

COMMUNITY COURIER

Stakeholders Discuss Traffic Concerns: York Road and Grain Millers Drive



During a discussion between City Council and the Chamber, it did not appear to the Chamber that a coordinated plan had been undertaken for Grain Millers Drive to take on the extra traffic that would be generated while York Road is under repair so the Chamber invited the City, RM of Orkney and the businesses along Grain Millers Drive to a meeting.

While Grain Millers Drive was repaired 3 years ago, it has deteriorated. And, with all the semi trucks traveling over it daily, dust is a hazard. It was agreed by all those present that this road poses a major safety concern. To address this, it was agreed that two letters were to be sent to the Government of Saskatchewan.

The first letter addresses the need for financial assistance to the RM of Orkney for significant repairs on Grain Millers Drive to improve its safety and to enable the paving of that road to eliminate the dust hazard.

lights to be installed at the junction of Grain Millers Drive and Highway 9 in order to slow traffic at this intersection. And when York Road undergoes its construction, significantly more heavy haul traffic will be diverted to the Grain Millers Drive corridor which will cause a traffic flow bottleneck and pose a further safety risk.

The second letter addresses the need for traffic

We now await a response from the Government of Saskatchewan.

Congratulations

- RE/MAX Blue Chip Realty which has been recognized with the Top Transactions Western Canada Award (Small Market) for total transaction sides closed in 2022. This is the second year in a row that RE/MAX Blue Chip Realty has been recognized for this achievement
Great Canadian Oil Change - Yorkton on being awarded the 2022 Operator of the Year Award Small System. The Award was presented at GCOC's recent Annual Meeting
Congratulations to Access Communications Cooperative on being selected by Mediacorp Canada as a Top Employer in SK
Congratulations to Yorkton Kinsmen Club on raising over \$46,000 for Telemiracle 47

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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 Mar 22).

Back Forty Brewery, Bank of Montreal BMO, Beverley Bielinski, Brown's Social House, C.K. Electric Inc., Canadian Tire Properties-CT Reid, Cherrydale Golf, Clark Roofing (1964) Ltd., Copper Springs Health & Safety Consulting Inc., Countryside Motors Ltd., CTV Yorkton, Culligan Water, Deneschuk Homes, Divine Dental Center, Ffun Motorsports, Good Earth's Shop Ltd., Grumpy's Grill, High Angle Roofing & Exteriors, Hackman Feeds, IG Wealth Management, Kade Johnson, KW Mean's Wear/Pulse Apparel, Lakev-

iew Insurance Brokers, Larry Hilworth Ventures Ltd., Louck's Medi Health Pharmacy, Maple Side Sales, McCarthy Tax & Bookkeeping Services, Mr. Mike's Steakhouse Casual, New Philippines Product Store, Ottenbreit Sanitation Services, Painted Hand Community Development Corp., Parkland College, Photography by Mitch Inc., Pumphouse Athletic Corporation, Ram Industries Inc., Refined Magazine, Richard's Auto Detail, S & S Family Ranch, Securtek Monitoring Systems, SIIT-Sask. Indian Institute of Technologies, Skies

the Limit Toys, Soup N' Such, St. Mary's Parish Ukrainian Catholic Cultural Centre, Staples Professional, Success Office Systems, Sunrise Landscaping, TA Foods, TD Canada Trust, Trischuk Dental, Dr. Andries Van Heerden, Cathay Wagan-tall, MP, Yorkton Bucket Truck Services Ltd., Yorkton Concrete 2012 Ltd., Yorkton Curling Club, Yorkton Nursery School Co-operative, Yorkton Regional High School, Yorkton Sno Riders, Yorkton This Week, Yorkton Tribal Council.

## The "In" Crowd

If you're a Chamber member, then you're part of the "in" crowd. You're "in" because a Chamber membership keeps you

- **Informed** – with regular email blasts about dates, news and events
- **Included** – you know what's going on, including the work of the Chamber and what's happening in the community
- **Interactive** – when you attend Chamber events you mix and mingle with others building your customer or client base
- **Invested** – you belong to your Chamber, you belong to your community

Not part of the "In" crowd yet? Just contact the Chamber office and we can get you "in" (306-783-4368 or [info@yorktonchamber.com](mailto:info@yorktonchamber.com))



Thanks to Pat McGaughey for the Inspiration for this article.

## Yorkton Chamber Supports Letter to Federal Ministers

The Yorkton Chamber has lent its support to a letter prepared by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and addressed to the federal Ministers of Labour; Innovation, Science and Industry of Canada; and Transport indicating opposition to the proposal to introduce legislation on prohibiting replacement workers in federally regulated industries. The letter indicates such legislation raises serious concern for Canadian businesses, including many that play an essential role in growing our economy and ensuring that our supply chains operate efficiently.

The letter concludes with this plea, "We urge you to put the interests of Canadians and of the Canadian economy first and reconsider the government's plan to introduce this legislation. The Canadian economy – and Canadians – simply cannot afford it, nor does it create value for Canadians."



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## Welcome New Members

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on becoming Yorkton Chamber's newest members. Belonging to the Chamber empowers the Chamber to fulfill its purpose "to be the voice of the Yorkton and District business community".

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## Chambers Influence Motion

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce learned that on Monday March 20, a motion was to be brought to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage “which would compel Alphabet/Google and Meta/Facebook to provide all third-party communications (emails, texts, etc) and presentations and research they may have sponsored or received in relation to any government legislation since 2020. It also required a list of all third parties that have received funding from the companies for the purpose of advocacy, engagement, awareness campaigns and research with respect to regulation by Canada since January 1, 2020.”

The Canadian Chamber asked Chambers across the nation to contact their MPs to express their concern and that this motion “poses a serious threat to the privacy of Canadians and to their rights to hold and express opinions on public issues.”

The Canadian Chamber also sent a letter to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage outlining its concerns about how the motion could affect “free discourse in our democracy.”


Chamber of Commerce that an earlier version of the motion could harm the privacy and democratic rights of Canadians.” The privacy of individual Canadians is protected.

- Matthew Holmes, senior vice-president of policy and government relations at the Canadian Chamber is reported to have stated in an email to the National Post that “from what we’ve seen out of today’s committee meeting, our original concerns remain unchanged.”
- In an email to the Yorkton Chamber, Mr. Holmes indicated that the Canadian Chamber will continue to “seek clarity on the final motion and what the committee plans to do next.”

Those businesses and organizations which belong to the Yorkton Chamber have just seen their membership dollars in action as the Yorkton Chamber is a member of the Canadian Chamber. The Canadian Chamber was able to intervene and work to protect our democratic rights. That’s worth your annual fee, isn’t it?

### So what happened?

- The Yorkton Chamber sent a letter to Yorkton Melville MP Cathay Wagantall expressing its concerns about the proposed motion. While Mrs. Wagantall is not on the Heritage Canada committee, Saskatchewan MP Kevin Waugh is the Vice Chair.
- Following the meeting, the motion was amended to “seeking to compel internal and external communications from Facebook, following criticism from the Canadian



**The Lady “Gets” Shop Local**

The other day while driving, I saw a lady leaving a store with her shopping bags full of stuff! It was wonderful to see! This lady understands the importance of shopping locally. According to a study done in 2021, for every \$100 spent in Yorkton, it **generates an additional \$38 in economic activity!** Local businesses hire local people, including your family and friends. And local businesses support local cultural, recreational and sporting events. While you may not fill your shopping bags with lots of “stuff”, **remember every time you buy locally, you are helping to keep that local business - in business.**

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## Upcoming Dates

**APRIL 5**

5:30 PM Member Appreciation  
at Back 40 Brewery

**APRIL 13**

Noon Honourary Life Member Induction  
Gallagher Centre. Contact the Chamber office to register

**APRIL 26**

Noon Chamber AGM.  
Guest Speaker: Mayor Mitch Hipsley  
– State of the City address

**May 12**

Noon Chamber Business Lunch  
- details coming

**Oct 4**

Chamber Business Dinner  
– details coming

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## Business Incentives

With spring in our sights, you may be thinking about doing some upgrades to your commercial building. Be sure to check out the **Business Improvement Incentive Program** available from the City. Incentives are available for **façade and storefront** improvements. And if the building is located in the Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID), further incentives are available. There are also incentives for **Business Creation & Expansion; Vacant Building Tax Abatement; and Residential Construction**. To learn more, visit the city's web site [yorkton.ca/en/build-invest-and-grow/city-incentives](http://yorkton.ca/en/build-invest-and-grow/city-incentives)



Chamber member Home Town Source for Sports was one of many businesses which took advantage of the Business Improvement Incentive Program

## Did You Know?

- The **East Central Newcomer Welcome Centre Inc** is a non-profit agency which provides information and services to newcomers, immigrants and refugees in east central SK (within a 150 km radius of Yorkton). They strive to welcome and assist newcomers and foster a sense of community.
- **Shape Your City** is the City of Yorkton's online engagement site where you can share your ideas and feedback on City Matters. The city wants to empower its residents, to be more active in shaping your community and future. The city will listen to what you say, take your opinions into account, and report back to you on how community input

contributes to City projects. Go to [shapeyourcity.yorkton.ca](http://shapeyourcity.yorkton.ca) to visit this dynamic, attractive, easy-to-use website.

- Concerned about cyber security? John Hewie, National Security Officer for Microsoft Canada has prepared the Canadian Small Business Cyber Survival Guide. Visit [chamber.ca](http://chamber.ca) to download
- The Sask Chamber of Commerce is asking you to join their **InputSask** community. Your input on business issues, opportunities and other topics will help the Sask Chamber make better decisions. Your participation in the InputSask community can give you a better line of sight of the collective perspective of businesses in

Saskatchewan on key issues and opportunities — insight that can also help inform your decisions. **BE HEARD – your feedback will be taken seriously. BE IN THE KNOW – see how your feedback impacts the Chamber's decisions.** To join visit, [www.saskchamber.com](http://www.saskchamber.com)

- Over 100 Yorkton Chamber Members are enrolled in the **Chamber Plan** – a group benefits plan designed especially for businesses, farms and ranches with 1- 35 employees. Call the Chamber office to learn more 306-783-4368
- **Clover/First Data** offers great rates on processing fees to Chamber Members. And help is always available. Call the Chamber office for more information

## Chamber Meets with MLA



The Chamber's Policy committee recently met with Greg Ottenbreit, MLA Yorkton. Discussion items included the recent provincial budget; the PST on labour on construction projects; the need

for federal and provincial funding for a new Waste Water Treatment Plant; and a new health facility. The need for a Job Fair, organized by the Ministry of Trade & Export Development was also discussed.

Attending the meeting were Mike Stackhouse, Chair; Bob Knox; Vanessa Andres, President; Alicia Simoneau; Sunil Shah; and Juanita Polegi.