



The Voice of Business



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Our Members Shared Their Opinions

In early August, there was a quite a stir in the local Chamber world as both the Canadian and Saskatchewan Chambers of Commerce were suggesting that businesses should be able to institute "voluntary vaccination passports". Many members asked the Yorkton Chamber what it was recommending. The Board of Directors directed its staff to conduct a survey of the membership before the Yorkton Chamber undertook a course of action.

A "voluntary vaccination passport" differs from a "mandatory vaccination passport" in that it leaves the decision about whether or not a business would ask its customers or clients to prove that they have received their 2 vaccination doses prior to allowing them into their venue. Some businesses would adopt this practice; others wouldn't. A "mandatory vaccination passport" is one mandated by the provincial government. All businesses would be bound to request proof of vaccination prior to allowing patrons into their places of business. Businesses would not have a choice - they would have to implement the passports. At time of writing, the provincial government has remained firm that mandatory vaccination passports will not be introduced in Saskatchewan.

The results of the survey were interesting.
The first question in the survey asked "Are you

supportive of voluntary vaccination passports/certificates to access public places?" 39.8% of the respondents replied Yes while 60.2% replied No.

Question 2 asked "Are you supportive of "voluntary vaccination passports/certificates" if it means your business doesn't have go through another lockdown?" The responses were split with 50% responding Yes while 50% responded No.

Upon review of the results by the Chamber's Policy committee, the Yorkton Chamber will not take a position for or against a voluntary passport. Marty Sveinbjornson, President of the Yorkton Chamber stated, "These results clearly show that the business community is divided on voluntary vaccination passports. The Chamber supports the provincial government's efforts to encourage people to get their vaccinations."

Sunil Shah, Chair of the Policy committee indicated that vaccination passports and lockdowns are not related. "Lockdown of businesses should be avoided at all costs," he said. "The Yorkton Chamber is not in favour of more lockdowns and restrictions. The focus should be on expanding the capacity of the health care system to care for those who fall ill."



Policy Committee Chair Sunil Shah indicated that the Yorkton Chamber believes that lockdowns and further restrictions on businesses should be avoided at all costs.

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Honourable Perrin Beatty

Clarification on Bill C-208

On July 19, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Perrin Beatty, issued the following statement on the clarification from the government on the taxation of intergenerational transfers of small business shares:

"Today's clarification from Finance Minister Freeland regarding Bill C-208 provides much needed certainty for small businesses by making clear the Bill is now part of the Income Tax Act. The unfair taxation of intergenerational transfers meant that until Bill C-208, it was more difficult and made less financial sense for small business owners to sell their company to their children and grandchildren versus a complete stranger. Small businesses make up 98% of all companies in Canada.

We commend the government of Canada and Parliamentarians from across party lines, including MPs for not only seeing that C-208 passed through Parliament, but also addressing the issue as soon as possible.

As we make our way from economic recovery to growth, it will be important for small businesses to know that they are being supported."

Canadian Chamber President and CEO, Perrin Beatty said that the clarification of Bill C208 removes the legislative limbo facing small businesses, which will help facilitate succession planning and help contribute to the successful longevity of Canadian companies.

Welcome New Members!!!

A membership in the Chamber is an investment in your business. Welcome to these new Chamber members!!

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101 Businesses Tell the Shop Local Message

By the end of the summer, 101 Yorkton Chamber member businesses will have been visited where footage has been shot, edited and posted on the Chamber's website and social media platforms.

The businesses will also have access to these videos. While the videos profile 101 different businesses, the message in each video is to Shop Local.

If you're interested in viewing these videos and learning about the unique goods and/or services each business offers, then visit the Chamber's YouTube channel



Laurie Renton was one of the presenters at the first Chamber Business Summit in 2019

Chamber Business Summit Returns

In 2019, the Chamber held its first Business Summit. The attendance surpassed our expectations and we had some great speakers.

At the end of the event, the attendees were asked to complete an evaluation and provide suggestions for topics, speakers and format.

We took your suggestions and have developed our Second Business Summit to be held November 10. Watch for details!



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22nd Annual Chamber Business Dinner

22nd Annual Chamber Business Dinner
Wednesday, September 29 - St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre

Featuring Guest Speaker - Kendal Netmaker

As founder and owner of Neechie Gear, Kendal has received a number of awards for his entrepreneurship - including being selected along with 29 other young entrepreneurs to represent Canada at the G20 Summit in 2011; named as one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40 in 2019; and 3 Sask Chamber ABEX Awards

Tickets for the Dinner are now available. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

For information, contact the Yorkton Chamber office 306-783-4368 or info@yorktonchamber.com

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ABEX Finalists Announced

A Yorkton Chamber member has been named a Finalist for the Sask Chamber's ABEX Awards!

The Achievement for Business Excellence Priority Focus Award is presented to a Saskatchewan business which has gone above and beyond in demonstration of business excellence, in an area that mirrors a select Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce policy priority. In 2021, that focus is on Digital Integration.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced more customers online. Businesses that have taken this opportunity to enhance their online presence are benefitting from the move to an even more digitised economy. This ABEX Award will celebrate these successes.

Congratulations to
Triple A Directional Drilling
on being named a
Finalist for the
Priority Focus Award.



The ABEX Awards will occur virtually October 22.
To register, visit the Sask Chamber website www.saskchamber.com



InputSask is a unique new insight community that takes engagement to the next level. By getting your feedback on issues that are affecting your business, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce can advocate to government decision makers even more effectively. Make your voice heard by joining InputSask.

Your feedback impacts the Sask Chamber's advocacy decisions.

Visit the InputSask Member Hub for survey results and data to see what other members of the Saskatchewan business community had to say and how it's informing our advocacy efforts.

To learn more, visit www.saskchamber.com