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COURIER

## President's Message



Sunil Shah CPA, CA

It is a privilege to continue serving as President of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce. I extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow Directors for placing their trust in me and to our members for your ongoing support and engagement. Your commitment is essential to the success of the Chamber and the continued progress of our community.

Since my initial involvement in 2018, I have been inspired by the exceptional leadership, collaboration, and innovation demonstrated by Yorkton's business community. Our business leaders have worked tirelessly to foster an environment where enterprises can thrive, and their dedication has contributed significantly to the growth, diversity, and vitality of our city.

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce remains steadfast in its mission to strengthen and con-

nect the business community. In 2024, we were proud to accomplish several key milestones:

- Engaging in meaningful discussions with local businesses to address challenges they faced with the city, advocating for practical and effective resolutions.
- Hosting All Candidates Forums for both Provincial and Municipal elections, ensuring that our members had opportunities to hear directly from candidates and engage in the democratic process.
- Celebrating the remarkable achievements of our business community at the Celebrate Success Business Awards, recognizing outstanding contributions to Yorkton's economic growth and innovation.
- Expanding our membership base, welcoming new perspectives and strengthening the collective voice of Yorkton's business community.

These achievements are a testament to the shared vision and dedication of our members, Directors, and community partners. As we look ahead to 2025, we remain committed to advocating for progress, creating new opportunities for local businesses, and fostering collaboration with all levels of government.

The future of Yorkton is bright. With a new city manager and mayor providing fresh leadership, we are well-positioned to build on the successes of 2024 and achieve even greater milestones in the coming year. Together, we will continue to champion a dynamic, resilient, and thriving business environment.

Becoming a member of the Yorkton Chamber is more than an investment in your business—it is a commitment to the growth and prosperity of our community. Your membership gives you a voice, and it is our privilege to represent and advocate for your interests. Should you have questions, concerns, or ideas, I encourage you to reach out to any Chamber Director. I am also eager to engage in conversations with those who share a vision for Yorkton's continued success.

With a dedicated team of incoming Directors and a unified commitment to our mission, I am confident that we will achieve remarkable progress in the year ahead. Together, let us aim for new heights, ensuring that Yorkton continues to thrive as a vibrant and prosperous community for businesses and residents alike.

## Congratulations

- **Value Tire & Battery** on 40 years in business
- **DionCo Sales & Service Ltd** on 20 years in business
- **Sask Abilities** on serving Saskatchewan for 75 years
- **Harvest Meats** recently presented long service awards to **Ken Propp**, President Emeritus on 50 years of service; and to **David Harris**, Production Manager on 45 years of service
- **Sunil Shah**, CPA CA at **Baker Tilly Yorkton** recently received from CPA Saskatchewan, the prestigious Early Achievement Award. This honour is reserved for young Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) who demonstrate outstanding career accomplishments, leadership skills, and significant contributions to their community early in their professional journey

Junction of Highways #9 & #16 Box 1051, Yorkton, SK S3N 2X3

Ph: (306) 783-4368

Email: [info@yorktonchamber.com](mailto:info@yorktonchamber.com)  
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## Thank You!

Thank you to the following businesses which have invested in their businesses by renewing their memberships in the Chamber (as of January 18th. Many more to be recognized in the March edition)

A & W Restaurant, AgraTactics Agronomy, Aspira Yorkton Crossing, Assiniboine Watershed Stewardship, Auto Electric Service, Axiom Ag, B G Denture Clinic, Bailey's Funeral Home & Cremation Care, Baillie Boys Towing, Baker Tilly SK LLP, Bartel & Simms CPA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Brendonn Holdings Broadway Professional Building Ltd., Broda Farms Inc., C.A. Reed Consulting Engineers, C.K. Electric Inc., C.P.K. Entertainment, Canadian Tire, Canora Service Station, Cheron Minke Farms, Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools, Clark Roofing (1964) Ltd., Cory G Cmoc, Companion Animal Hospital, Cornerstone Credit Union, Custom Printers Ltd, Cutters - Jody Lang, D R Auto Extras, Dairy Queen, Dance Innovation, DionCo Sales and Service Ltd, Diggers Excavating & Demolition (2006) Ltd., Dr. Brass Daycare Center, Dyste Counselling Services, East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Inc., Edward Jones -Tyler Ouart & Jenna Jones, Ecol Electric Corp., EG Electronics, Extravandance

Studio, Ford Dairy Farm, G & G Ostafie Farms, G Ungar Construction Ltd., Gardon Securities, Good Earths Shop, Good Spirit Housing Authority, Gordon's Sanitation, Grain Millers Canada Corp, Great Canadian Oil Change, Hair Shop Kreations, Handshake Services, Hnidey Farms, Hometown Source for Sports, JG Pizzey Inc, Joe Beeverz Canadian Pub, K Counselling / Karmen Pearce, Kaeding, Warren MLA, Kee's Taekwondo, Kitzan Strategic Solutions, KM Auto Care, Kondratoff Persick LLP, Kryworuchka Farms, Lakeview Insurance Broker, Lakeview Land & Cattle Co. Ltd, Lane Realty, Lasch Holdings Inc., Legacy Co-ops, Liebrecht Farms, Lyn's Point of View, M.L. Plumbing & Heating 1976 Ltd, Maple Side Sales, Marsollier Petroleum / DMM Energy Inc. (Esso), Mazergroup, McDonalds, McMunn & Yates, Kenneth Merkl, MODA Medical Aesthetic, Modern Mattress, N.L. Construction, Brenda Nagy, NAPA Auto Parts, National Bank Financial Wealth Management, Barry Neil, Kathy Neil, Painted

Hand Casino, Paper Bag Players, Parkland Carpet & Upholstery Cleaner, Parkland CPAP Services, Parkland Denture Clinic, Pat's Premier Plumbing & Heating, Paws & Claws Animal Rescue, PC Place, Penguin Refrigeration Ltd, Performance Promotions, Prairie Smiles Dental Group, Prairie View Physiotherapy, Prestige Painting, Dr. Floyd Puchala DMD Professional Corporation, Pumphouse Athletic Club (PAC), R & T Trucking, R. Miller's Plumbing & Heating & Electrical Ltd., Rathgeber Farms Ltd, RBC Financial Group, RBKR Law, Richard's Auto Detail, (102103832 Sask. Ltd), Dr. Krista Bree Rogoza Optometry Prof. Corp, Royal Auto Group, Ruff's Furniture Co. Inc., Ryan & Tanis Ferguson Farms, Saddles & Steel Music Productions, Sage Pharmacy, Maurice Schuster, Scotiabank, Section 19 Farming Company, Sherring Optical, Shoppers Drug Mart #405, SIGN, Source Embroidery & Screenprinting, Tapps Sports Lounge & Grill, The Coffee Bean, The Flats Eatery & Drink,

The Health Foundation of EC Saskatchewan, The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy, The ROCK 98five FM, The Soup Haven, Theodore ABC Daycare Inc., Thorsness Appliance, Three Way Industries Inc., Time Catchers Digital Imaging, Triple A Directional Drilling, Trischuk Dental, TruckPro Yorkton, Tsgouris Investments, Dr. Andries Van Heerden, Dr. Petrus Jansen van Rensburg, Vision Sense Eye Care, Vitality Veterinary Services PC Ltd., Western Development Museum, Western Financial Group, Western Trade Training Institute, Westland Insurance, Willowbrook Community Centre, Xerox/Southern Document Solutions, Yellowhead Sales & Leasing, York Lake Golf & Country Club, Yorkton Aircraft Service Ltd.-GPS Yorkton, Yorkton Lions Club, Yorkton Minor Football, Yorkton Short Film & Video Festival, YorktonStories.ca, Yorkton Welding & Machine (1983) Ltd.

Enjoy the journey, not just the destination.

**Jenn Jones**  
Financial Advisor

**Tyler Ouart**  
Financial Advisor

**1-306-786-2111**  
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**YORKTON TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Yorkton Tribal Council is a not-for-profit organization that provides essential services to 6 Member Nations (Cote, Keeseekoose, The Key, Zagime Anishinabek, Kahkewistahaw & OceanMan First Nations) in the Treaty 4 territory.

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## Did You Know?

- In December, **Harvest Meats** awarded to 51 of its employees long service awards ranging from 5 years to 50 years
- **Suncrest College** can offer a variety of customized programs including workshops on enhancing customer service
- Businesses wishing to offer classes to the citizens of Yorkton and area are encouraged to contact the city's **Director of Parks & Recreation** to discuss your ideas

## Upcoming Dates

- Mar 31 – Deadline for renewing City of Yorkton Business Licences
- April 23 – Chamber AGM

## Chamber Meets with MLAs

In December, the Policy committee met with David Chan, MLA Yorkton (*top photo*). And in January, the committee met with Sean Wilson, MLA Canora-Pelly (*bottom photo*).

Upgrades to Grain Millers Drive dominated both conversations. Health professional retention, a new health facility for Yorkton and regional economic alliances were also discussed.



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## Welcomes New Members

The Chamber welcomes new members  
**GORDON'S SANITATION**  
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As of January 1, there are new faces sitting at the Board Table. New to the Board and elected by acclamation to serve a two year term are **Jennifer Armstrong** (Mark's); **Tony Dales** (Mazergroup); **Bob Paton** (Auto Electric Service Ltd); **Vishal Sukhadiya** (McDonald's Restaurant); and **Kristin Weber** (Extravadance Studio). **Corey Werner** (CORE Real Estate) is a former President and had previously served on the Board for 12 years. He, too was acclaimed. Returning to the Board for another 2 year term are **Alicia Simoneau** (PAC); and **Sunil Shah** (Baker Tilly). As the Board had some vacancies, **Gurjit Dhaliwal** (Venvi The Bentley); and **Doug Forster** (Legacy Co-op) were appointed by the Board to each serve a one year term. These Directors will join **Ajay Tadi** (Yorkton Tribal Council); **Bob Knox** (Value Tire & Battery); **Mary Carvalho** (RBC); **Paul Hoffman** (Parkland Appraisals); **Mike Stackhouse** (Source Embroidery); and **Stephanie Buckle** (All About Flowers).

Retiring from the Board following their 2 year term are **Melody Kelts** (Sage Pharmacy); **Nicole Campbell** (Yorkton Concrete 2012 Ltd); and **Tristen Sawchuk**.

The Chamber extends its thanks to Melody, Nicole and Tristen for their interest and time serving on the Board. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.



## Directors Installed

Prior to the beginning of the first meeting of the Chamber's 2025 Board, Mayor Aaron Kienle installed the Directors. The Directors affirmed the values and principles by which they will conduct themselves

## Future Entrepreneurs

The Yorkton Regional High School once again offered the Junior Achievement program to interested students during the 2024-25 first semester. The **SC Studio Co**, consisting of 7 students, created and sold bath salts and candles. As per the requirement of the JA program, 10% of their profits were donated to the Salvation Army.

Six students comprised the company **Wood Works**. They manufactured and sold customized wooden coasters with a stand. 10% of their profits were donated to the Allan Blair Cancer Center.

All students report they enjoyed the experience of running a business but the projects took lots of time.

The Yorkton Chamber extends its congratulations to all the students on their success and the lessons they have learned.

