

VOICE OF BUSINESS

Connecting Voices. Building Business

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www.battlefordschamber.com
P.O. Box 1000
North Battleford SK S9A 3E6
Phone: 306-445-6226



BATTLEFORDS & DISTRICT
**CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**
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The Chamber's Statement on the Call for an April 28th Federal Election

- Candace Laing, President & CEO, Canadian Chamber of Commerce

The next federal government needs to hit the ground running, ready to pursue a mandate that will guarantee Canada's economic sovereignty and security, ensuring we are never left this vulnerable again.

"Canadians are privileged to live and work in an open, vibrant and democratic country. With the federal election kickoff recently, we once again get to exercise our right to vote for the next national government and our future. However, this election comes at a critical and highly uncertain time for our country. The ongoing tensions with the U.S. have created a volatile environment, making it harder for businesses and families to plan ahead. Strong public programs, like healthcare, retirement benefits, and a robust military, rely on a thriving business sector and tax revenue from Canadian individuals and businesses. Right now, that foundation is at risk.

Over the next 25 or so days, this uncertainty may grow. As the parties hit the campaign trail, they must remember what's at stake: the livelihoods of Canadians depend on how we navigate this crisis with the U.S., how we address our economic challenges, and how we support Canadian business. Regardless of who wins, Canada needs a united strategy to reduce dependence on U.S. trade and build a resilient, future-ready economy where all Canadians can thrive and be optimistic about the future. The next federal government needs to hit the ground running, ready to pursue a mandate that will guarantee Canada's economic sovereignty and security, ensuring we are never left this vulnerable again.

This plan must include:

Delivering on the promise of free internal trade: An open Canadian market, facilitating the unobstructed movement of goods, people and services, is the cornerstone of a competitive economy. As the coming months present an immense economic challenge for Canadians, there is no reason to keep internal trade barriers in place a moment longer than necessary.

Undertaking tax and regulatory reform: Canada is in direct competition with the U.S. for business investment. Our response can't be to try and regulate or tax our industries into being more competitive. We need regulatory and tax systems that promote innovation and competition, bringing businesses to Canada instead of driving them away. Reducing the tax burden on business and families, while also reducing public spending is the path to prosperity and a competitive economy.

Committing to long-term investment in infrastructure: Our success is rooted in being a trading nation. However, if we can't move it, we can't sell it. We undermine our ability to grow our economy when Canadian businesses can't get their goods to other provinces and territories or to our trade partners overseas. Expanding our existing infrastructure will ensure we reach our full potential.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber Network (including Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce) are ready and waiting to work with the next federal government to build a Canada of thriving business opportunity and a better life for all. Our economic future is ours to determine."

Saskatchewan Chamber Reacts to 2025 Provincial Budget Focused on Sustained Growth

- Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce

The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is pleased with the investments to support businesses in our province in the Government of Saskatchewan's 2025-26 Budget.

The Chamber is encouraged by the commitments in the Budget that align with its long-standing advocacy efforts, including:

- The creation of a 45% credit for equity investment for small and medium enterprises in certain sectors.
- Permanently maintaining the small business tax rate at 1%.
- A \$285,000 investment to establish a Young Entrepreneur Bursary, administered by the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, providing \$5,000 grants to 57 eligible young entrepreneurs

The Chamber has consistently advocated for tax policies that enhance affordability and support talent attraction and retention. The announced income tax reductions will provide much-needed relief for families. Any tax reduction is a positive step, particularly as affordability remains a key concern for both residents and businesses.

Further, the 20% increase in the Graduate Retention Program's tax credit benefits will play an important role in encouraging graduates to build their careers in Saskatchewan.

"We are pleased to see the government's investments in business priorities. The announcements made today will help to fuel growth of SMEs, promote entrepreneurship and strengthen Saskatchewan's economy for the future," said Prabha Ramaswamy, CEO, Sask. Chamber of Commerce.

SASKATCHEWAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

GET CONNECTED IN 2025!

Calendar of Events:

All Candidates Forum – Battlefords-Lloydminster-Meadow Lake Riding
for the upcoming federal election
Tuesday, April 15th, 2025
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location to be announced.
Watch local media sources.

31st BBEX Awards
Battlefords Business Excellence Awards
Nominations are open to the public
online: April 3rd, 2025
Nominate your favorite business in any of these award categories:

- Agriculture & Agri-Business Award
- New Business Venture Award
- Heather Guthrie Customer Service Star Award
- Impact Award
- Community Contribution Award
- Young Entrepreneur Award
- Micro Business Award
- Members' Choice Award
- Heritage Award

Nominations are open to the public Thursday, April 3rd, 2025, and businesses have until July 24th, 2025, to complete their final submissions.

Descriptions of each award category are on the Chamber's website at www.battlefordschamber.com

Chamber Business Golf Challenge 11th Edition

Friday, May 23rd, 2025
Jackfish Lodge Golf & Conference Centre

Call the Chamber for more info & prices, and registration forms are available on the Chamber's website. 306-445-6226
www.battlefordschamber.com



The Flats Eatery & Drink
2491 – 99th Street
North Battleford, SK. S9A 0S7
306-499-0662

Meagan Cockrill (Financial Consulting)
306-481-3684

City Furniture & Appliances Ltd.
2702 – 99th Street
North Battleford, SK. S9A 3B4
639-638-7500

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APRIL 8 & 9, 2025
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www.saskchamber.com

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