



The Voice of Business



COMMUNITY COURIER

The Chamber Works for YOU



The Chamber's Policy and Business Development committees recently met with City Council. A variety of topics relevant to the business community such as property taxes and assessment; and economic development were discussed. The 2 entities plan to meet again in March. The Chamber commended City Council for holding an open Special Meeting of Council Feb 6 to introduce its 2025 Budget. To view the Budget meeting, visit yorkton.ca/Council and click on Feb 6

Have you ever wondered what it is a Chamber does? The purpose of a Chamber is to be the voice of the business community.

In Yorkton, 16 Directors are elected from the Chamber Membership to represent them and to advocate on their behalf. It means that the Board listens

to its members and then conveys to City Council, MLAs and the MP the opportunities and issues before the local business community. It's very difficult for one person or business to speak regularly with their elected officials but through the Chamber, the Board does that.

The Chamber also provides

events where business people can meet other business people. We do this through workshops and Coffee with the Chamber. We also have some fun such as the Chamber Business Dinner and the Celebrate Success Awards.

To learn more, call the Chamber office.

Congratulations

- Traction Yorkton on 20 years in business
• Lin's Point of View on 5 years in business
• Cornerstone Credit Union on being named by Mediacorp Canada Inc one of Saskatchewan's Top Employers in 2025
• Dick DeRyk, YorktonStories.ca on receiving the Civic Recognition Award for adults. This is also Dick's 50th year as an owner/operator of businesses in Yorkton
• Sask Abilities Yorkton on receiving the city's Civic Award for a Group
• Kyla Eiffert and Rhiannon Montgomery of Kondratoff Persick LLP on being recognized by Pro Bono Law for providing free legal services to underserved communities

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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 February 18th). Many more yet to be recognized.

A Winters Day Designs; All Season Asphalt Services; Air Bender Sheet Metal; Auto Trim Design; Balcarres Tire Ltd; Beaver Lodge Farms Ltd.; Blaze Locksmithing & Security; BGC Yorkton; Brock Zapshalla Contracting; CT Reit Property Management Limited Partnership; Canadian Western Bank; Century 21 Able Realty; Churchbridge Daycare Cooperative; City of Yorkton; Crestvue Ambulance Service Ltd.; Community Futures Ventures; Croptimistic Technology; Crystal Clear Imprints; DCR

Construction; Dream Weddings; Duck's Unlimited Canada; Everlast Eaves and Exteriors; Farm Credit Canada; Fedorowich Construction; Flaman Sales Ltd.; Grumpy's Grill; Hackman Feeds; Hancock Plumbing; Heart & Soul Healing Centre; JA Audio; Jesse Ellert Studios; LH Accounting; Knight Archer; Kooler Refrigeration; KPMG; LF Photography; Mark's, Marlin Travel; Met Credit Adjusters; Mid City Service; Minute Muffler; Moon Pop Creative; Mr. Mikes Steak House Casual;

Mark & Lori Butchko; Mulder Cattle Company; Northern Motors; Olson Diesel; Outta Here Travel; Parlour Barber Shop; Parrish & Heimbecker; PCL Construction; Penner Insulating; Percy H. Davis; Pet Valu; Potzus Ltd.; Precision Power Ltd.; Rayzr's Cellar; Richardson Oilseed; RCM Outdoors; RH Electric; SaskTel, Sask Abilities; Schrader's; Sensus Chartered Professional Accountants Ltd.; SENTEC Business Solutions Ltd.; Sharp Automotive; Sheila's Place; Sherring Gold Jewellers;

Sixteen Safety Services; Soup N Such; St. Mary's Cultural Centre; Suncrest College; TeaPro Bubble Tea; Treasure Chest Toastmasters; Under the Covers; Value Village; Vetted HVAC Services; Vulcan Construction; Western Litho Printers; White Stone Enterprises; Winmar; Yorkton Exhibition Association; Yorkton Nursery School; Yorkton Martial Arts Training; Yorkton Orthodontics; and Zapshalla Rusnak Financial Service.

Update on Grain Millers Drive

The Chamber was pleased to learn that the City of Yorkton, RM of Orkney and Ministry of Highways have entered into an agreement to partner in a Tri-Party Functional Plan to upgrade Grain Millers Drive – an important economic corridor for the City and the RM. In April 2023, the Chamber brought together the City, the RM, the MLA and several businesses to discuss the dire need to upgrade the road. A couple

of months later, the stakeholders then met with the Ministry of Highways to share their concerns about the road and the opportunities it provides. Since then, the two orders of government have been working toward developing the partnership. The Chamber thanks all those in the City, the RM and the Ministry who have established this partnership. Such committed collaboration will benefit everyone. Well done!

Upcoming Dates

- Mar 13 – *Tricks & Tips for Social Media*
- April 3 – 5:00 – 7:00 PM *In partnership with Women Entrepreneurs of Sask (WESK) a free networking event targeting women (but men will be welcome).*
- April 23 – *Chamber AGM at the Owl's Nest*
- Oct 8 – *Chamber Business Dinner*

Enjoy the journey, not just the destination.

Jenn Jones
Financial Advisor

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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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Chamber Meets with Elected Representatives



During their meeting with Cathay Wagantall, M.P. Yorkton - Melville (seated far right), members of the Yorkton Chamber's Policy committee had the opportunity to discuss with Cathay a number of topics of interest to the business community including the carbon tax and the capital gains exemption.



Bob Knox and Mike Stackhouse, Chairs of the Chamber's Bus Dev and Policy committees respectively, met with Aleana Young, NDP Caucus Shadow Minister for Economy and Jobs; Sask Power. Aleana was seeking input on a variety of economic issues facing the Yorkton and area business community, including tariffs and the Bunge-Viterra merger.



Members of the Yorkton Chamber's Policy committee met with Hon. Warren Kaeding, Minister of Trade & Export Development; and Minister Responsible for Innovation. A good exchange of information occurred as a number of topics relevant to economic development in and around Yorkton were discussed.

Chambers Plan
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Welcomes New Members
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Mayor Aaron Kienle, Chamber Executive Director Juanita Polegi and Cory Cadotte, on behalf of Tribal Chief Isabel O'Soup, addressed the crowd assembled to honour the Canadian flag on its 60th anniversary, Feb 15 2025.

O Canada!

February 15 marked the 60th anniversary since the raising of the “new” Canadian flag. In response to a call by the 5 living former Prime Ministers, the city of Yorkton organized an event in recognition of National Flag Day. The Yorkton Chamber was pleased to be a part of the event and together with Mayor Aaron Kienle, Tribal Chief Isabel O'Soup, Reeve Novak and Reeve Trost, co-signed a letter addressed to the citizens of Yorkton and surrounding communities extending to them an invitation “to embrace this celebration with pride”. The letter concluded with the statement, “Let us proudly stand together, united under the Maple Leaf, as we reaffirm our shared commitment to a brighter future for all.”

Waste Water Treatment Plant

Recently Chamber Directors and Staff attended the City of Yorkton Open House to learn more about the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. The need for a new waste water treatment plant is driven by several key considerations including upgrading aging infrastructure; meeting more stringent regulatory standards; preparing for climate resiliency; and supporting water cycle sustainability. To learn more about the project or to make comments, visit <https://shapeyourcity.yorkton.ca>



Did You Know?

The **Employer Advisory Centre** is a resource, advisory, and support centre committed to providing expertise that makes working with the WCB easier for Saskatchewan employers – especially in the appeals process.

We know that navigating the **Workers' Compensation Board (WCB)** can feel overwhelming. At the Employer Advisory Centre, we're here to simplify the process and empower Saskatchewan employers with the tools and expertise to make informed decisions.

If you disagree with a WCB decision regarding a worker's injury claim or your employer account, we're ready to guide you through each step of the appeals process. Our advisors offer tailored, confidential support and can also help you access detailed online resources to better understand the process.

Beyond appeals, we provide resources on a wide range of WCB topics, including injury prevention, return-to-work programs, employer premiums, and more. If you're not sure where to start, our advisors can answer any questions you have and direct you to useful resources.

As an independent resource, we offer impartial and confidential advice tailored to your needs. Our experts are dedicated to helping you navigate the WCB system with clarity, and without any conflict of interest. Best of all, our support is completely free, making it easier than ever to get the guidance you need.

If you have any questions about the centre or need help navigating the WCB, please reach out at 1-833-822-5607 or contact@saskemployeradvisory.ca. You can also learn more about the centre, explore resources and book a meeting at www.saskemployeradvisory.ca