



The Voice of Business



COMMUNITY COURIER

Chamber in the Black

The Back 40 Brewery was the ideal location to hold the Chamber's AGM one evening in late April. Over 40 people, representing 31 members, attended the event.

Once everyone arrived and had a beverage, President Marty Sveinbjornson called the meeting to order.

Nathan Bewcyk from Sensus Chartered Professional Accountants reported a clean audit and that the Chamber finished 2021 with a small profit.

Upon adjournment, Executive Director Juanita Polegi moderated a panel consisting of President Sveinbjornson, Past President Mike Stackhouse and Chair of the Business Development committee, Meghan Lindgren. The panelists answered a variety of questions



Following the AGM, Marty Sveinbjornson, Mike Stackhouse and Meghan Lindgren served on a panel moderated by Juanita Polegi to answer questions from the membership about the Chamber.

such as the Chamber's advocacy work, its role in economic development and the benefits of being a Chamber member.

The evening concluded with a delicious light supper prepared by Back 40 and lots of visiting.



2021 DOY

President Marty Sveinbjornson presented the 2021 Director of the Year Award to Meghan Lindgren. The Directors select the recipient of the Award through a secret ballot.

Accredited Chamber

On the top righthand corner of every Courier, a round Accreditation seal appears. What does that mean to you, the members? It means this Chamber has been "successfully evaluated against rigorous national standards of policy, service and performance." The seal declares this Chamber's commitment to being the "voice of business" in this community - a goal we share with Chambers across Canada.

Congratulations

- Access Communications and Cornerstone Credit Union Financial Group, members of the Yorkton Chamber, were recently named as two of Saskatchewan's Top Employers by Canada's Top 100 Employers competition
• Wagner's Flooring on 50 years in business
• Kee's Taekwondo on 30 years in business
• The Plum Tree on 25 years in business

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Chambers Plan Designed for Small Businesses

Thinking of a group insurance plan for your employees? Or perhaps considering a different plan? Then you may want to check out the Chambers Plan – the Plan that over 100 Yorkton Chamber member businesses are using.

A bit of background: Chambers Plan was founded 40 years ago in Winnipeg on genuine care and concern for the success of small business, championed by the chamber. It's now Canada's number one employee benefits plan for small business. And last, but not least, Chambers Plan is a not-for-profit, with ALL surpluses staying in the program to help control premiums and provide stability--something we could all use right about now.

Protecting you and your employees is easy. The first step is to get a free quote. There are no industry restrictions or minimum company sizes, so a YES to these questions means you could benefit from Chambers Plan:

1. "Do you have 1 to 35 employees?"

Chambers Plan offers guaranteed coverage for small businesses with 1 to 35 employees.



2. "Could you and your employees make use of group benefits?"

- Free access to Best Doctors®,
- Business Assistance Service (consultations with professional accounting, counselling, legal and human resource experts who understand the challenges faced by small business owners),
- and my-benefits health® (health and wellness resource site for all employees provided through Chambers Plan's online benefit management platform) sets Chambers Plan apart from other benefit plans.

3. "Would you like the Yorkton Chamber to connect you with our local advisor for a quick and easy, free quote?"

Chambers Plan engages local advisors to work with chamber members to support the local business community. Interested in finding more about how you can benefit from Chambers Plan? Contact the Chamber office (306-783-4368 or info@yorktonchamber.com) and we'll get your free quote started right away.

Thank You!

Thank you to the following businesses which have renewed their memberships!

(many more to be recognized in the July edition)

- Avalon Photography & Framing Gallery
- Cherrydale Golf
- Comfort Inn Yorkton
- CTV Yorkton
- Giant Tiger
- JA Audio
- Joe Beeverz Canadian Pub
- K Counselling / Karmen Pearce
- Kee's Taekwondo
- Mainstream Salon
- Quality Inn
- Ram Industries Inc.
- Southern Document Solutions/Xerox

Welcome New Members

MODERN STITCH CO.
PARKLAND RIGHT TO LIFE

In the May edition of the Courier, a couple of typing errors occurred in the list of Thank You's to the many sponsors of the Celebrate Success Business Awards. The Chamber offers its apologies to Maple Ag and Outdoor; and to MR MIKES SteakhouseCasual.



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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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Virtual Learning for Employers

The Canada Revenue Agency is offering employers the opportunity to learn more about Canada's economic immigration programs through a virtual learning. Each week will feature a new topic and provide employers time to ask questions.

All 3 events begin at 11:00 AM.

The first is June 1 and will discuss the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. The second will be held June 8 and will focus on how to hire a temporary worker without a Labour Market Impact Assessment. And the third, June 15, will focus on how to find services and resources that will help employers attract, hire and retain qualified workers from around the world.

To register or to learn more, visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/hire-permanent-foreign/employer-liaison-network.html>

Did You Know?

- Nominations or Applications are now open for the Sask Chamber's **ABEX Awards**. Visit saskchamber.com to learn more about the Award categories and how to nominate or apply. Deadline for applications in June 24
- Chambers across Sask are committed to welcoming individuals and families who are fleeing the conflict in Ukraine. There are many ways Saskatchewan's business community can welcome and help settle newcomers to the province. Visit hiretohelp.ca to learn more
- The **Indigenous Business Directory** aims to ensure that more Indigenous businesses can participate in the Saskatchewan supply chain and will allow for increased engagement between members of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce and Indigenous-owned businesses in the province
- **InputSask** is a unique new insight community that takes engagement to the next level. By getting your feedback on issues that are affecting your business, the Sask Chamber can advocate to government decision makers even more effectively. Make your voice heard by joining InputSask
- **The Canadian Digital Adoption Program** has grants available for small and medium sized businesses. One grant is for **\$2400** to purchase new e-commerce tools. The other grant offers up to **\$15 thousand** to be able to consult with a digital expert and develop a digital adoption plan. For full details about the program and how to apply for the grants, visit the Government of Canada's website.



RANDI JONES
Yorkton Chamber of Commerce
Saskatchewan Opportunity Scholarship

Scholarship Presentation

Randi Jones (L) a business student at the Parkland College accepts the Scholarship sponsored by the Yorkton Chamber from Donna Campbell (R), the Chamber's Executive Assistant, at the recent Scholarship Awards event




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SASKATCHEWAN ASSESSMENT
MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SAMA Survey Important for Commercial Real Estate Rental Market

Your property data helps create the assessment model for the next revaluation in 2025. Commercial property owners should have received a questionnaire from the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) related to your 2021 real estate Lease Income. The information collected relates to the REAL ESTATE and NOT THE BUSINESS income and expenses. SAMA requests the same information fee appraisers use in their commercial appraisals. At this time, only property owners with leasable space are surveyed. Properties that are 100% owner occupied will not receive a questionnaire.

The Chamber stresses the importance of completing this questionnaire as the data collected will be used to create your assessment in 2025. Complying with SAMA's request will ensure that the assessments can be reflective of the data you provide and reflective of the market conditions for properties in the local market.

For more information, contact SAMA at 306-786-1370 or 1-800-498-0576.

YBID to Host June Days

Summer has arrived and it's time to enjoy our summer evenings!

One way to do that is to attend June Days in City Centre Park hosted by the Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID)! Events and activities run from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, concluding with a movie at the Tower Theatre 7:30 PM. The activities are family-friendly and while chairs will be provided, you can also bring your own lawn chairs for extra comfort.

The first event will occur Thursday June 2 with a Canadian Theme. A live band will play beginning at 5:00.



Improve Your Employees' Communication & Leadership Skills

If your employees have expressed a desire to improve their communication and leadership skills, you might want to consider Toastmasters International. It's a non-profit educational company committed to helping individuals develop their public speaking, communication and leadership skills. The Club in Yorkton is **Treasure Chest Toastmasters** and it meets **Mondays 12:05 – 12:55 PM Mondays via Zoom; or Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:00 PM** at the Parkland College and on Zoom. You can also consider sponsoring a Toastmasters Club in your workplace. To learn more, contact Treasure Chest Toastmasters at 1245.toastmastersclubs.org



The **June 9** event features the Philippines and the **June 16** event features Ukraine. **June 21** is devoted to National Indigenous Peoples' Day (more info available at www.yorktontribalcouncil.com). India will be featured **June 23**. And it's another Canadian theme **June 30**.

To learn more about what's happening at each event, visit YBID's facebook page. Enjoy the Park, the entertainment and please, Shop Local.

