

COMMUNITY
COURIER

Chamber Meets with MP



Members of the Chamber’s Policy committee (including Sunil Shah, Bob Knox, President Vanessa Andres and Juanita Polegi), recently met with Cathay Wagantall, MP Yorkton – Melville (center) to discuss a number of topics including Summer Job Grants; the

impact of the Carbon Tax and high Interest Rates on businesses; labour shortages; and change in the size of the riding. The Chamber appreciates the opportunities to meet with our elected representatives in all orders of government.



New Website Launched

Breanne Swiezak, Chair of the Marketing committee is pleased to announce the launch of the Chamber’s new website

Breanne Swiezak, Chair of the Marketing Committee is happy with the look and feel of the Chamber’s new website. The committee has been working with Harvard Media to ensure the website is appealing and appears fresh. Take a look at the refreshed site by visiting www.yorktonchamber.com Check out the Member Directory and if you spot an error, please contact the Chamber office at 306-783-4368 or info@yorktonchamber.com

Congratulations

- **Harvest Meats** on 95 years in business
- **Parrish & Heimbecker** on doing business in Yorkton for 80 years
- **Thorsness Appliances** for 40 years in business
- **Yorkton Lions’ Club** on 80 years since Charter
- **Days Inn & Suites by Wyndham Yorkton** on being awarded the 2022 President’s Award in recognition for consistently providing a superior product. General Manager of the Year 2022 was awarded to John Anderson
- **Access Communications** on being named to Achievers list of 50 Most Engaged Workplaces. This is the 4th time Access has been named to the list

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

Ph: (306) 783-4368

Email: info@yorktonchamber.com

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Welcome New Members

JEFF CHAPPLE REALTY PROF. CORP.
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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".



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).

AJ Business Solutions, Hackman Feed Services Ltd., Haztech Energy Corp., MODA Medical Aesthetics, The Chalet, The Scrub Hub, Treasure Chest Toastmaster, Yorkton Minor Football



ABEX Awards
– APPLY NOW

Nominations or Applications are now open for the Sask Chamber's **ABEX Awards**. Deadline for applications in May 30. A business simply cannot buy the promotion it gets if it's selected as a Finalist or ABEX Award recipient. It's worth your time to visit saskchamber.com to learn more about the Award categories and how to nominate or apply. Yorkton businesses have been ABEX Award recipients in the past. Is 2023 the year for another one?

Speaking of Awards, keep in mind that the Yorkton Chamber's next **Celebrate Success Business Awards** will be held in the spring of 2024.

SCSA Meets in Yorkton



Several Chamber members attended the Sask Construction Safety Association AGM held recently in Yorkton. The Key Note speaker, Brad Siroski, an award winning mental health educator, implored the members of the audience to 1) tell someone when they are feeling overwhelmed with stress/anxiety/depression and 2) be open and receptive to listening to someone who tells you they are struggling. **The SCSA has a list of Mental Health Resources on their website scaonline.ca**

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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.

- Political Office, Administration & Finance
- Health & Social Development
- Justice Services
- Education
- Labor Force Development
- Housing & Technical Services
- Safe Haven Women's Shelter
- Economic Development



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Honourary Life Members Inducted



Jack Dawes (L) and Lyle Walsh (R) were recently inducted by the Yorkton Chamber as Honourary Life Members.

Jack Dawes is perhaps best known for his work as a radio journalist covering the agriculture industry. He has covered topics such as innovation in the agriculture industry; farm safety net programs; the Canadian Wheat Board; Farmers for Justice; the growth of the prairie oat industry; and of course, the Port of Churchill.

Jack's interviews of farm families are popular with his audience because it sounds like he's just having a conversation and people find other people's stories interesting.

Jack formed his business On the Land in 2011 and continues to submit stories and file reports for The Rock 98.5. Through the years, he has volunteered for minor sports and various fundraising activities in Saltcoats. He shares his love of music by playing in local bands.

Lyle Walsh became the General Manager at GX Radio in 1985. He wanted the radio station to be "local" so he insisted that events and activities around the listening area be supported and covered because the people in

those communities deserved the recognition. Lyle was involved in the broadcast industry for more than 35 years. He also farmed and continues to do so today.

The desire to help build the community drove Lyle to volunteer. He served as a Yorkton Chamber Director for 10 years and as its President in 1993. He also served on the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

He was the President of the Yorkton Exhibition Association and is currently a Director. He has also served on a variety of city committees. He has established a network of people he describes as "good people who take pride in their community and are committed to making it a good place to live and work".

Upcoming Dates

- May 5 – **Red Dress Day** – wear red to support the missing and murdered Indigenous Girls and Women. Memorial Honour Walk begins at 10:30 from Yorkton Tribal Council Offices 63 King Street
- Noon May 11 at Grumpy's - Business Succession Planning. Hear what our panelists have learned about business succession. Space is limited so you **MUST PRE-REGISTER**.
- May 25 – 27 – Yorkton Film Festival
- June 8 Business Forum at St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre. 10:30 – 2:30. Learn about how to attract, retain, engage and keep employees happy; how the Mitacs program can help your business; and share a meal with fellow businesses. **MUST PRE-REGISTER**
- July 5 – 8 – Summer Fair. Parade 11:00 AM July 8. Watch for details
- Oct 4 Chamber Business Dinner

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The Board of Directors of the Yorkton Chamber bestow Honourary Life Membership on individuals they consider have distinguished themselves by meritorious or public service. The Life Membership is granted to the individual and not the company. Since 1969, 25 people have been inducted as Honourary Life Members.

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Member Appreciation Night

A good crowd of Chamber members attended the Member Appreciation Night held recently at Back 40 Brewery. The evening was about the Chamber giving back to its members, celebrating the Chamber's 125th year and for the members to do some "customer development" by making new connections with fellow business people.



Scholarship Presentation



President Vanessa Andres had the pleasure of presenting the Chamber's Parkland College scholarship to business student Jonas Carlo Gutierrez. Congratulations Jonas!

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Did You Know?

- If you see the members of the city's **Fire Protective Services** walking school grounds or play grounds and parks, don't be alarmed. They are doing **safety sweeps** to ensure safe gathering areas for our children
- If you find discarded sharps, please call **306-786-1725**. People trained in handling and disposing of those will be dispatched to safely remove them
- The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has launched its **SME Institute** - a resource service for small and medium enterprises. It provides training, support and advice to help these businesses adapt, grow and thrive. To learn more, visit chamber.ca
- 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
- Through the **Canada Digital Adoption Program (CDAP)** you can access up to **\$15K** in funding from the Boost Your Business Technology Grant. The Grow Your Business Online grant will provide up to **\$200K** to help with the costs related to implementing ecommerce and supported by a network of e-commerce advisors. To learn more about how each grant may benefit your business, google Canada Digital Adoption Program.