

# the Chamber

GREATER SASKATOON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*The Business of Science & Technology aims to promote our City's science-based businesses and to bridge the gap between the science and business communities. The committee achieves this through education and the promotion of productive and interactive events, meetings and presentations involving Chamber members, government, industry and academia.*

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**Committee:** Business of Science and Technology

**Meeting Date:** February 24<sup>th</sup> 2016

**Time:** 3:15 pm-4:30 pm

**Location:** Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce

**Meeting Chair:** Bill Lewis

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**In Attendance:** Amit Shukla, Neal Lemon, Bill Lewis

**Staff:** Kent Smith-Windsor, Kevin Meldrum

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## Introductions and Review of Last Meeting's Minutes

### SWOT Analysis Review

<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Saskatoon people are generally honest.</li><li>❑ University and Saskatoon Polytechnic people and facilities</li><li>❑ Canadian Light Source people and facilities</li><li>❑ Educated workforce</li><li>❑ Innovation Place: facility and support for technology entrepreneurs</li><li>❑ Saskatoon's real lifestyle opportunities</li></ul>	<p><b>WEAKNESSES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Citizens of Saskatoon are unaware of the amount and quality of SCI Tech businesses in Saskatoon</li><li>❑ Citizens of Canada are unaware of the amount and quality of SCI Tech businesses in Saskatoon</li><li>❑ Citizens of Earth are unaware of the amount and quality of SCI Tech businesses in Saskatoon</li><li>❑ More business accelerator activity needed to fill gap in entrepreneurial flight path</li><li>❑ Saskatoon's poor reputation for lifestyle opportunities within Canada (reputation dominated by winter weather) (businesses and workers reluctant to move here without seeking the facts).</li></ul>
<p><b>THREATS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Regulatory changes that affect SCI Tech businesses</li><li>❑ Economic downturns</li></ul>	<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Internet access allows SCI Tech businesses to locate in Saskatoon</li><li>❑ Government programs (such as InnovationSask).</li><li>❑ Saskatoon has become more cosmopolitan.</li></ul>

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- Opportunities for the committee include putting on an event to showcase local tech entrepreneurs. i.e. Jeff Wandzura and "Patient Prep"
    - Identify any other good stories to tell and organize a Lunch and Learn

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- Including SREDA and ILO
- Can be hosted in the chamber board room if needed. Invite committee chairs
- It may be too diverse to capture accurately, so narrowing it down is a good approach
- There are aspects of Saskatoon that helped the success of local tech companies, and those need to be highlighted to bring awareness to the business community
- Note that the Health Opps is trying to start a “Health on Tap” event a few times a year to connect health industry
- ***Invite committee people, chairs, SREDA, Airport Authority, Tourism Saskatoon, ACCEE, and ILO for a casual meeting/event in the office.***

**Next meeting:**

March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016

3:15pm-4:30pm

Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce