



The Voice of Business



COMMUNITY COURIER

President's Message

Happy New Year!

I'm pleased and honoured to serve as President of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce for a second year.

I've been on the Board since 2016, so this is the first year of my third two-year term. What I've learned over my time so far is that we have some excellent dedicated business leaders in our city who are willing to work hard to make this the best business environment possible.

We will always be faced with challenges, including an unnecessary carbon tax which really stifles our economy. However, we will continue to advocate on behalf of the business community and ensure Yorkton is 'open for business' because the healthier the city can be on the commercial level, the less of an impact these punishing levies will have on us.

2020 will be busy for the Chamber with two elections on the horizon (provincial and municipal). Be looking for our Talking Points document later this year as it's something that helped drum up incredible interest from candidates and voters during the last City of Yorkton election.

We will continue to build on our relationship with City Council - holding them accountable and working to better understand one another as we work towards common goals of making our city as attractive as possible. Our relationship with the City continues to strengthen and that gives us a lot of credibility when we need to advocate on behalf of our members.

If you have any concerns, remember the Yorkton Chamber Directors are here for you. You have invested in your business by becoming a member of the Yorkton Chamber.

Your membership dues allow for you to have an added voice. It's our duty to help represent you and if you aren't sure if the Chamber can help, you should still ask.

Increasing awareness about the role of the Chamber for our members continues to be a priority. Please feel free to reach out to any of us.

We have a very strong group of Directors and I'm excited to work with each of them and we, as a collective group, look forward to interacting with our members in 2020.



Mike Stackhouse will serve a second term as President following re-election by his fellow directors

Congratulations!



- To Skycron on having its Saskatchewan-made sports TV Show - Go/Nitro - go into syndication. To learn more about the show, visit www.gontiro.tv
- To Kinsmen Club of Yorkton on serving the community for 75 years!
- To the 2 companies created by YRHS students enrolled in the Entrepreneurship 30 class and Junior Achievement - "Re-create" and "Sprouts! in a Jar" - for not only making a profit but for donating 10% of their profits to charity!

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Business Development Bank • Canadian Tire • Fuzztone Music • Christ the Teacher School Division • Yorkton Hyundai
Lakeside Millwright • Bob Effa • D's Signs & Designs • Prairie Harvest Life Centre • Yorkton Regional High School
Refresh Massage Studio • Maple Side Sales • SecurTek • Hearn's Pharmacy • Custom Microsystems • Brendonn Holdings
Credence Construction • Farrell Agencies • Paws & Claws • Agratactics Agronomy • Larry Hilworth • The Soup Haven
Lasch Holdings • Eastside Cattle Corp. • Custom Printers • Dr. Sheasby, Dr. Popick, Dr. Caines • Grain Millers • Vision Sense Eye
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Parkland Printers • Brock Zapshalla Consulting • Bev Bielinski • Ruff's Furniture • The Rock 98.5 FM • Painted Hand Casino
SHSR Holdings • SAMA • KPMG Regina • Chartered Professional of HR of Saskatchewan • Ventures Community Futures • DirectWest
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Lakeview Land & Cattle Co. • Yorkton Transitional Homes for Youth • Kristen Zubko Edward Jones • Yellowhead Sales & Leasing

Business Licence Fees Due

Just a reminder to our member businesses that the City of Yorkton 2020 Business Licence fees must be paid by **March 31, 2020**.

To make it even easier, the City has developed a new form that can be filled in on-line.

In an effort to better understand the local economy, the form asks one question about the number of employees your business has.

This information is used for statistical purposes ONLY.

Please answer the question as it assists the Economic Development committee in planning its strategy.

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2014 AWARD RECIPIENT

Exciting Changes to Celebrate Awards

Businesses in Yorkton are resilient and creative. They deserve to be celebrated!

The 2020 Celebrate Success Business Awards will be held **March 25** at St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre.

invited to vote for the business they believe most deserves an Award. Voting will conclude 5:00 PM March 20

Other Awards include:

Award of Excellence (3 recipients); Community Involvement; Safety; Property Restoration; Business Growth & Expansion; Young Entrepreneur; New Business Venture; Marketing; and Customer Service. Also for groups and organizations, the Community Merit Award (3 recipients).

A number of changes have taken place that will help to make these Awards bigger and better than ever before:

- You know your business. So the Chamber has moved from a nomination process to an application process. Businesses apply for the awards they feel best suits their business situation
- Fillable Application Forms are available online on the Chamber's website www.yorktonchamber.com OR they can be downloaded, completed and emailed to info@yorktonchamber.com
- Point form information. No more writing essays! As they used to say in the old detective movies, "Just the facts, please ma'am!"

New Awards

- Business Leader of the Year - no application for this. The recipient will be selected by the Judging Panel
- People's Choice Award - no application for this. Once the Finalists for all the Awards have been announced, Chamber members ONLY will be

- A business which received a particular Award in 2016 or anytime before 2016, is eligible to apply for that Award again in 2020 - except the Award of Excellence.
- As always, businesses are encouraged to apply for more than one Award
- As always, the Awards are open to all businesses - Chamber members or not. However, businesses outside of Yorkton must be Chamber members to apply
- Deadline for submitting applications is **NOON February 19**
- The **Finalists' Lunch**, the event where the finalists in the Award categories are announced, will be held **Wednesday, March 4** at the **Painted Hand Casino**

2020 is the start of a new decade. Wouldn't it be great if your business began the new decade as an Award recipient? The only way for that to happen is for you to apply for an Award!

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Award sponsors include . . .

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Welcome and Farewell

With the start of the new year, so, too does the Chamber begin a new year with a couple of new faces on the Board of Directors.

Following the November election, returning to the Board are **Ajay Tady, Bob Knox, Carol Yaholnitsky, Joseph Ortynsky, Mike Stackhouse** and **Sarah Kowalchuk**.

New to the Board are **Jessica Richards** and **Mark Hoddenbagh**. The new and returning Directors began their 2 year term effective January 1. The Chamber looks forward to their input, insights and ideas.

The terms of two Directors ended December 31. Leaving the Board are **Dustin Brears** and **Sunil Shah**.

Dustin joined the Board in 2016 and served on a variety of committees. **Sunil** became a Director in 2018 and served as the Chair of the Policy committee in 2019.

The Chamber extends its thanks to **Sunil** and **Dustin** for their interest and time serving on the Board. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Dates

Feb 6 - 5:30 PM Chamber on Tap at Back 40 Brewery. A time to relax and socialize and listen to Nicole Campbell and Guy Gendreau discuss how their business transitioned from one generation to the next

Feb 13 - Chamber Business Lunch at the Painted

Hand Casino. Guest Speaker is former Regina Mayor Pat Fiacco who will talk about developing a brand and pride in your city

Feb 19 - Deadline for submitting applications for the Celebrate Success Business Awards

Mar 4 - Celebrate Success Finalists' Lunch at the Painted Hand Casino. Learn the finalists for the Celebrate Success Business Awards

Mar 25 - Celebrate Success Business Awards!



Sarah Kowalchuk and Kristen Zubko unveil the new 2020 Chamber of Commerce Logo



Representatives of the Sask Health Authority, City of Yorkton, Yorkton Fire Protective Services, the Chamber and the Hon. Warren Kaeding, Minister of Rural & Remote Health were present to witness the unveiling of a new Needle Drop Bin in front of the Fire Station.



Mayor Bob Maloney conducted the installation of the Chamber Directors serving on the 2020 Board