

COMMUNITY COURIER

Chamber Business Dinner Successful!



Guest Speaker Jess Tetu with students from Sacred Heart and Yorkton Regional High Schools. Thank you to Mosaic for sponsoring the table that enabled these students to attend the Dinner and hear such a great presentation.

Sharing her journey to success, Jess Tetu, Guest Speaker at the 24th Annual Chamber Business Dinner wowed the crowd. When her presentation ended, she was rewarded with loud applause and a "Standing O". Following the completion of the formal program, Jess took the time for photo ops with the students from Sacred Heart and Yorkton Regional High Schools and business students from Suncrest College.

Jess is the sole owner of five Just For You Day Spas in Saskatchewan and Alberta, Founder and CEO of Lia Reese Canada, Founder and CEO of Iconic Betty Jewelry, Founder of

Jess Tetu Consulting and Founder and CEO of 4seventyone Recovery Resources – a not-for-profit charity she created.

The Dinner was also an opportunity to once again celebrate the Chamber's 125 anniversary! MC and Chamber President Vanessa Andres invited everyone to view the Sept 27 edition of Yorkton This Week to see the list of all the Chamber members as of Sept 22. A number of past Board photos were on display throughout the evening that proved very interesting. Overheard comments included "Did I really look that young?!" and "Look at those glasses!"

The Chamber was pleased to have representatives of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce in attendance including Prabha Ramaswamy, CEO; Virginia Wilkinson, COO; and Josh Haugerud, Director of Membership.

The purpose of the Yorkton Chamber is To be the voice of the Yorkton and District business community. Successful events such as the Dinner, with a sell-out crowd, enables the Chamber to "thrive at 125" and continue to advocate for the business community.



Business students attending Suncrest College also had the opportunity to meet Jess following her presentation.

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- And to the many people who purchased tickets to the Dinner, thank you. We look forward to the 25th Annual Dinner in the autumn of 2024.**

## Just for Small & Medium Businesses



The Canadian Chamber has launched its SME Institute – the first of its kind, one stop service developed in collaboration with RBC just for small and medium sized businesses.

The SME Institute will provide small and medium enterprises (SME) the training, support and advice they need to adapt, grow and thrive – all while benefitting from the Canadian Chamber's public policy advocacy and its Business Data Lab's economic insights.

By helping Canada's SMEs prepare for a rapidly evolving future, the SME Institute will ensure the strength of their critical segment of the economy as it faces a new era of higher costs and slowing growth. To learn more about how you can benefit from the services offered by the SME Institute, visit [smeinstitute.ca](http://smeinstitute.ca)

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## Chamber Supports Resolution



During the Policy Resolutions Debate at the recent Canadian Chamber of Commerce convention in Calgary, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce put forward 2 resolutions supported by the Battlefords, Greater Saskatoon and Yorkton Chambers. The one on keeping Canada's fertilizer emissions reduction targets voluntary was passed. The one asking for potash and uranium to be included in the list of critical minerals was not. Over 375 delegates representing Chambers from across Canada attended the convention. Pictured in the photo are Linda Machniak, COO of the Battlefords Chamber; Jordan Ewart, Senior Director of Policy & Research, SK Chamber; Prabha Ramaswamy, CEO, SK Chamber; and Juanita Polegi, ED of the Yorkton Chamber.

## Upcoming Dates

- Nov 1 – 4 - Harvest Showdown
- Nov 16 – 10:00 – 11:30 AM Canadian Digital Adaptation Program (CDAP) Training Seminar, Holiday Inn Express (An opportunity to learn how your business can access \$\$ and training to enhance its digital presence. **Free event but must register with the Chamber**)
- Nov 16 – 5:30 – 7:30 PM Sask Power's "Future Supply Event" at the Gallagher Centre
- Nov 25 – 5:00 PM Santa Claus Parade (a rolling parade beginning on 7th and Broadway to Laurier)

## Employment Standards Training

Employment Standards (a division of the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety) offers **free online training webinars** that provide basic information about the employment standards in Saskatchewan. These webinars address commonly asked questions that affect most employers and employees, including employers based outside of Saskatchewan with employees in the province. They offer both live webinars as well as recorded ones. You can sign up or access them by going to [Employment Standards and Foreign Worker Protection Training | Employment Standards | Government of Saskatchewan](#)

Employment Standards also offers free, customizable online or in-person training. If your business is interested in working with them to develop customized webinars or in-person training on specific subjects, contact Sarah Moreland-Petrie at [sarah.morelandpetrie@gov.sk.ca](mailto:sarah.morelandpetrie@gov.sk.ca)

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“Be open minded and think of the opportunities for you and your organization.” That was at the heart of the message SaskAbilities Partners in Employment delivered at the recent Chamber Business Lunch. The Chamber partnered with SaskAbilities to focus on Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM) which is held in October. Partners in Employment is a division of SaskAbilities that provides an extensive range of free professional employment programs and services to assist individuals experiencing disability and/or barriers to employment.

Speaking on behalf of **Baker Tilly SK LLP**, a business which has hired a person through this program, Geoff Jones relayed his company’s experience has been positive. He indicated that for the first few months, Partners in Employment checked in on both the employee and employer to ensure all was going well.

Job coaches serve to assist both the employee and the employer to ensure employers gain reliable, dependable and hardworking employees with a better than average chance of success.

Bernice Mcken with Partners In Employment said, “As an employer, you have an amazing opportunity to give people a chance - you are telling them that you believe in them.”

To learn more about Partners in Employment, call 1-866-671-0569 or email [pieyorkton@saskabilities.ca](mailto:pieyorkton@saskabilities.ca)



Geoff Jones of Baker Tilly SK LLP said it’s been a positive experience to work with Partners in Employment.



Bernice Mcken talked about the differences between equal and equitable. Equitable means the supports are different but they allow each person to reach their full potential.



## Meeting With Council

The Policy committee met recently with Council to discuss opportunities and issues for the business community. Some of the topics discussed included updates on York Road and Grain Millers Drive; business growth; and city tenders.

## Cyber Security Awareness – Check in on Your Cyber Security

(Thank you to the RBC Royal Bank for sharing this article)

“Cyber security attacks on Canadian businesses are becoming more frequent and sophisticated. A successful cyber attack can significantly impact a business’s finances and reputation, as well as the security of its clients and employees. While many owners have stepped up their cyber security practices, protecting your business requires consistent attention to the cyber landscape.

RBC has gathered a robust collection of tips, strategies and best practices to help you stay on top of the latest threats, trends and protection measures so you can be in a position to defend and adapt your business.” (You can find the full article on the website [rbcrooyalbank.com](http://rbcrooyalbank.com))

