lost more than \$1 million when the government chose to tear up a long standing contract between Sask Power and the city. It was also the budget that saw the termination of STC. He also expressed concern how the addition of the PST to a number of services has impacted both the economy and household income.



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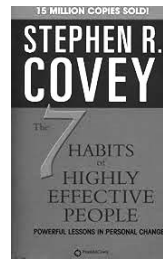
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Chamber Book Club - Read, Eat & Discuss

Exciting news for our studious Chamber Members! The Chamber is starting a Book Club centered around self improvement/business books. This is an informal setting to meet fellow business people who have an interest in reading and betterment. We'll visit only our Chamber member restaurants and we'll pick a different book for every meeting.

The Book Club will run Bi-Monthly (every two months). To let us know you plan to read and

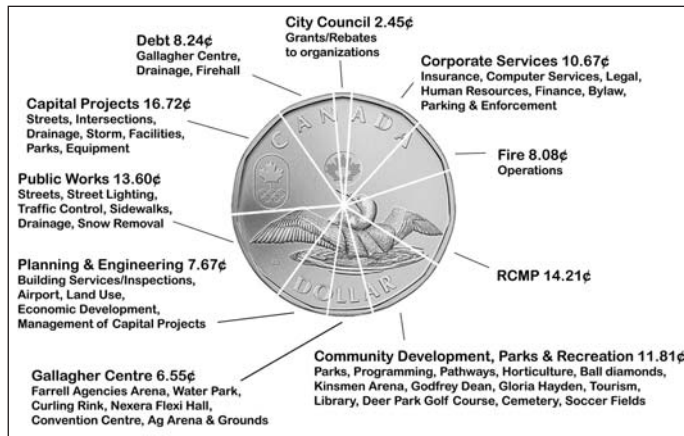


attend, please send a quick note to info@yorktonchamber.com or call the Chamber Office at 306-783-4368.

Inaugural meeting will be held 6:30 PM May 29 at Mano's Restaurant & Lounge.

And the first book on the list? 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen R. Covey.

Our Taxes Go Where?



Ever wonder where your municipal tax dollars are spent?

The City of Yorkton has created this graphic to demonstrate the allocation of the tax dollar.

To view the 2019 budget, which was approved at the January 21 Council meeting, visit

<http://www.yorkton.ca/dept/finance/budget.asp>

Chamber AGM



Prior to the adjournment of the Chamber's AGM, President Mike Stackhouse presented Past President Mike Popowich with a plaque expressing the Chamber's appreciation for his service as the 2018 President.



President Mike Stackhouse presented Donna Brothwell with the 2018 Director of the Year Award. The recipient of the Award is selected by fellow Directors based on meeting attendance, meeting preparedness and participation in Chamber events.

Show You're a Proud Chamber Member

If your business is a member in good standing of the Yorkton Chamber, why not let everyone know? You can link your website to the Chamber's and check the Member Roster on the Chamber's website to ensure there's a live link to your business. And you could incorporate the Yorkton Chamber's logo into your website and advertising. By adding the Chamber logo to your marketing materials, you're showing your customers and suppliers that you invest in your business and community by being a Chamber member. Be a proud Yorkton Chamber member and begin using the Chamber logo in your marketing plans now.

