

ADVOCACY AT WORK

28TH BBEX AWARDS - BACK IN-PERSON

The Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce hosted its 28th Battlefords Business Excellence (BBEX) Awards November 9th, 2022 at the Dekker Centre for the Performing Arts. Being back in-person for the event created a wonderful celebration of business success and showed business community resilience. The strong number of award finalists in the new categories created interest in the program last hosted in 2020. A great response and thank you to the new and returning sponsors who contributed to the success of the gala.

Discovery Co-operative Ltd., was named Business of the Year for 2022, and the BBEX committee was honoured to induct the "Craig Family" to the Battlefords Business Hall of Fame.

Categories included: the new Agriculture and Agri-Business Award, the Impact Award (recognizing a non-profit), the return of the Young Entrepreneur category, and the introduction of a Members' Choice Award voted on by the Chamber membership. Other returning categories included: New Business Venture, Micro Business, Community Contribution, and the Heather Guthrie Customer Service Star Award (individual), along with Business of the Year rounding out the award presentations.

The artist who was commissioned for the awards in 2022 was Battleford's Pam Beaver. The works were alcohol ink and mandelas, and came in a variety of sizes, shapes and colors to make the BBEX 2022 collection a special attraction of the evening.

The Stan Wychopen Memorial BBEX Scholarship was presented to Elias Frank of North West College.

The induction of the Craig Family to the Battlefords Business Hall of Fame was a highlight for many, with the video production of the Craig family story with over 100 years in business in the Battlefords, and several family members and iterations of businesses. Gerry Craig was on-hand with her daughter, Jennifer, and granddaughter Jordan, to accept the award, and enjoyed the evening with a large contingent of Craig family members in attendance.

Pictures and video productions can all be viewed at the Chamber website: www.battlefordschamber.com



**BATTLEFORDS BUSINESS
HALL OF FAME**
THE CRAIG FAMILY



**BUSINESS OF THE
YEAR AWARD**
DISCOVERY CO-OPERATIVE LTD.

Sponsored by:
Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board

New Name, New Logo, & Same Great Service

Chamber members voted to approve the new name and logo for the Chamber, at its Annual Meeting of Members in February 2022, and staff submitted the national legislative requirements to make the change become an official reality. *(at year's end, we were still awaiting formal word from Ottawa, but anticipate its positive response very soon)*

Members will see the new logo and name throughout the Chamber publications, advertisements, programs, but can be assured of the same great service and work on behalf of members in advocacy, promotions, events, and work on existing and emergent business issues. *(see the new logo materials on Page 2)*



CONNECTING MEMBERS IN 2022



116th Annual Chair's Luncheon:

January 25th, 2022 at The Blend Restaurant & Bar
Induction of Chair: Derek Schmidt, Bill & Don's Mens Wear Oath administered by The Hon. Jeremy Cockrill, MLA
Guest: Keynote Presentation - Kyla Vaughan, Vaughan Graphics New Logo and Name for Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce



New Chamber Logo Reveal



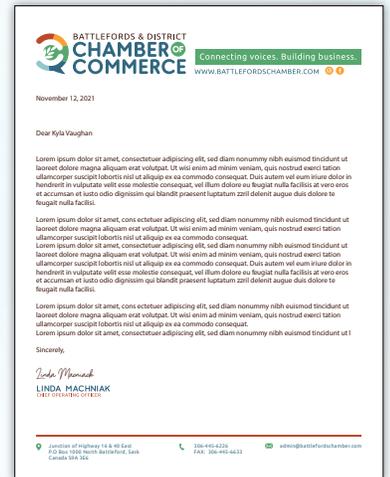
◀ Main Logo



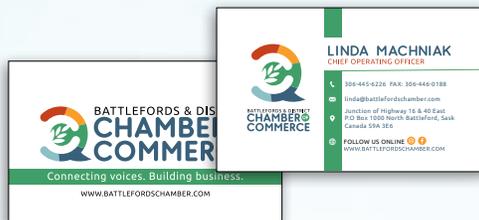
▼ Letterhead



◀ Plaque



Business Card



Post-Budget Luncheon with Hon. Donna Harpauer, Minister of Finance

March 25th, 2022 at Porta Bella Restaurant

8th Annual Chamber Business Golf Challenge:

May 27th, 2022 at the North Battleford Golf and Country Club
Title Sponsor: Bridges Chevrolet Buick GMC

The Power Hour

September 16th, 2022 at the Western Development Museum, North Battleford
Guest Participants: Hon. Jeremy Cockrill, Minister of Highways, M.L.A. – The Battlefords

David Gillan, Mayor – City of North Battleford
 Ames Leslie, Mayor – Town of Battleford
 Cheryl Kahpeaysewat, Chief – Moosomin First Nation (Representing BATC) *unable to attend*

Luncheon & Fireside Chat with Hon. Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan

October 11th, 2022 at the Chapel Gallery at Don Ross Centre
Introduction of White Paper: "Drawing the Line" Defending Saskatchewan Economic Autonomy



ADVOCACY AT WORK

News & Notes from the Chair



2022 Chamber Chair Derek Schmidt oversaw another very busy year with significant projects coming to fruition and the introduction of new priorities for members and the Chamber. Along with the presentation at the Chair's Luncheon of the Accreditation certificate, the Chamber also introduced its new proposed logo and name change to members for approval (approval was completed at the Annual Meeting of Members a week later).

As COVID-19 programs waned and public restrictions lifted, the Chamber along with the business community found itself working its way through this new reality. For the Chamber, it meant bringing in-person events back on track, a more robust participation at community events for the staff and board members, and continued work on business issues as a result or fallout from the pandemic. Workforce challenges were a primary focus for many businesses, and the challenge continues to be a priority for Chamber network. The staff, along with product and information donations from: Bridges Chevrolet Buick GMC, North West College, Discovery Co-op, Innovation Credit Union, Gold Eagle Casino, CIBC, and others, put together bags of information about job opportunities in

the Battlefords for the Battlefords Immigration Resource Centre to distribute at a Job Fair and landing for new Ukrainians to the province. Some families have started to move to settle here. We also supported members and local businesses with their 'job fair' ad program on local radio stations with promotion of key reasons to work at their place of business. Workforce issues continue to be on the radar of the entire Chamber network.

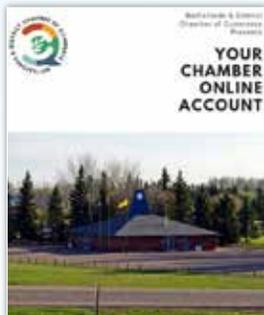
A highlight for Chair Derek in 2022 was the invitation to attend the "Throne Speech" in Regina for the opening of the fall session of the legislature. He and Chief Operating Officer Linda attended, joined local MLAs for a reception following the formal program, and visited Minister Cockrill's office for a tour.

Again the Chamber offered its thanks to the Battlefords North Stars Hockey Club for their participation in the Rapid Test distribution program at the Chamber office. Chamber continued as a location for the distribution of Covid-19 Rapid Test Kits.



Key Projects for Intern

The Chamber was pleased to have on staff in 2022 an intern from the Edwards School of Business (UofS). During his term, Bowen had many projects he worked on to assist members with their value proposition. One such project was "Your Chamber Online Account" in an easy-to-follow brochure format providing members with a step by step guide on how to get the most out of their online presence on the Chamber website.



Battlefords Citizens on Patrol cheque presentation ▼



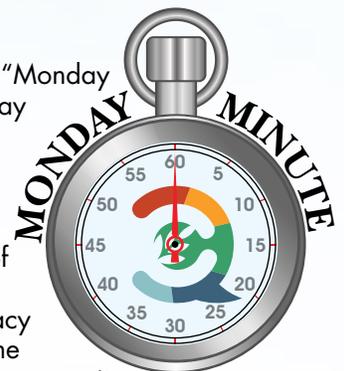
▲ Staff at McHappy Day



◀ Derek & Staff Participating in the Parade

Monday Minute

Be sure to tune in each week to "Monday Minute" emails sent each Monday during the year. In a brief few minutes, Chamber staff and directors discuss issues of importance, provide access to topical reports and make note of critical Chamber policy related focuses, and share local advocacy work, events and highlights of the local marketplace and business community.



Chamber had Meetings with

Jeremy Cockrill, MLA, The Battlefords
David Gillan, Mayor, City of North Battleford
City Administration and Chamber Executive
Citizen's on Patrol and RCMP
Prairies Can (Economic Development)





Chief Operating Officer Linda Machniak, ACE, received the honour of being presented with a Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal, and received her renewed and upgraded Level 3 designation of an Accredited Chamber Executive (ACE) in 2022.



In January 2022, the Chamber welcomed its newest intern from the Edwards School of Business – Bowen Yang. He worked with the Chamber for the entirety of the year, and will be returning to complete his MBA at the University of Saskatchewan.

OUR SUCCESS = YOUR GAIN

A very busy year on the legislative agendas at all levels made for significant work and dedication on behalf of business. Policy wins at the national level included these highlights:

Federal Budget 2022

- Funding of \$875.2 million over 5 years, plus ongoing \$238.2 million per year to respond to cybersecurity threats. This goes towards the Communications Security Establishment as well as other departments and crown corporations.
- 1.5 billion over seven years for infrastructure investments to support critical mineral supply chains, plus a further \$1.5 billion to support manufacturing, processing and recycling applications.
- Additional \$450 million over five years for the National Trade Corridor Fund, with a rebranding of the fund to focus on supply chains.
- Launch a cannabis strategy table led by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) to identify ways to grow the sector.
- An investment tax credit of up to 30% for net-zero technologies, battery storage solutions and clean hydrogen.
- Amendments to the Employment Insurance Act to provide more support for worker re-training, including a commitment to modernizing Labour Market Transfer Agreements.
- Funding of \$29.3 million over three years for a Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Trusted Employer Model that reduces red tape for regular users of the program. More details to be announced in 2023.
- A consultation will launch on Bill C-208 passed by the last Parliament to reduce loopholes in the execution of intergenerational business transfers.

Policy Resolution – Co-sponsored by Battlefords & District Chamber – Passed at CCC – AGM, in the 2022 Policy Resolution document: **“Returning Carbon Tax Proceeds to SME’s”**

Annual Conventions: Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, May, 2022
Canadian Chamber of Commerce, hybrid event, in-person & virtual - October, 2022
Sask. & Alberta Chamber Executives, Lloydminster, July, 2022

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BATTLEFORDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Derek Schmidt, Chair
Melanie Roberts, Past Chair
Cassandra Germsheid
Ashlee Babiy
Pamela Connor
Harris Sutherland
Donna Lehmann
Glenda Rye
Ron Kulcheski (to June, 2022)

Kayla Petersen, Vice Chair
Tisha Carriere, 2nd Vice Chair
Dallan Oberg, Treasurer
Tracy Benson
Terry Gagne
Jason Lee (July, 2022)
Curtis Gratton
Jeremy Smith

Linda Machniak, Chief Operating Officer
Doris Jobin-Robert, Admin & Event Co-ord.
Bowen Yang, Intern (U of S) Project Co-ordinator
Junction of Highways 16 and 40 East
P.O. Box 1000
North Battleford, Sask. S9A 3E6
Tell: 306-445-6226 | Fax: 306-446-0188
www.battlefordschamber.com
email: admin@battlefordschamber.com

*Thank you to all of our sponsors, partners, and most importantly,
our MEMBERS! Have a great 2023.*