

Members Share Their Concerns; Chamber Meets New Manager



Bob Knox, Chair of the Business Development committee, opened the meeting of business owners held in June. The purpose of the meeting was for business owners to share their concerns about doing business in the city and to discuss how the city could be more supportive of the business community.



Brad Hvidston, Yorkton's new City Manager met recently with the Chamber's Business Development & Policy committees to learn about the many concerns facing business owners in Yorkton. Brad is hopeful that he and the Chamber will communicate regularly and work together to solve issues as they arise.

Upon receiving a number of complaints from Chamber members who were informed by the city that they need to install Water Retention Measures on their property, the Board of the Chamber invited all businesses to a meeting in late June. It was a productive meeting with several business owners in attendance sharing their concerns about the difficulties encountered

while trying to expand their business in Yorkton. Resolutions to tackle these concerns were also discussed.

Following the meeting, the Directors involved in the Policy and Business Development committees then invited Brad Hvidston, the city's new Manager, to a meeting to bring to his attention these concerns and

potential resolutions.

Brad will look into the concerns and indicated he is hopeful the lines of communication will be open between him and the Chamber. It was agreed that both the city and the Chamber share the goal of making Yorkton open for business and "a place where good things happen". Watch for updates.

Congratulations

- Kooler Group which recently received its COR Safety Certificate with high marks! It has a fully implemented safety program in place to ensure its staff go home safely to their families every day.
Countryside Motors on 50 years in business
Canadiana Agri Motive on 45 years in business
Performance Promotions on 40 years in business
Photography by Mitch on 40 years in business
CJGX Radio on being named Radio Station of the Year by the Sask Country Music Association; and on being nominated for the Canadian Country Music Association's Radio Station of the Year (medium and small markets) Award

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Parade Commemorates 150th Anniversary of Treaty 4 Signing

The theme of the Yorkton Exhibition's recent Summer Fair Parade was the commemoration of the signing of Treaty 4. President Sunil Shah represented the Chamber in a car decorated in the Chamber's colours. Earlier in the week, he delivered greetings from the Yorkton Chamber at the Opening Ceremonies.



Staff Sgt Burton Jones (second from right) and members of the Yorkton detachment donned their red serges to march in the Parade. Their participation demonstrates the importance the officers place on being involved in the community.



August 13
 Town Hall



The **Ministry of Immigration and Career Training (ICT)** will host a Town Hall to provide employers and industry associations with information on ICT services and available programs in support of 3 pillars 1) preparing Saskatchewan people for jobs; 2) recognizing skills in SK; and 3) international recruitment. Attendees will be able to connect with ICT representatives working behind the scenes to help employers build their labour force and ask them questions directly.

2:00 PM Tuesday August 13 at the Career Services Office
 72 Smith Street East. Please **RSVP by Thursday Aug 8** to employerservices@gov.sk.ca

Work Placements Anyone?

Suncrest College will offer a program entitled **Skills for Success for Newcomers** running Sept 9 through to December 13, 2024. One of the features of the program is to have students spend a total of 60 hours over the course of 2 weeks (Dec 2 – 14) in a work placement. If you are **interested in assisting newcomers by offering them a short term work placement**, please contact Erin Sobkow at e.sobkow@suncrestcollege.ca or 306-786-2587 or 306-641-9171



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Did You Know?

- The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce released in June its Provincial Election Platform entitled **Fueling Momentum 2024**. It can be found at www.saskchamber.com



- The new **President & CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce is from Saskatchewan!** Candace Laing will begin her new duties Sept 1. For ten years she worked with PotashCorp and then Nutrien. At Nutrien, she was the Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer and Vice President of Sustainability and Stakeholder Relations
- The **Agricultural Producers of Saskatchewan (APAS)** have released a document entitled 2024 Farmers and Food Prices. The document demonstrates that farmers earn less for their commodities while consumers are paying higher prices. To learn more, visit apas.ca/policy/farmers-and-food-prices

Interested in Serving on Council?

The following is a brief guide on the process for Nomination: A Notice of Call for Nominations will be published at least 10 business days prior to Nomination Day. Nomination papers are available at City Hall or on the City's website www.yorktonvotes.ca

The Nomination period will begin 8:00 AM Tuesday September 24. Completed Nomination papers must be received by the Returning Officer/Nomination Officer by **4:00 PM Wednesday October 9**.

How to file Nomination Papers?
 Nomination Papers must contain the signatures of at least 5 eligible voters and a Criminal Record Check must accompany the Nomination Papers. Nomination Papers may be delivered in person or by an agent or emailed.

- Other requirements:**
- Candidates must complete a Public Disclosure of Private Interests form and include it with Nomination Papers
 - Post election, candidates must disclose both their campaign expenses and donations received to run their campaign

To verify the above information or to learn more on how to become a candidate for either Mayor or Council, visit the city's website www.yorktonvotes.ca

Knowledgeable and Committed Councillors
 The Chamber appreciates the time and effort it takes to serve on Council. While highly visible, Council meetings actually represent only a small portion of the time committed to serve on Council. Committee meetings, strategic planning meetings, listening to the concerns of tax payers, reading Council meeting packages, checking information, attending SUMA conventions – these are all examples of the demands on the Mayor and every Councillor.

It is, therefore, extremely important, prior to submitting nomination papers, that prospective candidates for Council understand the time commitment required to serve and represent the citizens.

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Talking Points Released

At a recent Media Conference, the Yorkton Chamber released its **Talking Points** documents that it has prepared for both the **Provincial and Municipal elections**. The Talking Points were developed based on a survey of its members; information from the Sask Chamber of Commerce; and the observations of the Directors. The Chamber encourages its members to discuss these Talking Points with the candidates for the respective elections. The Chamber further encourages people to VOTE in each of the elections. Your voice counts.

The Municipal Talking Points also contains information on how to become a candidate if someone is interested in serving on City Council.

The Talking Points are available on the Chamber's website www.yorktonchamber.com and at the Chamber office.



Policy Committee Chair, Mike Stackhouse displays the Talking Points documents the Chamber developed for the Provincial and Municipal elections



Tourism Yorkton staff, Shauntel and Xavier, examine the oats plot in the Crops of the Parkland plot located just north of the Visitor Information Centre/Chamber Building. The crop and forage varieties are of interest to tourists and residents alike. Stop in at the Centre and staff will offer you a great oatmeal cookie recipe and enough oats to make them courtesy Chamber member **Grain Millers Canada**.

Upcoming Dates

- Sept 12 – Coffee with the Chamber 7:30 AM, Grumpy's Grill - the RCMP will present information on how to prevent and deal with Shop Lifting
- Oct 2 – 25th Annual Chamber Business Dinner
- Oct 16 – All Candidates' Forum (Provincial) 7:00 PM Gallagher Centre
- Oct 23 – All Candidates' Forum (Municipal) 7:00 PM Gallagher Centre
- Nov 6 – "Wine Not Wednesday" Theme: Women in Business – watch for details
- Nov 13 – Municipal Election

Yorkton Chamber of Commerce

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