



The Voice of Business



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**Assist Economic Recovery by Reducing Physical Distancing Requirements**

Earlier this month, the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to Premier Scott Moe appealing to him to reduce the physical distancing requirement of 2 metres (6.6 feet) to 1.2 metres (4 feet) as a way to stimulate the economy.

It was pointed out that on April 29, the World Health Organization recommended a distancing of at least 1 meter in order to protect oneself and others from the virus.

The adoption of the 2 metre distancing requirement has negatively impacted Canadian businesses, and in particular, Yorkton businesses. For instance, restaurants are at reduced capacity and hair stylists have had to leave styling chairs vacant. The Yorkton Chamber suggested that by reducing the

physical distancing requirement, businesses could increase their capacity for clients and customers thereby creating greater economic activity.

The Chamber also questioned the maximum limits set on indoor gatherings. It asked why, if a facility could safely accommodate 60, 90 or 150 people, was the maximum number of attendees set at 30?

At time of writing, the Chamber has not received a response from the government. And by the time this is printed, Phase 4.2 of the Re-opening Plan will be in place. The Chamber is hopeful that the government is taking into consideration the recommendations put forth by its business community. Everyone is eager to move along the path to economic recovery.



*Directors Joe Ortynsky and Marty Sveinbjornson demonstrate physical distancing. Joe (left) is standing 1.2 metres (4 feet) from the broom and 2 metres (6.6 feet) from Marty. A reduction in physical distancing requirements could enable businesses to increase their capacities.*

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Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

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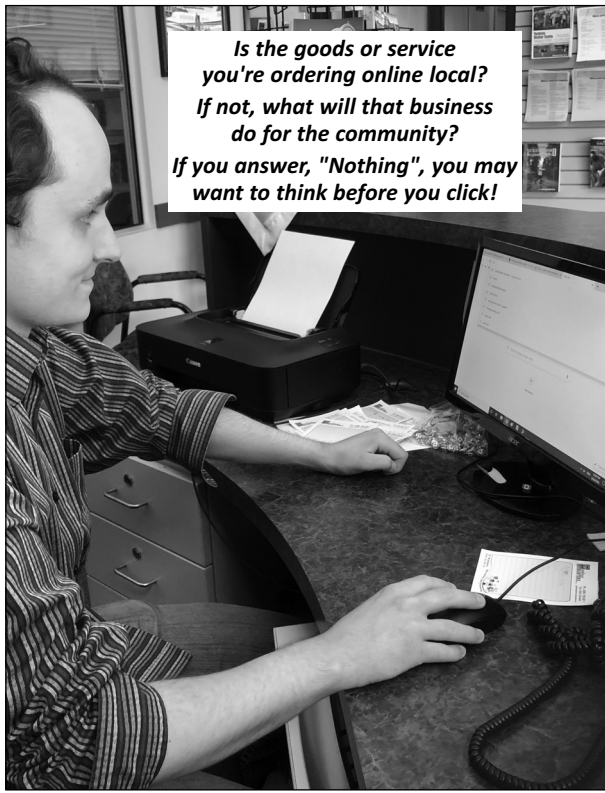


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*Is the goods or service you're ordering online local?  
If not, what will that business do for the community?  
If you answer, "Nothing", you may want to think before you click!*

# THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK . . .

The internet has enabled us to shop from businesses with a website anywhere in the world. **But before you click, think.** If the item you are considering purchasing on line isn't from a local business, think about the ramifications of not buying local.

- If our business community is not doing well, how will that affect property taxes?
- Does a business a thousand kilometers away support the Health Foundation, Parkland College, SIGN, your kid's sports team or your kid's dance school?
- Does the business down the road hire your teenager or neighbour?
- Think about how the community will appear to strangers if we see the number of "Vacant for Rent or Sale" signs continue to increase? Will they consider the city prosperous and

one they would like to explore? What will these signs say to prospective new families? The Yorkton business community needs you. It matters where your dollars are spent. The Yorkton Chamber urges you to **think before you click** and support those local businesses which support the community.



## Did You Know?

- According to the Workers Compensation Board, 2019 was the fourth year in a row that 88% of the province's employers experienced zero injuries and zero fatalities
  - Workplace Total injury rate decreased to 4.95 per 100 workers
  - Time Loss injury rate decreased to 1.86 per 100 workers
- Yorkton is the only city in the province that depends entirely upon groundwater for its water supply. The city has 13 wells in 6 aquifers
- Applications for a mail-in ballot for the Municipal Election will be accepted beginning September 1

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## Yorkton Chamber Commends City on Re-Opening Public Facilities

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce recently sent a letter to the Mayor and Council commending them on their willingness to re-open public facilities as soon as they were given permission to do so by the provincial government. This decision by Council is viewed by the Chamber as a positive step toward the re-opening of the city's economy.

Mike Stackhouse, President of the Chamber is pleased that the Council has made this decision based on science. "Re-opening public facilities demonstrates to the community that the Mayor and Council are following the lead and direction of the science community and that it has faith in their recommendations," he said. "More importantly, Council is demonstrating it understands the need for citizens to resume their normal activities".

The Yorkton Chamber has asked the provincial government to

certify businesses with approved Pandemic Response Plans in order to avoid future closures; and has asked the government to reduce the physical distancing requirement to 1.2 metres or 4 feet.

Stackhouse summed up the commendation by stating, "A return to normal, as much as is possible, is good for the citizens and the community as a whole".



## Your Member First Referrals - June 2020

**Harley Davidson of Yorkton • Joe Beeverz Bar & Grill • Mano's Restaurant • Brown's Social House  
Mr. Mike's Steakhouse • Parkland Mall • Alexander's Mens Wear • KW Men's Wear • Under the Covers  
Dream Weddings • The Scrub Hub • Crystal Clear Imprints • D's Signs and Designs • Source Embroidery  
Home Town Sports • The Plum Tree • Canadian Tire • Florissima • All About Flowers • Welcome Home Crafts  
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## Chamber Curbside Chats

The staff began conducting "curbside chats" with our Chamber members while the lockdown was in force and posting these on facebook.

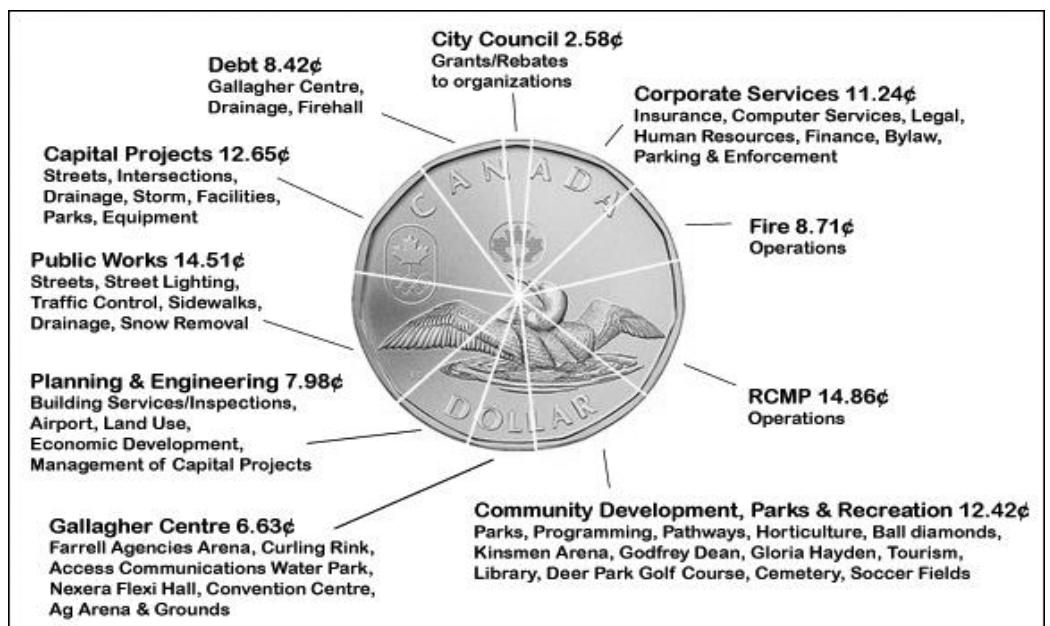
Now that businesses are open, the staff are still visiting businesses to take a brief video or photo and learn more about what the business is about. These can be found on the Chamber's facebook page.

Sherry MacDonald, Director of Marketing & Administration is great at putting everyone at ease in front of her camera.

Want to be included? Just contact the Chamber office.



## 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 2020 budget, which was approved at the December 16, 2019 Council meeting, visit <http://www.yorkton.ca/dept/finance/budget.asp>

## Abex Awards



The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce deemed it fitting that in 2020, the ABEX Awards recognize everyday heroes (businesses and individuals) who have demonstrated resilience, innovation and helped the province through this challenging year. Nominate a business or individual which has served your community through these challenging times. The Nomination process is easy just visit [www.saskchamber.com](http://www.saskchamber.com) and complete the nomination form on-line.

## Upcoming Dates

- **September 21st** •  
Nominations open for Municipal Elections
- **October 7th** •  
Celebrate Success Business Awards
- **October 7th** •  
4:00 PM Nominations for Municipal Elections close
- **October 14th** •  
All Candidates' Forum - Provincial
- **October 28th** •  
All Candidates' Forum - Municipal