

BUSINESS VIEW

Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER CELEBRATES GROWTH OF THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT BASE - TWO YEAR IN A ROW

- expanded commercial and industrial base makes property taxes more affordable for everyone

For the second year in a row, the commercial and industrial property tax assessment base in Saskatoon has grown as a proportion to the overall taxable assessment base. This growth marks a significant improvement in Saskatoon's competitive positioning to attract investment and jobs for the future. The City of Saskatoon's municipal tax policy can be largely credited for this success.

The total commercial and industrial assessment, based on a preliminary 2003 roll (subject to Board of Revision), has grown from \$7,401.51 in 2001, to \$7,860.12 in 2003 on a per capita basis.

This growth in the commercial and industrial assessment base will generate approximately \$1 million in new annual property tax revenues for the City of Saskatoon, the library, and the school systems compared to residential property tax rates for 2003. This is in addition to the incremental \$1 million generated annually in 2002. The total incremental

tax revenue for the city's tax roll (for school, library and municipal taxes) is in excess of \$3.6 million annually in new property revenues from new commercial and industrial investment in Saskatoon over the past two years. From 1965 to 2001, Saskatoon's commercial and industrial assessment base had eroded from 36.5% of the City of Saskatoon's Assessment Base in 1965, to a low of 18.18% in 2001. The reversal of the trendline is a significant step forward in growing the commercial and industrial tax base proportion for Saskatoon. Because of the significant premium in property tax rates paid by the commercial and industrial property investors, growth in their relative proportion of the overall assessment brings positive news to residential taxpayers. This growth in commercial and industrial assessment also represents important new job opportunities for our young people. A recent report from Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority Inc. confirms this observation, where it was noted that Saskatoon created 3,900 jobs in 2002. Investment growth also broadens the tax base for our City, making services more affordable for everyone.

The Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce asserts that this proportionate growth is the direct result of City Council's 2001 decision to implement the property tax policies first enunciated by the City's Property Tax Review Committee report of December 1997. That Committee, made up of retired Justice Osborne, Ms. Shelley Brown, a prominent local C.A., and then professor of accounting, Jack Vicq, recommended that a 175% premium for business was equitable and could provide significant investment stimulus in our City.

In March of 2001, Saskatoon City Council adopted a 10 year phase-in to implement their Tax Committee's policy. This year's assessment results are the second in a series of assessment base growth results that our City can expect from the implementation of this important municipal policy.

The property tax policy adopted by Saskatoon City Council is among the most competitive local tax policies in North America, and represents an important positive signal to investors that the City of Saskatoon wants and welcomes their investment.

Continued growth in the commercial and industrial assessment base will create an even brighter future for Saskatoon. This is a shining example of what effective property tax policy can do for our City.

FEBRUARY 2003

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Our Chamber has always maintained that we need more taxpayers, not more taxes. This significant change in the historic trend is a significant marker on our path to make property taxes more affordable for all citizens of Saskatoon.



**CASINO WILL GENERATE
\$1.5 BILLION IN
BUSINESS ACTIVITY OVER 20 YEARS**

The destination casino proposed by the Saskatoon Tribal Council for downtown Saskatoon will generate \$1.5 billion in economic activity in the city over the next 20 years, according to an analysis completed by the Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber examined tax revenue, casino expenditures, payments to Prairieland Exhibition, the incremental impact on convention business, distributions by the Community Development Corporation to community groups, and federal and provincial income tax revenue from casino operations, project construction and salaries.

The projected financial impact of the destination casino on Saskatoon and area over the next 20 years is expected to exceed \$901 million (represented in present value).

These estimates are based on projections of expenditures in each of the identified areas over the 20 year period, as highlighted in the Saskatoon Tribal Council's business plan submission to City Council. These figures were then discounted to represent their present value. Present value calculations represent the current value of a future cash stream discounted to reflect an interest rate that represents a reasonable market return. In this calculation, the Chamber has valued 20 years of future revenues discounted at a 6% interest rate.

For a breakdown of estimates in each area of expenditure for the project please contact the Chamber Office, or visit www.eboardoftrade.com.

**Online Access to New Employees!
Free Job Listing Service!**

www.saskatoonwork.com is the local portal to jobs in Saskatoon. It's the official web site of the Saskatoon Labour Market Committee (SLMC) and links directly to SaskNetWork/SaskJobs, and other major Saskatoon job listings. It will link employers to SaskJobs where they can post their job openings. Hundreds of job seekers per day will view your job posting. Check it out on line. If you have questions or need more information, call Derrel Friesen of SLMC at 933-6279.

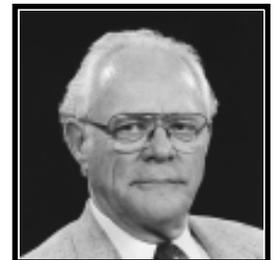
**REMEDIES FOR CANADA'S
AGRICULTURAL HEART**

**Food for Thought -
Consumer Pressure on Producers**

by C.M. (Red) Williams, PAg

At a recent meeting of the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan, held in Saskatoon, I heard evidence of how consumer pressure for change in the animal food industry is being imposed through retailers on producers. A speaker from a major meat processing plant in the US, and another from a Canadian retail chain detailed their company's plans for dealing with food safety and animal care standards. Make no mistake, these decisions made at the top corporate levels will affect the standards for the industry right down to the producer. The value chain works from top to bottom.

As background, it can be pointed out that many consumers have been totally spooked by the relentless media storm portraying meat products as less than wholesome and animals as being produced under unacceptable conditions. On the other hand, the modern food preparation and distribution system does by its very system of combining disparate constituents create its own risk of failure to protect the customer and leave the whole supply chain open for criticism. A faultless food system has become the standard.



C.M. (Red) Williams

The retailers and processors, because they must, are increasing their systems of checking intakes and inserting standards into their supply contracts. But introducing improved processing methods can only reduce but not eliminate contamination problems. The producers of meat animals are going to be judged and paid on the basis of not only quality of carcass, but also on the animal health and management protocols being followed and having animal friendly systems in place. This will be a cost to the producer and the way to recover this input is by being organized to receive premiums on volumes.

Saskatoon  Shines!

SASKATOON SHINES AS CANADIAN LEADER IN ECONOMIC GROWTH

Conference Board of Canada's "Metro Outlook - Winter 2003"

Saskatoon ranks second in leading Canadian cities in economic growth in 2003, according to the Conference Board of Canada's *Metro Outlook - Winter 2003*. The growth forecast for Saskatoon is predicted to be 4.0% in real gross domestic product (GDP) in 2003, following just behind Calgary.

Saskatoon's labour market is expected to enjoy a good year in 2003, with roughly 3,000 net new workers or a forecasted increase of 2.5%. The report states that the main sectors behind the job gains should be commercial services, wholesale and retail trade, and manufacturing. The manufacturing sector is expected to experience an increase of 400 jobs. The expected increase in the agriculture sector is forecast to grow by 30%, rebounding from recent years of drought and low commodity prices.

The report indicates that these very positive forecasts compound on top of employment gains in 2002 of 2,400 jobs. As a result of the strong employment gains, the unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points last year, averaging 6% for the year as a whole according to the Conference Board's Report.

In Saskatoon, housing starts are up an incredible 65% over 2001. Personal income is also relatively high in this City, \$2,500 above the provincial average.

The Conference Board report gave Saskatoon an Economic Structure rating of 0.93. Economic Structure is a measurement of economic diversity, indicating that Saskatoon is one of the most diverse cities in Canada.

SREDA Inc. CEO, Dale Botting, comments, *"The Conference Board of Canada's forecasts for 2003 show Saskatoon as a Canadian leader in economic growth. Our population is young, and growing, our economy is a good mix of advanced technology, service, and manufacturing sectors, and we have a strong culture of innovation and entrepreneurship."* Botting added that, *"The Saskatoon Region has quietly emerged as one of the strongest economies in the country!"*

BUSINESS VIEW

INDICATORS UP IN ACTION SASKATCHEWAN REPORT CARD

The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Investment and Growth Committee and *Sask Trends Monitor* provide a quarterly report on the goals inherent in the *Action Saskatchewan Plan*. Key indicators that will help measure progress in three specific areas have been identified.

In this release, the indicators show that the provincial economy is growing after the 2001 recession. The indicator for the private sector economy has grown by 1.5% and the labour market indicator has grown by 8% from the low point in the fourth quarter of 2001. The population indicator, however, still shows no sign of rebounding.

"It's encouraging to see the growth in both the Private Sector and the Underdeveloped Labour Market Indexes," stated Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce President Larry Hiles. Nonetheless, it is evident that young people do not recognize that there are opportunities available to them in Saskatchewan. Retaining our youth and employing them here, at home in Saskatchewan, in meaningful productive careers, is probably the quickest way to grow our population.

Each quarter the three targets will be reviewed and will include a comparison to the previous two years. The most important goal is to build a climate that will stimulate economic and population growth and the Report Cards serve as a system of checks and balances to make sure that we are on the right path.

The Report Card provides a statistical snapshot of the province's progress in three essential areas:

- Growing the Private Sector
- Growing the Underdeveloped Labour Market
- Growing the Population

Action Saskatchewan flowed from a broad consultation process that included town hall meetings and input from a range of groups and organizations. Additional information on the *Action Saskatchewan Initiative* is available on the Internet at www.actionsask.com.

Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce - Board of Directors

President



Lester Lafond
Lafond
Financial Inc.

Vice-President



Dan Anderson
MacPherson Leslie
& Tyerman

VP - Finance



Laura Small
Women
Entrepreneurs of
Saskatchewan

Past President



Dave Dutchak
M.D. Ambulance

Executive



Jack Brodsky
Saskatoon Blades
Hockey Club

Executive



Al Scholz, PAg
A.N. Scholz &
Associates Inc.

CHAMBER LEADERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

NEW CHAMBER BOARD ELECTED FOR 2003

-effective March 7th

The results of the election for the 2003 Board of Directors for the Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce are in! Thank you to all who showed their commitment and let their name stand on the ballot.

The New Board will be sworn in during the Annual General Meeting March 7th at the Western Development Museum, to be held in conjunction with the President's Celebration.

Your new Board will consist of:

President:

Dan Anderson, *MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman*

1st Vice-President:

Laura Small, *Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan*

2nd Vice-President:

Al Scholz, *A.N. Scholz & Associates*

Past President:

Lester Lafond, *Lafond Financial*

Board of Directors:

- Jack Brodsky, *Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club*
- Coni Evans, *Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation*
- Ted Farr, *Rawlco Radio*
- Alan Jerome Felix, *Nu-Fab Burton Limited Partnership*
- Marion Ghiglione, *Handy Special Events*
- J. Blair Knippel, *Deloitte & Touche LLP*
- Ron B. Kocsis
- Asit Sarkar, *U of S, College of Commerce*
- Vlatka Tustonic, *TRLabs*
- Cliff Wieggers, *Wieggers Financial & Insurance Planning*
- Arlene Wiks, *CIBC*
- Ken Wood, *Saskatchewan Place*

Congratulations!

Four prominent local business people and Chamber of Commerce leaders were recently awarded Queen's Golden Jubilee Medals for their contributions and achievements which have benefited their fellow citizens, their community, and their country.

Russel Marcoux is Chief Executive Officer of the Yanke Group of Companies, and is actively involved in a grain farming operation at Viscount. He has been a member of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors since 2000, and currently is Third Vice Chair. Russel also serves as Second Vice Chair for St. Paul's Hospital, and as Director for the Saskatchewan Agrivision Corporation. He is on the Board of Governors for Junior Achievement, was honorary Chairman for the Diabetes Association's annual fundraising campaign, is a founding member of the Corporate Circle for the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and is a major supporter for the Children's Health Foundation. Russel is also the recipient of a Commemorative Medal from the Governor General of Canada.

Betty-Ann Heggie is Senior Vice-President, Corporate Relations at Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. (PCS). She has been involved with the Canadian Wheat Board as a member of the Communications Committee, and Chair of the Corporate Governance Committee. In 1999, Betty-Ann was made an advisor to the College of Commerce Chair for Saskatchewan enterprise at the University of Saskatchewan. She has also been appointed to the Boards of Directors for Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority Inc., and recently the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

Jack Brodsky is the President and Co-owner of the Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club. As a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committees of the Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce, Jack chairs the Government Affairs Committee. He is also a member of the Saskatoon Rotary Club. Jack actively promotes education within the Western Hockey League, and particularly for his own players in his role as President of the Saskatoon Blades Education Scholarship Fund. The Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club is also very active in the community, holding many events to raise funds for a variety of local charities, as well as having the players attend and participate in numerous community events.

Kent Smith-Windsor is the Executive Director of the Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce. He has served as Chair of the Saskatchewan Institute on the Prevention of Handicaps for 8 years, and as a Board Member for 12 years previously. Kent had served as Chair of the Canadian Caucus on the Board of Directors for the International Downtown Association. He is currently the President of the Chamber of Commerce Executives of Canada (CCEC), and a Board Member of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). Kent has been actively involved on the Executive Committee for the Great Northern River Roar since its inception in 1989.

The commemorative medal was created to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee as Queen of Canada. The medal is to be presented to approximately 46,000 Canadians, in recognition of significant achievement or distinguished service to their fellow citizens, their community, or to Canada.

Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce - Board of Directors

Executive



Ken Wood
Saskatchewan Place



Coni Evans
Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation



Ted Farr
Rawlco Radio



J. Blair Knippel
Deloitte & Touche LLP



Ron B. Kocsis



Ken McDonough
Interim Executive Services

ISC MUST FREEZE THE LAND TITLE FEES AND FIX THE SYSTEM

Numerous business associations assembled recently in Saskatoon and Regina to demand that the Information Services Corporation (ISC) freeze the rates for land title fees.

The groups involved in this process include:

- **Affordable New Home Development Foundation,**
- **Saskatoon & Region Home Builders' Association,**
- **Regina & Region Home Builders' Association,**
- **Saskatchewan Home Builders' Association,**
- **Saskatoon Real Estate Board,**
- **Association of Regina Realtors,**
- **Saskatchewan Real Estate Association,**
- **Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce, and,**
- **North Saskatoon Business Association.**

ISC must redouble efforts to bring high quality, service and integrity to the system. Our expectations as a result of the benefits promoted by the government and ISC were greater efficiency, less cost, more accuracy, predictability and more speed. Given most experiences in business where modernization and automation initiatives have been implemented these expectations were reasonable.

On the other hand, the system as we see it today offers unpredictability, less accuracy, more delays, 78% (seventy-eight) per cent fee increases and ISC seems to be long on excuses and short on fixes.

The focus needs to be on fixing the system not on increasing fees. Therefore, freeze the land title fees and fix the system.

The Land Titles Registry System as managed by the Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan (ISC) continues to experience difficulty in delivering timely and appropriate services to builders, developers and purchasers. Any consideration of fee increases on a system which does not deliver the products as promised is unconscionable.

The conversion to an automated land titles registry system was promoted to the industry and to consumers as an alternative that would offer better products which would be less expensive and that would be delivered more quickly than was the case in the former paper driven manual system. Today we have a system that delivers on none of the promises stated when this corporation was established.

The conversion to an automated system fails to provide titles in a timely manner which places increased direct and indirect costs on builders, developers, realtors, the legal profession **and ultimately consumers.** ISC has failed to commit to a reasonable time frame as to when stakeholders might expect service improvements, predictability and a system that is indeed less expensive, better and faster as promised.

Until such time that the system and service is improved, the number and rate of rejections are addressed and titles can be produced in timely manner, there is no justification for discussion of rate increases or changes to any fee schedules. Furthermore, the Corporation committed to provide the people of Saskatchewan and the stakeholder industries with a system that is less expensive, better and faster. Our industries and consumers both expect that ISC will deliver on that promise.

Fees were established at the corporation's inception with an indication by the government and the corporation that this would be sufficient for the corporation. In less than two years from the corporation's establishment, ISC is now seeking a 78% increase. A fee increase this soon into the life of the corporation is unwarranted and unjustifiable. In view of the shortcomings in the system that we are experiencing it is unconscionable to even consider increases when we expected a 'cheaper, better and faster system'.

Furthermore, we find that it is unreasonable to burden this young corporation (ISC) with commitments to the General Revenue Account (GRA) of the Province of Saskatchewan. The investment in hardware and software and the corresponding effort to convert over 851,000 pre-existing titles is akin to investment in infrastructure similar to highways, gas lines and power grids. The \$30 million already paid to the GRA and the annual requirements to pay \$11.7 million and an additional \$13 million annually in new amortization expenses are both ill-considered decisions that must be reversed. We believe that much of the pressure on the fee structure results from the obligation to the GRA and that this obligation is a veiled 'Land Transfer Tax'; in a manner that has never been debated in the legislature.

In addition, the Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce does not support an ad velorum pricing approach for the following reasons:

- 1) Ad velorum pricing is not an appropriate pricing model for a fee for service system where costs of providing the service are not related to the value of the property;
- 2) A fundamental change in the pricing approach eliminates much of the transparency required to evaluate Information Services Corporation as a crown corporation;
- 3) An ad velorum system has the effect of punishing home owners and business owners in Saskatoon and Regina. The discriminatory pricing is not reflective of the cost of service to either city. In fact, from a cost perspective, transactions in Saskatoon and Regina may be less costly due to economies of scale; and,
- 4) An ad velorum system has the effect of embedding a \$25 to \$30 million land transfer tax in Saskatchewan without having that tax policy debated or approved by the Saskatchewan legislature.

Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce - Board of Directors



Asit Sarkar
U of S - College
of Commerce



Vlatka Tustonic
TRLabs



Cliff Wiegiers
Wiegiers
Financial



Arlene Wiks
CIBC

Aboriginal Opportunities



Ron Rivard

Advocacy Opportunities



Co-Chair
Ken McDonough
Interim
Executive Serv.

**CAMECO RECEIVED ISO 14001
CERTIFICATION FOR
MCARTHUR RIVER & KEY LAKE**

Cameco Corporation recently officially announced that the McArthur River and Key Lake uranium operations have each received certification under the ISO 14001 program, one of the most internationally recognized systems for environmental management.

"This achievement is the result of several years of planning and preparation by our employees," said Jerry Grandey, Cameco's chief executive officer and president. *"It demonstrates how seriously we take our environmental responsibilities and our commitment to northern Saskatchewan."*

ISO 14001 is an international system through which a company can demonstrate its commitment to sound environmental performance, pollution prevention and continual improvement. It establishes a permanent framework to assist companies in reaching their environmental protection goals. The ISO framework calls for annual independent audits and for re-certification every three years. The International Organization for Standardization issued ISO 14001 in 1996.

The McArthur River and Key Lake operations each received certification following an audit conducted by the Quality Management Institute (QMI) of Mississauga, Ontario, a division of CSA International.

"Most of the components of an environmental management system have been in place at all our operations, including McArthur River and Key Lake, for some time," said Grandey. *"We decided to introduce and implement a more formal system, based on ISO 14001, to ensure greater consistency across the company and to foster a commitment among all of us at Cameco to continual improvement in environmental protection."* Cameco received ISO 14001 certification for the Port Hope and Blind River facilities in 2000 and 2002 respectively.

McArthur River is the world's largest, high-grade uranium mine. The ore from the mine is transported 80 km by truck for processing at the Key Lake mill. Both facilities are located in northern Saskatchewan.

Cameco, with its head office in Saskatoon, is the world's largest uranium supplier. The company's uranium products are used to generate electricity in nuclear energy plants around the world, providing one of the cleanest sources of energy available today.

**TEAM WINNIPEG / SASKATOON
IN THE BIDDING GAME**

Officials of the Winnipeg / Saskatoon Bid to be the Canadian Host of the 2007 IIHF World Hockey Championship are confident they have met all the requirements following the in-person presentation of the group's Operational Plan to the Canadian Hockey Association in Calgary last Friday.

"The sole purpose of the presentation was to demonstrate that we can meet the minimum technical standards for facilities, transportation, and hotels as defined in the bid guidelines," said Saskatoon Sports Tourism Project Development Coordinator Hugh Vassos. *"We now await confirmation from the CHA that we have met these requirements and for future direction on the next stage of the bid process."*

Bid Co-Chairs Joe Bloski of Saskatoon Sports Tourism and George Ulyatt of Hockey Manitoba led the bid delegation which included: Hugh Vassos, Saskatoon Sports Tourism; Scott Ford, Events & Marketing Manager Saskatchewan Place; Kevin Connelly, Winnipeg Enterprises and True North Centre; Penny McMillan, Destination Winnipeg; Jeff Hnatiuk, Sport Manitoba; and Mark Krueger, Manitoba Moose Hockey Club.

Other members of the Saskatoon Bid Committee include: Ken Wood, General Manager Saskatchewan Place; Todd Brandt, President & CEO of Tourism Saskatoon; Jack Brodsky, President of the Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club; and Brent McEwen, General Manager of the Saskatoon Blades.

"We expect to hear from the CHA by the middle of February," commented Joe Bloski. *"Once we get the green light, the next step will be to focus on a formal bid presentation sometime in April."*

Canada will be one of the several countries vying to host the 2007 IIHF Men's World Hockey Championships. The IIHF will approve a host country and a host site for the tournament in January 2004. In addition to Winnipeg / Saskatoon, a joint bid from Halifax and Quebec City to host the event has also been submitted.

Saskatoon and District Chamber of Commerce - Committee Chairs

Advocacy Opportunities



Co-Chair
Jack Brodsky
Saskatoon
Blades

Agribusiness Development



Joanne
Thompson
Deloitte &
Touche

Celebrate Success



Laura Small
Women
Entrepreneurs

Future Opportunities



Ken Wood
Saskatchewan
Place

Health Opportunities



Dave Dutchak
MD Ambulance

Knowledge Industry



Co-Chair
Asit Sarkar
U of S-College
of Commerce

Knowledge Industry



Co-Chair
Ted Farr
Rawlco Radio

Transportation



David Spearin
Logistics
Marketing Serv.

"Chamber on Business" Luncheons

David Karwacki

Saskatchewan Liberal Leader

Wednesday, March 12th, 2003

The Park Town Hotel

Nola Joorisity

CEO, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sask

Wednesday, March 19th, 2003

"Saskatchewan Check-up:

Saskatchewan as a Place to Live, Work & Invest"

The Willows Golf & Country Club

Dr. Brian Lee Crowley

President & Director,

Atlantic Institute for Market Studies

Monday, March 24th, 2003

"Why Romanow is No Solution: Where Health Care is Really Headed in Canada"

The Heritage Inn

Peter MacKinnon

President, University of Saskatchewan

Wednesday, April 2nd, 2003

"State of the University Address"

Centennial Auditorium

Elwin Hermanson

Saskatchewan Party Leader

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2003

The Saskatoon Inn

Breakfast Seminar

Darci Lang

Professional Speaker & Trainer, X-L Enterprises

Wednesday, February 26th, 2003

"Magnify Your Attitude:

How to focus on what is important"

The Saskatoon Club

"Chamber on Business" Breakfasts

Federal Minister of Agriculture

(to be confirmed)

Tuesday, March 11th, 2003

Ramada Hotel & Golf Dome

**Preston Manning
and Roger Gibbons**

Canada West Foundation

Thursday, March 13th, 2003

*"Building the New Dream -
Transportation in the 21st Century"*

The Radisson Hotel

**President's Celebration
&
Annual General Meeting**

Friday, March 7th, 2003

Western Development Museum

Reception: 6:00 pm ... Dinner: 7:00 pm

AGM: 8:00 pm ... Dance to follow

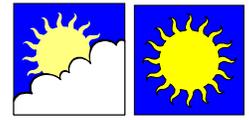
Come join us for the kick-off to
our 100th Anniversary



Nominations now being accepted
for the following categories:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Athena® | Innovation |
| Business of the Year | Marketing |
| Community Involvement | New Business Venture |
| Customer Service | New Product |
| Exports | Strategic Alliance |
| Growth & Expansion | |

For more information contact the Chamber @ 244-2151



REAL ESTATE WATCH

OFFICE SPACE

Year	Inventory in sq.ft.	Vacancy
1993	1,611,000	21.0%
1994	1,611,000	20.0%
1995	1,642,000	21.5%
1996	1,642,000	25.6%
1997	1,609,000	23.5%
1998	1,582,000	15.2%
1999	1,582,000	10.7%
2000	1,582,000	10.9%
2001	1,600,709	12.8%
2002	1,600,709	11.7%
2003	1,600,709	11.2%

Source: Colliers International Canadian Real Estate Review

INDUSTRIAL VACANCY RATES

	Saskatoon	Regina
1993	17%	6%
1994	15%	6%
1995	10%	5%
1996	6%	5%
1997	4%	6%
1998	5%	6%
1999	5%	6%
2000	6%	7%
2001	6%	7%
2002	6%	5%
2003	4%	4%

Source: Colliers International Canadian Real Estate Review

SALES WATCH

RETAIL SALES

For Saskatchewan January to November in millions of dollars

Type of Store	2002	2001
Supermarkets	1,953.1	1,832.6
Other Food	61.8	56.5
Drug	375.8	352.0
Shoe	24.4	23.5
Men's Clothing	24.5	24.9
Women's Clothing	100.9	85.3
Other Clothing	159.1	152.9
Furniture & Appliances	267.6	243.6
Motor Vehicle Dealers	2,219.8	1,988.9
Service Station	694.0	663.8
TOTAL	8,081.6	7,531.4
TOTAL CANADA	276,143.3	259,983.0

Source: Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics

MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

January to November # of vehicles sold

Location of Mfg	2002	2001
<i>Passenger Cars</i>		
North America	12,349	11,497
Japan	1,570	1,266
Other Countries	1,552	1,448
<i>Commercial Vehicles</i>		
North America	20,560	19,226
Overseas	1,557	1,136

Source: Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics

PEOPLE WATCH

POPULATION

	in thousands	% Change
1987	1,032,000	
1988	1,025,300	(0.65%)
1989	1,015,600	(0.95%)
1990	1,003,800	(1.16%)
1991	1,001,000	(0.28%)
1992	1,003,000	0.20%
1993	1,007,100	0.41%
1994	1,010,900	0.38%
1995	1,015,400	0.45%
1996	1,020,800	0.53%
1997	1,022,400	0.16%
1998	1,026,200	0.37%
1999	1,024,500	(0.17%)
2000	1,021,200	(0.32%)
2001	1,015,600	(0.55%)
2002	1,010,000	(0.55%)

Source: Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics

LABOUR FORCE

	Employed	Labour Force
Jan-01	470,000	500,800
Apr-01	465,400	498,200
Jul-01	487,100	519,400
Oct-01	469,900	494,900
Jan-02	458,700	490,800
Apr-02	464,300	497,200
Jul-02	494,200	523,900
Oct-02	492,200	518,200
Jan-03	475,500	508,400

Source: Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics

Building the Best Business Climate in Canada, Thereby Creating a City of Opportunity.

Size Matters

... help others connect with us

Tell your business associates about the work of the Chamber of Commerce.

Refer your leads to:

Jeff Sharp

Membership Director

Phone: (306) 664-0702

E-mail: jsharp@eboardoftrade.com

OR

Denise Winslow

Project Director

Phone: (306) 664-0713

E-mail: dwinslow@eboardoftrade.com

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BUSINESS VIEW

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