

2019 - 20 ANNUAL REPORT

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Message from the Chair



Every year seems to get busier and these last twelve months were no exception at the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

2020 will always be remembered for COVID-19 and the subsequent economic fallout. This crisis has shown how much can be achieved when local, provincial and federal governments work together with the business community. The Saskatchewan Chamber has showed both leadership and empathy to our members through the provision of one-on-one support and the timely distribution of resources to members who have been impacted.

In 2019, the chamber formed an Indigenous Engagement Task Force to create and launch the Indigenous Engagement Charter. The aim of the charter is to provide Saskatchewan's business community with a clear roadmap to engage the Indigenous community in the broader economy. I am thrilled that 32 Saskatchewan businesses have signed on to the Charter demonstrating a need and support for Indigenous initiatives.

Your continued support has made it possible for the chamber to advocate for what Saskatchewan business needs to succeed. Thank you for participating in our surveys, task forces, and committees. Your continued attendance at our signature events ensured that government and business meet,

share ideas and discuss business opportunities for our province. With your help, we can continue to do the work we need to do to ensure that Saskatchewan is the best place to live, work, and invest.

I want to thank my fellow board members for their ongoing commitment to the enhancement of governance processes and representation of our membership. We have a committed board that is vigilant in ensuring value is delivered to our members.

Finally, a huge thank you to Steve McLellan and the Saskatchewan Chamber team for their ongoing work. They have worked extensive hours this year to bring us through COVID-19, launch the Charter, host events, and provide day-to-day support to our members. Thank you to you all.

Valerie Sluth,
Chair



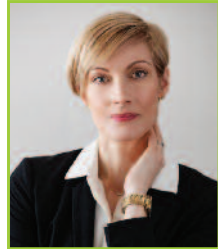
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Chief Executive Officer
Valerie Sluth



Chief Strategy Officer
Kathryn Pollack

Indigenous Panel



Angela Roque
Office: 306-545-3755
aroque@praxis-consulting.ca

Praxis Consulting is building an Indigenous research panel. The panel will enable our clients to gain the opinion and insights of Indigenous people in Saskatchewan. Please contact Angela Roque to learn more about this exciting project.

Message from the Chief Executive Officer



The year 2019 will be remembered for many things including a federal election which meant a minority government and ambiguity when it comes to environmental policy, investment readiness and also trade. The world is our market and doing business globally, while never easy, has been particularly tough of late. However, I remain confident Saskatchewan will prevail.

2019 was a year of growth for the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce with several new programs and strategic focuses. The release of *Beyond 2020: A Blueprint for Saskatchewan Business Competitiveness* offered very detailed perspectives on the current state of competitiveness for Saskatchewan and recommendations for enhancing it. This report has been very well received and we will continue to advocate for it well "beyond 2020".

The development of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Indigenous Engagement Charter was a huge effort but one that will deliver results for decades to come. With the formal launch early in 2020, we spent countless hours on getting the details right to offer the full range of supports for those members who became signatories and continue to sign up.

We cannot fail to mention the 2020 COVID-19 crisis. The pandemic has affected the health and well-being of people around the globe, and it has also had significant impacts on our business environment and economies. Our advocacy work with the federal and provincial government to provide supports for business during these challenging times is being followed by plans and programs to ensure our business community is stronger and more resilient moving forward.

In 2020, we're celebrating 100 years of being Saskatchewan's Voice of Business! As part of our celebration, we have published a book – *A Century of Enterprise: Saskatchewan's Voice of Business Celebrates 100 Years*. This centenary is a big milestone for us as a chamber and we hope you will celebrate with us this year!

Advocacy continues to be our main responsibility and as such we've been focusing on not only provincial issues, but federal ones as well.

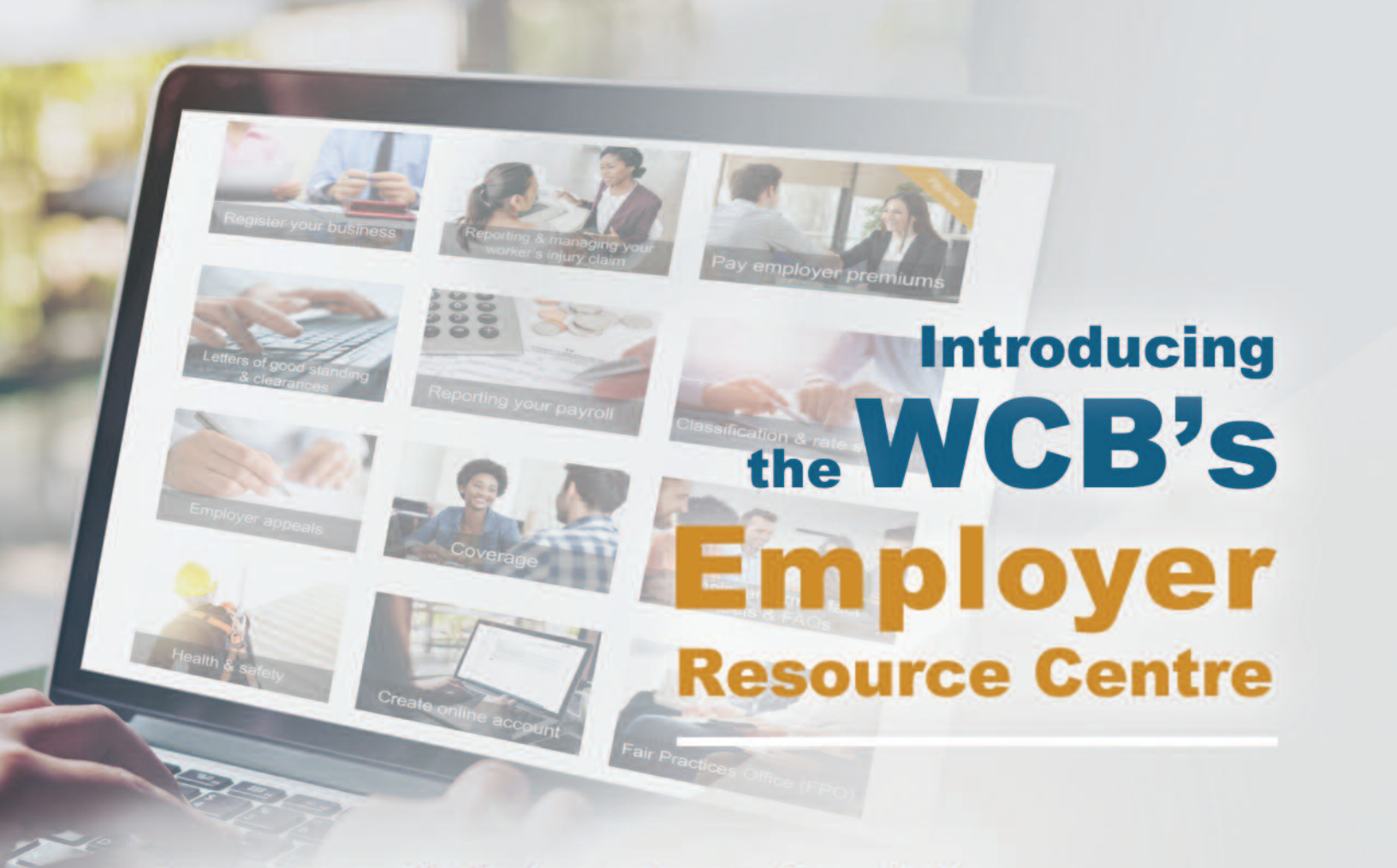
The environmental file is still top of mind at all levels of government and its success is critical to our shared success.

The Canadian energy sector was an even greater focus at the chamber with the Energy Series. This program of tours, On Tap events, and luncheons has been a great advocate for the Saskatchewan energy sector and we plan to continue our work in the energy sector in 2020. The challenges of the energy sector here in Saskatchewan, and in Canada, will remain a key focus until more sustainable policies and solutions are found by governments and business.

If advocacy is our core, then membership is our life blood. 2019 was a record year for new members with almost 90 companies coming on board. Welcome to the chamber family!

In closing, I hope the information included in this Annual Report gives you a much more complete picture of all we do for our members, for business and for Saskatchewan. Thanks to you all for your continued support.

Steve McLellan,
Chief Executive Officer



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Valerie Sluth
2019 – 2020 Chair
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"Through the COVID-19 crisis, the Saskatchewan Chamber showed both leadership and empathy to our members through the provision of one-on-one support and the timely distribution of resources to members who have been impacted."



Clayton Veresh
Immediate past-Chair
MNP

"The Saskatchewan Chamber brings together business leaders in our communities to advocate for values and policies. We work with our members to enhance the growth of our economy and prosperity of our society which depends on the success of entrepreneurs."



Monica Kreuger
1st Vice-Chair
Global Infobrokers Inc.

"The chamber network is global and its reach is powerful. They have a unique capacity to help SMEs and large companies grow by connecting them across the world. Global access. Global networks. Global knowledge. Global opportunity."



Thomas Benjoe
2nd Vice-Chair
FHQ Developments

"As a Chamber we are always looking at new ways to support a business future that we can all be proud of; one that is inclusive, innovative and sustainable."



Evan Doecker
Director
Doecker Industries Ltd.

"Thank-you for supporting the chamber in our efforts to remain a relevant and credible representative of the business community in the province."



Karen Swager
Director
The Mosaic Company

"The work that chambers do across the country has never been more important than it is right now. Ensuring Saskatchewan businesses remain competitive in a challenging global market is vital, and the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is playing an important role."



Khurram Awan
Director
Miller Thompson LLP

"The start of the new decade should mark a cautiously optimistic time in Saskatchewan. I look forward to advocating for our members as they continue to diversify the provincial economy and yield the benefits of their resilience over the last few years."


Jenna Moore

Director
Central Plains Co-op

"As we work through these uncertain times and establish new ways of doing business, I am confident that our innovation and resiliency as a province, as well as the tenacity of our business leaders will help us persevere. Saskatchewan will continue to advance and progress, and the Saskatchewan Chamber will be there with a voice to help develop the future."


Greg McIntyre

Director
Royal Bank of Canada

"Saskatchewan has been enduring some challenges in the last couple of years—particularly in our rural communities. Thankfully despite our economic headwinds, there is a lot to be hopeful for through our prairie innovation, technology and people that make Saskatchewan the best place to live, work and invest!"


Sara Wheelwright

Director
Trusted Marketing Services

"Over 98% of the businesses in Saskatchewan are small businesses. Local owners & their staff care more about giving us quality products or service, over just taking our hard-earned dollars. I urge you all to support local as a priority in 2020."


Mary Weimer

Director
Conexus Credit Union

"I'm continually inspired by the enthusiasm for business and entrepreneurship in Saskatchewan. The creativity and innovation of our business leaders and community is second to none."


Marco Ricci

Director
Greenwave Innovations Inc.

"To me, the chamber means gaining friends, associates and even advocates. Sometimes being a good "corporate citizen" means being the community partner that all the "little guys" expect you to be."


Bruce Willis

Director
KPMG

"I see a very bright future for business in Saskatchewan as we continue to grow and diversify our economy. I believe the chamber has a crucial role to play in assisting business to have a strong voice in how we shape this future together."

Staff



Steve McLellan
Chief Executive Officer

Steve is responsible for overseeing operations, strategic planning, reporting to the Board, representing the chamber on various organizations, and representing the Saskatchewan Chamber in the media.



Dawn Boxall
Director of Finance and Administration

As the Executive Assistant, Dawn is responsible for accounts and all regular administration support to the CEO and staff. She is also responsible for the coordination of SCC board meetings, elections and processes.



Michele Geres
Director of Programs

The Director of Programs is responsible for coordinating most non-dues revenue programs including all in-house training activities, regional business tours and international tours.



Kathy Skomar
Director of Special Events

As the Director of Special Events, Kathy is responsible for the coordination and sponsorship of all Saskatchewan Chamber events.



Nick Crighton
Director of Indigenous Engagement

As the Director of Indigenous Engagement, Nick is primarily responsible for assisting Saskatchewan businesses and organizations that sign the SCC's Indigenous Engagement Charter in the development of their Indigenous engagement strategy.



Reid Pedersen
Director of Membership Development

As the Director of Membership Development, Reid's primary role is to promote the membership benefits of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce. He maintains a close working relationship with the business community in Saskatchewan.



Elissa LaLiberte
Director of Membership Engagement

Elissa is the liaison between the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce and its members, ensuring that the chamber is engaged with its membership in all areas.



Joshua Kurkjian
Director of Research & Policy Development

Joshua's primary role is to research and develop policy on issues and opportunities for business in Saskatchewan. He also works to gather direct input from chamber members and selected experts to ensure the chamber has the best information on current and emerging issues.



Morgana van Niekerk
Director of Marketing & Communications

Morgana is responsible for creating and managing the chamber's internal and external communication plan, as well as ensuring that the Saskatchewan Chamber continues to be known as the Voice of Saskatchewan Business.



Saskatchewan Success

Success does not happen overnight.
And sometimes the path is obscure and a little rocky.

We are proud to travel with our clients providing solutions, advice, and counsel
to keep moving forward.

With roots tracing back to 1926, we know the Saskatchewan business landscape and the
inherent rough patches that we find along the path to success.



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Financial Statements

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce

Financial Statements - Extract

December 31, 2019

Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31,	2019	2018
Revenues		
Business memberships	\$ 564,657	\$ 539,395
Chamber group insurance	221,312	203,424
ABEX Awards	219,980	270,823
Member services	98,829	115,478
Indigenous Engagement Charter	64,513	-
General administration revenue	41,800	19,302
Political Forum	32,760	30,875
Local chambers memberships	32,430	31,760
Conference	27,530	27,980
Publications	25,512	28,137
Interest income	18,575	16,426
Employment / Training grant	10,442	4,546
Commissions	2,142	-
Research partnership	1,500	-
Loss on sale of equipment and intangible asset	(2,815)	(5,365)
	1,359,167	1,282,781
Expenditures		
ABEX Awards	117,902	146,570
Amortization of equipment	23,652	12,276
Amortization of intangible assets	2,661	1,827
Committees	60,055	57,010
Communication	16,628	17,499
Conference	16,682	12,850
Indigenous Engagement Charter	64,513	-
Member services	90,189	98,366
Office and administration	74,019	63,080
Political Forum	13,286	15,557
Professional fees	22,396	51,832
Rent	108,882	99,170
Research campaign	-	1,000
Salaries and related benefits	709,570	687,861
Telephone and utilities	11,535	10,775
Travel	33,004	29,578
	1,364,974	1,305,251
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	\$ (5,807)	\$ (22,470)

Financials continued on page 11.

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Robert is a results-driven leader with more than 30 years of experience helping organizations manage risk, corporate governance, assurance and regulatory compliance so they can achieve their strategic goals.



For better results, contact:
Robert Kuling, CIA, CRMA, CQA
Partner, Enterprise Risk Services
T: 306.751.8014
E: robert.kuling@mnp.ca

Financial Statements

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce

Statement of Financial Position

December 31,	2019	2018
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 104,180	\$ 32,053
Short term investments	643,341	643,341
Accounts receivable	76,335	97,957
GST receivable	1,977	3,075
Prepaid expenses	28,944	15,251
Due from related party	8,659	60,415
	863,436	852,092
Equipment and leaseholds	50,932	65,350
Intangible asset	13,305	2,740
	\$ 927,673	\$ 920,182
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 63,827	\$ 78,496
Deferred revenue	306,745	278,778
	370,572	357,274
Net Assets		
Internally restricted funds	300,000	300,000
Unrestricted funds	257,101	262,908
	557,101	562,908
	\$ 927,673	\$ 920,182

Audited Financial Statements available at www.saskchamber.com

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Canadian Chamber of Commerce



The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) collaborated with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce on several key advocacy activities in 2019. Perhaps most notable was the important work done to fight and overhaul Bill C-69 and the Vote Prosperity Election Platform which called for federal parties to include various priorities in their election platforms. The priorities recommended by the SCC were: market access for resources; Indigenous engagement; intergovernmental cooperation; agriculture and global markets; innovation and development support; taxation; and workforce development.

In 2019, Clayton Veresh, MNP, and Past-Chair of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce served the board of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Patricia Warsaba,

McKercher LLP, also served the board in 2019. Saskatchewan Chamber member, John Lagimodiere, President, ACS Aboriginal Consulting Services, is also active with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce as the Chair of the CCC Indigenous Affairs Policy Committee.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce held its AGM and Convention in Saint John, New Brunswick in September. The SCC was well-represented by Chair, Valerie Sluth; Past-Chair, Clayton Veresh; CEO, Steve McLellan and Director of Membership Engagement, Elissa LaLiberte. Attendees participated in the annual policy session and a variety of other sessions, including the Saskatchewan/Manitoba Policy Caucus.

Valerie Sluth participating in the annual policy session in Saint John



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SCC Advocacy Efforts Around Pharmacare



While we support the concept of a national pharmacare strategy, the Saskatchewan business community and the public at-large want governments to provide prescription drug coverage to those who need it the most - not to those who already have coverage and are generally satisfied with it. Any national pharmacare strategy being proposed should not leave Canadians worse off by depleting them of access to medications they already have under their current drug plans.

In our May 2019 correspondence, the SCC recommended an

approach to national pharmacare that builds upon the strengths of the current public-private delivery model by closing the coverage gap through affordable and targeted measures aimed at vulnerable populations, such as the uninsured and those who must pay for high-cost, rare disease drugs. A national pharmacare strategy should not crowd out existing private or group insurers. The cornerstone of our policy recommendations was an income-based, harmonized catastrophic drug coverage program whereby the associated costs of drugs required to treat rare diseases would be capped at a

certain percentage (3%) of annual after-tax household income. Any costs above and beyond this income threshold would be covered entirely by the federal program. This particular recommendation is practical, affordable, and addresses a key gap in the current system.



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Below: Steve McLellan answers questions from the media at the *Beyond 2020* launch.



Beyond 2020: A Blueprint for Saskatchewan Business Competitiveness



A major focus of the SCC's research and advocacy efforts in 2019 centred around the very timely and relevant issue of business competitiveness. The SCC Board of Directors in late 2018 recommended that a study on business competitiveness be carried out. The decision to carry out such a study was made in response to feedback received from SCC members, particularly firms operating in capital-intensive sectors.

This focus on competitiveness culminated with a report released in September 2019, *Beyond 2020; A Blueprint for Saskatchewan Business Competitiveness*. *Beyond 2020* identified the key issues facing the Saskatchewan business community and provided 24 recommendations in six different areas to improve the current state of business competitiveness and ensure the province can successfully move forward into the next decade.

The goals of this environmental scan phase were threefold: identify existing competitiveness barriers constraining businesses and industries; understand why these competitiveness barriers and challenges continue to exist; and finally, formulate policy recommendations that would improve the climate for business competitiveness in the province.

Beyond 2020 included voluntary participation from current and prospective members operating in the following sectors: upstream petroleum; downstream petroleum; construction; trucking; manufacturing; potash mining; insurance services; renewable energy; technology; and large city Chambers of Commerce (Regina and Saskatoon).

The scope of *Beyond 2020* was quite broad and encompassed the areas of taxation; regulations; international trade and trade-enabling infrastructure; procurement; innovation; and workforce development. The report's primary research component consisted of a series of semi-structured one-on-one interviews with representatives of participating organizations.

Key competitive strengths include our vibrant entrepreneurial spirit; competitive provincial business taxes; steady progress on red tape reduction; and having the lowest tax

rate on manufacturing and processing activities. Other competitive strengths include reasonable non-residential property tax rates; the absence of a provincial payroll tax; and tax-credits aimed at growing tech start-ups and commercialization.

Challenges include difficulty scaling up; anemic overall productivity; an inefficient Provincial Sales Tax (PST); regulatory duplication and misalignment; inadequate consultation around changes to taxes and fees; barriers to getting our goods to market; and lackluster capacity for innovation.

Overall the report and its recommendations have been well-received by members, the larger business community, and the province; in fact, many of the actions referenced in the province's newly released *Saskatchewan Growth Plan 2020-2030* closely align with the recommendations made in our report.

Going forward, the SCC will continue to aggressively promote the recommendations made in *Beyond 2020* to both levels of government and further a much-needed public discussion.

Find the full report on saskchamber.com.

Thank you to Mosaic Canada for the printing of this report.

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Chair's Invitationa

The 2019 Chair's Invitational Dinner was held at the International Trade Centre, Evraz Place on October 2nd, 2019. The event was sold out, with close to 200 guests.

The chamber was pleased to host this event again as an opportunity for chamber members to connect with Deputy Ministers and Crown Corporation presidents. This event is specifically for chamber members to engage with Deputy Ministers in order to contribute to the economic landscape in Saskatchewan.

The evening was filled with insightful conversations over a Saskatchewan-themed dinner, and issues of importance to the guests were brought up in the Q&A session that followed. Some of the topics included impacts both perceived and potential of the legalization of marijuana, mental health services and infrastructure in the province.

Thank you to our sponsors: Nutrien and Royal Bank of Canada



1 Dinner

Opposite: SCC Chair Valerie Sluth addresses guests at the 2019 Chair's Invitational Dinner

Below: Guests at the 2019 Chair's Invitational Dinner



Events

Left: Clayton Veresh and Valerie Sluth at the swearing in at the SCC AGM



SCC Annual Conference

The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Annual Conference 2019 was held on May 8th and 9th, 2019 at the Double Tree Hotel by Hilton, in Regina.

Conference attendees received a Saskatchewan Safety update courtesy of Larry Flanders from the Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation board, followed by the Chair's Luncheon where Valerie Sluth was sworn in as Chair of the SCC. There was an update from Mike Marsh, President and CEO for SaskPower, a media panel with Murray Mandryk and Murray Wood, and an outstanding reception with live music courtesy of The Garage Band. This event is an opportunity to network with local chambers across the province and take advantage of the educational development that it offers.

Thank you to our sponsors: CN, SaskPower, Chamber Plan Insurance, Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board, First Data and CAA Saskatchewan

Make a Connection Breakfast

The Make a Connection Breakfast was held on April 17th, 2019 in Regina. The chamber hosted 150 attendees including chamber members, Deputy Ministers, and Crown Corporation Presidents.

This event cultivates and maintains relationships between members, Deputy Ministers and presidents of Saskatchewan's Crown Corporations. In addition to nurturing these relationships, this event gives the members a platform to ask questions and gain insight on topics that may potentially impact their businesses.

Thank you to our sponsors, Mosaic Canada, and CPA Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan Government Ministers
answered questions from the SCC
membership, moderated by SCC
Chair Valerie Sluth



Political Forum

Political Forum took place on January 28, 2020 at the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina. Political Forum was a sold-out event again in 2020 and hosted over 200 chamber members and elected government officials to discuss issues, concerns or barriers to success with their elected officials.

The session with the official Opposition began at 4:00 PM with a full room of guests and 10 representatives from the NDP. The Government of Saskatchewan session began at 5:50 PM after a delicious Saskatchewan-themed meal. Deputy Premier Wyant and 11 ministers were in attendance. The chamber membership had the opportunity to address many key issues affecting business in Saskatchewan directly with government.

Thank you to our sponsors: Federated Co-operatives Ltd., McKercher LLP, Deloitte, ScotiaBank and The Mosaic Company





Saskatchewan Financial Literacy Network



The Saskatchewan Financial Literacy Network (SFLN) had its most active year to date in 2019. In March, the SFLN held a Forum in Saskatoon with Jane Rooney, then Canada's Financial Literacy Leader, as keynote speaker and almost 50 network members in attendance. As part of Financial Literacy Month in November, the SFLN partnered with F.W. Johnson Collegiate in Regina to host a Financial Literacy Fair.

Approximately 150 Johnson students from grades 9-12 as well as teachers and parents had the opportunity to receive information from 18 organizations participating in the Fair. The SFLN also launched the Saskatoon Industry-Education

Council's Money \$ense Program that gives Grades 7-9 teachers curriculum resources to bring financial literacy to younger grades.

The SFLN is active on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram (@saskfinlit). This past year, the SFLN also released a testimonial video and animated infographic video on social media and its website (sfln.ca).

As part of Financial Literacy Month in November, the SFLN ran 2 hashtag campaigns during Financial Literacy Month that were shared across SFLN social media platforms and with teachers across the province.

On November 6th, Michele Geres attended the National Financial Literacy Network meeting in Ottawa. This event brought together financial literacy advocates from across Canada to share ideas and learn more about the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada's tools and resources.

2020 promises to be another exciting year for the SFLN with the release of the Financial Literacy curriculum for Grades 11 and 12.

Financial literacy network representatives from across Canada met in Ottawa during Financial Literacy Month.

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ABEX



The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is immensely proud to represent more than 700 business in this great province! It is truly an honour to support these businesses year after year and recognize their excellence at Saskatchewan's most prestigious business event of the year, the ABEX Awards. The recipients and nominees are tenacious businesspeople who took a chance on a dream and through perseverance achieved success!

Our 35th ABEX Awards took place in Saskatoon, on October 19th, 2019 at TCU Place. This year once again honoured so many deserving recipients, including John Hopkins from the Regina Chamber of Commerce who received the Roger Philips Chamber Builder Award. This award is specifically for individuals who have a long-standing

history of committing time, thought leadership and guidance to the chamber network in Saskatchewan. Wally and Colleen Mah of North Ridge Development Corporation were awarded the Community Leader of the Year Award, sponsored by SaskEnergy. This award is given to individuals who have made a positive contribution to the community through volunteerism and philanthropy, and who have taken a lead role in developing solutions to social challenges. Wayne Clifton of Clifton and Associates took home the Business Leader of the Year, sponsored by the University of Regina. Wayne is an individual who exemplifies the qualities of a business visionary and has shown outstanding success in business. O&T Farms Ltd. was inducted into the Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame for their long-

term commitment to business excellence. JNE Welding took home the Business of the Year Award, sponsored by the David Aplin Group. Fun fact; JNE Welding had the highest scoring application in ABEX history. Bravo!

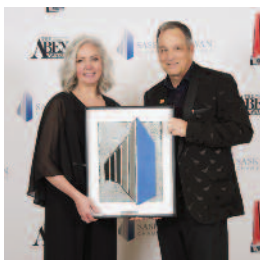
Congratulations to every nominee, recipient and all businesses throughout this great province – you are the reason we celebrate business excellence!

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to our sponsors: Conexus Credit Union, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Ministry of Trade & Export Development, PFM Capital Inc., Cameco, Cogent Chartered Professional Accountants Grant Thornton LLP, Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority, University of Regina, SaskEnergy, World Trade Center Saskatoon at Prairieland Park, David Aplin Group, Handy Special Events, Minard's Leisure World, Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board, Innovation Saskatchewan, CPA Saskatchewan, Nutrien, SaskTel, Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association, EVRAZ, Crowe MacKay LLP, Tourism Saskatchewan, Prairie Manufacture Magazine, Jay's Transportation Group, and WESK.

ABEX 2019 Award Winners



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Wayne Clifton
Business Leader of the
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JNE Welding Ltd.
Business of the Year Award
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Greenwave Innovations Inc.
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Advocating for Saskatchewan Business through the COVID-19 Pandemic



March 2020 marked the beginning of intensified actions to fight the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, and around the world. The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) was quick to respond by surveying the Saskatchewan business community, getting insight into the needs of businesses during the pandemic and providing recommendations to federal and provincial government. The SCC recommended immediate

action by government in the following areas to help offset business challenges:

- Fiscal and monetary stimulus
- Immediate action to support workers & self-employed
- Allow layoffs without termination
- Expand credit and loan access to business
- Ensure access to products
- Extend tax or bill payment deadlines

Both levels of government were quick to respond, and various support programs were announced in March and April¹.

The Saskatchewan Chamber continues to advocate for further supports for business and for Canada's energy industry. This sector has been incredibly hard hit and support is much needed.

While the immediate issues around the pandemic may subside over the summer of 2020, the fight to regain business revenue levels and economic recovery will remain a challenge. Business recovery programs and resiliency plans will be the focus for the chamber now and in the future to ensure that Saskatchewan business is resilient going forward.

Saskatchewan has coped remarkably well with the innumerable unknowns created by this pandemic and it is thanks to healthcare workers, delivery service workers, business owners and employees who have been working together while staying apart, that Saskatchewan will continue to prove resilient against any number of challenges.

¹Note: This article was written on April 13, 2020.

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Pipelines, Bill C-69, and Bill C-48 — Oh My!



The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) continued with its ongoing research and advocacy efforts around pipelines, Bill C-69, Bill C-48, and all things resource development-related. Building upon our submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources (ENEV) in January 2019, and our presence at the National Day of Action on Bill C-69 in Ottawa in February, the SCC provided expert testimony before the Committee in April 2019.

CEO Steve McLellan and Director of Research and Policy Development Joshua Kurkjian travelled to Saskatoon and communicated to the Committee in no uncertain terms that Bill C-69 in its then-current form was not an improvement upon the existing 2012 *Canadian Environment Assessment Act*; in fact, Bill C-69's glaring deficiencies required a major rewrite rather than just small amendments. In addition to the

above-mentioned, additional efforts throughout 2019 included the following actions:

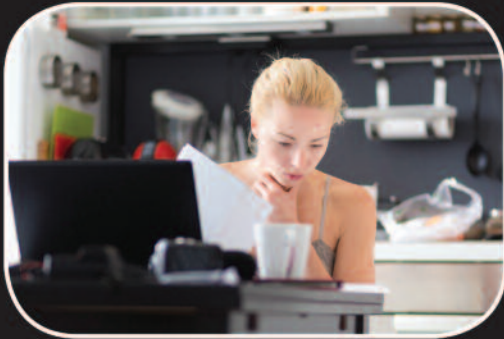
- Submitting a letter to the Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Transport and Communications regarding Bill C-48, The Oil Tanker Moratorium Act in April 2019. Bill C-48 sought to ban oil tankers transporting more than 125,000 tonnes (about 90,000 barrels) of crude oil from stopping, loading, or unloading along the northern coast of BC. Instead of an outright ban, the SCC recommended developing an enhanced marine transportation safety corridor by incorporating additional, sensible safety measures.
- Distributing a Backgrounder on Bill C-69 to members through the SCC e-newsletter in July 2019.
- Circulating an *Update on Bill C-69 and Bill C-48: Monitoring the Impact Assessment Act, the*

Canadian Energy Regulator Act, and the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project document to members through the SCC e-newsletter and on www.saskchamber.com in August 2019.

- Making market access for resources our number one priority in our *Vote Prosperity: The 2019 Election Platform of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce* document in September 2019. Specific asks included creating a strategy for developing trade-enabling infrastructure; continuing to promote and support the uranium industry; ensuring Trans Mountain is built in a timely manner; and encouraging proponents to restart the Energy East pipeline.

Throughout spring and early summer 2019, the Senate Standing Committee ENEV proposed over 150 amendments based on the testimony of groups like the SCC and others. The Federal Government accepted only a small handful of the proposed amendments. Despite our best efforts, both Bill C-69 and Bill C-48 were granted Royal Assent in June 2019. Saskatchewan's natural resources are vital part of its economy and our long-term prosperity depends on getting our resources to market. The SCC will continue to monitor the implementation of Bills C-69 and C-48 as we move forward.

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Recap of the Federal Climate Action Incentive Fund Rebate Program for Saskatchewan-Based SMEs

INTRODUCTION

The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) has been hard at work keeping up to speed with ongoing developments around the energy and climate change file. Effective April 1, 2019, a federally imposed carbon tax charged on a suite of combustible fuels (gasoline, diesel, natural gas, etc.) came into effect in Saskatchewan. This economy-wide carbon tax is a form of carbon pricing directed specifically at consumer behaviour. It is part of a larger federal carbon pricing strategy (the federal carbon pricing backstop plan) that also includes a carbon intensity performance standard for large industrial emitters. The four provinces subject to the federal backstop plan are Saskatchewan, Ontario, Manitoba, and New Brunswick. The federal backstop can 'top up' in part or in whole, any province whose own climate change strategy does not conform with federal standards.

Carbon pricing is one of the pillars outlined in the *Pan-Canadian Framework (PCF) on Clean Growth and Climate Change*. Under the PCF, all revenues generated by the tax will be returned to the backstop provinces. Ninety percent of the total revenues will be directed back to households in the form of a Clean Action Incentive rebate. Of the

remaining 10%, 4% of those revenues will be directed back to the MUSH (municipalities, universities, schools and hospitals) sector, while 6% will be directed back to eligible small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in each of the four provinces.¹ Finance Canada estimates that a total of \$295 million in revenue will be available to eligible SMEs in Saskatchewan from 2019-2024.

BACKGROUND

On May 30, 2019, then-Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced the *Climate Action Incentive Fund* (CAIF), an initiative funded by a portion of carbon tax revenues to help support actions around energy efficiency and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions. The CAIF intended for SMEs is comprised of two distinct funding streams:

- A project-based stream currently up and running; and
- A rebate-based stream that is still under development.

The SME project stream provides financial supports to SMEs to help undertake larger, more complex capital retrofit projects in the following sectors: agriculture;

buildings; transportation; electricity, energy or fuel production; industrial process improvements; and waste management. Eligible project categories and activities are mainly focused around replacing outdated and inefficient machinery and equipment with high-efficiency ones, fuel switching to lower emitting energy sources, and energy management system installs. Saskatchewan was allocated \$21 million for its SME project-based stream, \$10 million for its SME rebate stream, and \$12 million for its MUSH sector (schools) stream, culminating in a total allocation of \$43 million for the 2019-20 fiscal year. There will be preferential allocation of funding for retrofit projects in economic sectors that are likely to be heavily impacted by carbon pricing (e.g. oil and gas, mining, manufacturing). Applicant SMEs must signal intent on purchasing specified machinery and equipment in the online-only application.

¹Note: The Government of Canada defines small businesses as incorporated entities with 1-99 employees and medium-sized businesses as incorporated entities with 100-499 employees. Taken together, SMEs are incorporated enterprises with 1-499 employees.

A large-scale photograph showing a train loaded with massive green-painted steel pipes. The pipes are stacked in multiple layers on yellow flatcars. The perspective is from a low angle, looking down the length of the train, emphasizing the scale of the industrial product. The background shows some green foliage, suggesting an outdoor industrial setting.

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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The SME project stream must meet the following criteria:

- The rebate amount can be up to 25% of a project's total cost;
- The value of an eligible project must be a minimum of \$20,000 and a maximum of \$250,000 CDN per project per recipient; and
- A \$250,000 funding cap is applied to a group of applicant franchisees who operate under the same franchise trade name in each eligible province.

In addition, the rebate amount offered under the CAIF can be 'stacked' with funds from other government sources, provided the maximum level of *combined* government funding does not exceed 100% of the project's total eligible costs. For example, the federal *Accelerated Investment Incentive*, a capital cost (depreciation) measure that allows businesses to write off a larger amount upfront on the cost of eligible machinery and equipment over a shorter time period, can be stacked with the rebate.

The application window under the SME project stream was initially 90 days starting July 17, 2019. However, ECCC extended the deadline to November 22, 2019. Machinery and equipment purchased prior to April 1, 2019 is not eligible for funding, as the

federal carbon tax was not in place and thus unable to generate revenue prior to that date. The CAIF is expected to have multiple application rounds over its projected two-year lifespan. While ECCC has not been accepting any new applications since November 2019, the CAIF is expected to have multiple application rounds over its projected two-year lifespan.

POLICY INPUT PROCESS

While the SCC continues to oppose the carbon tax, the fact of the matter is the tax is already in place for the time being. Notwithstanding many of our members' strong opposition to a carbon tax, the SCC also believes as a principle that any revenues generated from the carbon tax should be directed into actions that reduce emissions.

In December 2018, the SCC circulated a second carbon pricing survey out to its members and to local chambers. The survey results overall indicated a strong opposition to a carbon tax, but strong support for reducing emissions. The survey also indicated support for the use of carbon tax revenues toward greater efforts around energy efficiency, along with the greater use of renewable energy resources.

In early 2019, the SCC held policy input sessions with a select group of impacted members. In addition to favouring actions around energy

efficiency and increased uptake of renewables similar to the December 2018 survey results, there was considerable positive feedback toward the idea of directing revenues back to businesses either in the form of tax credit or a rebate. The SCC opted to recommend the established policy of directing all carbon tax dollars back to efforts that would demonstrably reduce emissions.

Throughout spring 2019, the SCC had preliminary discussions with officials at Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) around some important considerations that would need to be factored into the design and implementation of such a program. The SCC chose to endorse and therefore promote the Government of Canada's proposed energy efficiency rebate program for SMEs using revenues generated by the carbon tax.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Preliminary findings would suggest that uptake overall has been very strong; in fact, the total value of requested funding early on among applicant SMEs located in all four backstop provinces outstripped the total available funding in the envelope by a considerable margin. Among the four eligible provinces as of January 31st, 2020, 727 of 856 proposals (129 were deemed not eligible) have been approved by ECCC. The 727 approved projects



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now represent 60% of the total available 2019-20 funding envelope.

Breaking it down further by proposals received by sector based on the North American Industry Classification System, the top three sectors measured in terms of both number of approved proposals and requested dollars were Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting; Manufacturing; and Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing. Those three sectors alone combined accounted for almost three-quarters of all approved proposals and requested dollars.

Looking closer to home, Saskatchewan proposals accounted for 226 of the 727 total projects approved, representing about 31% of the 727 approved proposals. The top three NAICS sectors for approved proposals and approved dollars in Saskatchewan were Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting; Manufacturing; and Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing. This closely mirrors the top three NAICS sectors between the four backstop jurisdictions referenced above.

When measuring the number of proposals and the percentage of funding allocated, preliminary information suggests that proposals from eligible SMEs from Saskatchewan skewed overwhelmingly toward small businesses (80%) than medium-

sized businesses (14%). When comparing the estimated impact of carbon pricing based on sector, those sectors in Saskatchewan expected to be highly impacted by carbon pricing accounted for 44% of the envelope funding, while low impact sectors accounted for 49% of envelope funding. Moreover, Saskatchewan-based proposals were largely rural based compared to urban based. This makes sense given the types of industrial activities where these projects would typically be located.

CONCLUSION

The SCC remains supportive of the CAIF and will continue to monitor and evaluate the program over its anticipated two-year lifespan. To those prospective or current applicants, we welcome any feedback you might have around the Program. Your suggestions will be forwarded to officials at ECCC. We also strongly encourage prospective eligible SMEs in the Province to submit proposals for the next funding round, as there is still plenty of money remaining in the envelope.

Please find more information at saskchamber.com.

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Indigenous Engagement Charter

Indigenous Engagement: a Saskatchewan Chamber Priority

Indigenous Engagement has been a priority for the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce for many years and has been included as a key strategic theme in its 2019-2021 strategic plan.

Saskatchewan has many positive attributes that make it a great place to live, work and invest; the innovation and energy of its people, its four seasons, and its natural bounty afforded from the land. However, the province also has opportunities that must be championed to reach its full potential, perhaps most importantly, this includes the opportunity to fully engage the Indigenous Peoples in the economy.

In his 2011 report, University of Saskatchewan Professor Eric Howe reported that the value, beyond any social or moral purpose, of bridging the Indigenous education gap and bringing the Saskatchewan Indigenous population to the same economic level as the broader population is a \$90 billion opportunity.

There is little doubt that this is the most important economic opportunity on Saskatchewan's horizon.

One method the chamber employed to work toward Indigenous Engagement was the creation of a task force, the Indigenous Engagement Task Force. The task force first met in January 2019, it

was tasked with creating a program for Saskatchewan businesses to get intentional about Indigenous Engagement. It has been an exciting journey and much was accomplished by the Indigenous Engagement Charter Task Force. Over the course of 100 days, the task force finalized the Indigenous Engagement Charter for businesses. With the foundational document in place, the chamber staff began to build the resources necessary to assist Saskatchewan businesses in their individual engagement strategies. This included the hiring of Nick Crighton as the Director of Indigenous Engagement in October 2019. Nick will lead the Indigenous Engagement Charter for the chamber and will also facilitate a number of Indigenous Awareness training sessions across the province.

The Indigenous Engagement Charter includes the following:

- Develop and Indigenous Engagement Strategy
- Educate the Workplace on Indigenous History and Culture
- Engage Indigenous People Through Hiring
- Implement Procurement Practices, Actions and Partnerships
- Reinforce Relationships and Support Indigenous Communities Through Community Involvement

- Provide Clear and Honest Reporting of All Actions Undertaken in the Indigenous Engagement Program

More information on each of the program requirements can be found online at www.saskchamber.com. Several Saskatchewan businesses have become signatories and program investors. A full and current listing of signatories and investors can also be found on our website.

The chamber also participated on the Canadian Chamber Indigenous Works Partnership Task Force to assist in the creation of a national engagement strategy. The chamber is very supportive of the Canadian Chamber's efforts on this file.

In 2019, demonstrating the chamber's commitment to Indigenous Engagement and education, the chamber hosted eight training sessions reaching approximately 200 attendees across nearly every business sector in the province. The SCC staff has all had the opportunity to take Indigenous Awareness training in 2019. In 2020, the chamber will be hosting more than 30 training sessions in 9 communities across the province.

Thank you to the Indigenous Engagement Charter Investors for their generous support: Nutrien, SaskPower, CIBC, Graham, Meridian Surveys, Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board, Royal Bank of Canada, PCL Construction, and Scotiabank



The chamber hosted two Indigenous Engagement Charter launches in January 2020, one in Regina and one in Saskatoon with great support from Saskatchewan business and government.



Water Council for Saskatchewan Research and Advocacy Efforts



In 2019-20, the Water Council for Saskatchewan continued its research and advocacy work that it started three years ago. The Water Council was established in 2017 in response to the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency's (SWSA) decision to abandon its original plan to establish an arm's length, single-table advisory council and instead opt for one-on-one consultations with stakeholders. Given the current fragmentation and misalignment between various levels of government around water, the Water Council believes there is still great merit in having a dedicated, single table of diverse stakeholders.

The Water Council is a multi-stakeholder advisory body comprised of industry, municipal associations, water stewardship and conservation groups, and researchers. The Water Council envisions a provincial water

governance and management approach that is integrated, multi-disciplinary, collaborative, and most importantly, strategic. As always, the goal of the Water Council is to encourage and support, but not duplicate, SWSA's *25 Year Water Security Plan*.

Some noteworthy actions of the Water Council for this year include:

- Attending Western Economic Diversification Canada's (WD) Prairie Water Summit in Regina from June 24-25, 2019. SCC representatives participated in breakout sessions and offered feedback that will be incorporated into WD's *Prairie Water Management Strategy* tentatively scheduled for release in March 2020.
- Hosting preliminary discussions with representatives of SWSA and offering feedback on their *Agricultural Water Management Strategy* currently being developed. Specific actions include SWSA's officials presenting their Strategy to members of the Water Council in October 2019.
- Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland in November 2019 in Regina to discuss a pan-western Canadian framework that includes a prominent water component.

- Submitting formal comment to the Government of Saskatchewan regarding their water management strategy outlined in *Saskatchewan Growth Plan 2020-2030*.
- Attending WD's *Prairie Land and Water Management Strategy Workshop* facilitated by WaterSMART Water Management Solutions on February 4, 2020 in Saskatoon. SCC representatives participated in various breakout sessions and offered input on the challenges, opportunities, and priorities around water governance and management in the pan-Prairie region.

Going forward in 2020, the Water Council will continue to champion and seek out funding for flood plain mapping across the entire province using LiDAR technology, continue to advise SWSA on the development of its *Agricultural Water Management Strategy*, as well as advocate for a major water conveyance project in Southwestern Saskatchewan.

Joshua Kurkjian, SCC Director of Research and Policy Development, attended the Prairie Land and Water Management Strategy Workshop and met with Ralph Goodale.



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Battlefords Chamber of Commerce,
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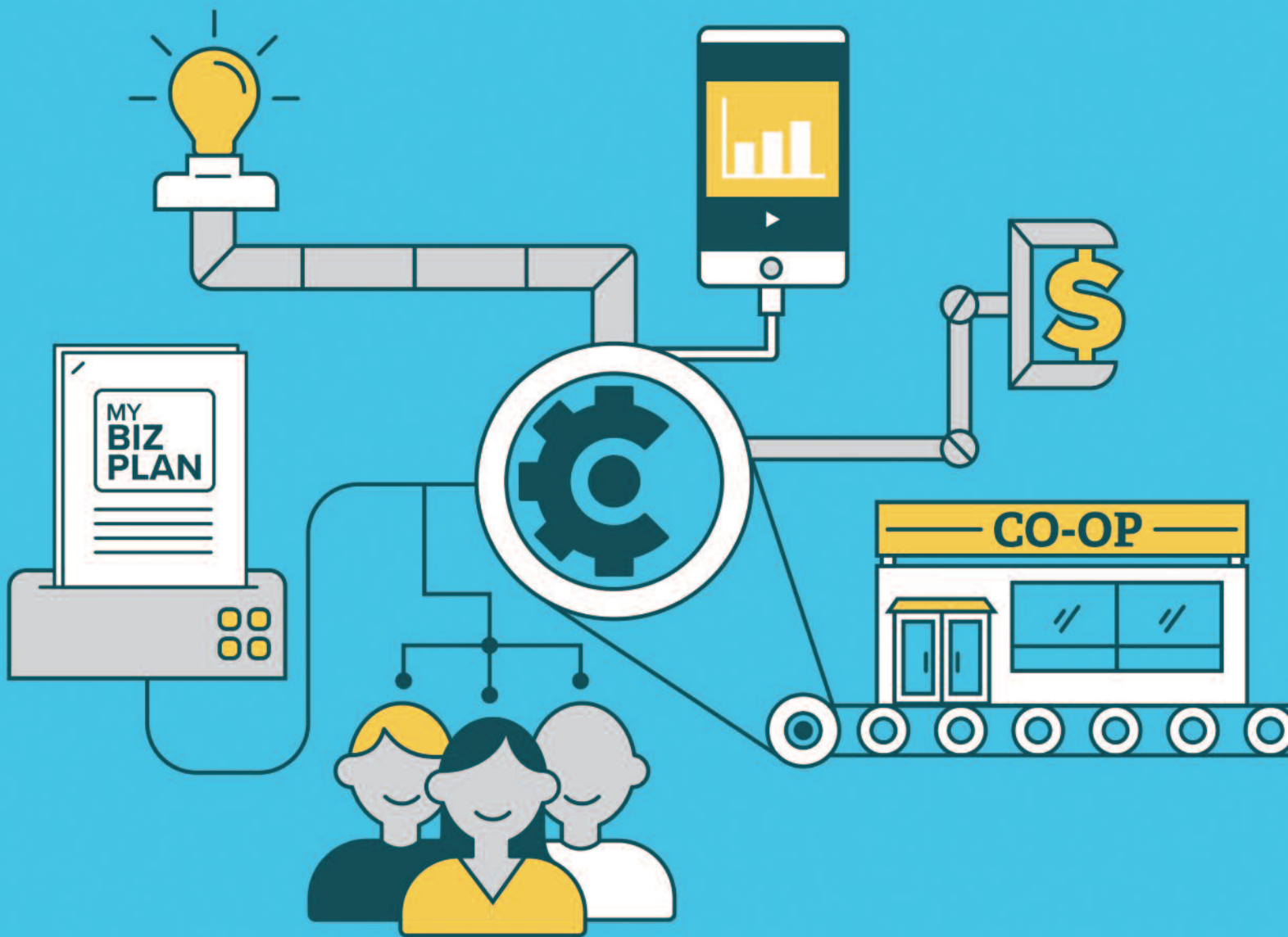
In 2019, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce was an active participant with the Chamber of Commerce Executives of Canada. Various SCC staff contributed time and talent to the organization through committee and task force participation to encourage added professional development opportunities for chamber staff across the country.

Steve McLellan, Elissa LaLiberte and Linda Machniak (Battlefords Chamber of Commerce) were invited to be presenters at the CCEC Annual Conference in Saint John, NB in September 2019.

In 2014, the SCC with assistance and input from several local chambers of commerce developed a program called Chamber College. Chamber College has been used annually in Saskatchewan to provide professional development training to chamber staff. The CCEC caught wind of the curriculum and invited the SCC to present a full-day session at the conference. Chamber College attendees enjoyed the session, in fact the SCC has been invited to facilitate another level of Chamber College at the CCEC annual conference in 2020.

Following the facilitation of Chamber College, Steve McLellan and Elissa LaLiberte attended the conference and participated in several professional development sessions. The sessions focussed on trends and forces affecting chambers, delivering purpose, best ideas, chamber mission and future membership models.

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SCC Training

Nick Crighton, SCC Director of Indigenous Engagement, presented Indigenous Awareness Training at the Battlefords Chamber of Commerce.



Starting in 2019, the SCC began offering training opportunities in a variety of areas to enable businesses to equip their employees with the best skills and tools available.

Through a partnership with the PATHS and CPHR Saskatchewan, the SCC held several sessions of the *Make It Our Business Program* for management and HR professionals. The *Make It Our Business Program* is designed to provide workers with the necessary skills to recognize and respond to signs of interpersonal violence in the

workplace. To date, 30 professionals have received this training from the SCC.

In 2019, the SCC also began offering Indigenous Awareness Training to both chamber members and the general public. Attendance has ranged from high level executives to middle management, with many faces new to the chamber. Facilitators include John Lagimodiere with ACS Aboriginal Consulting Services, Nick Crighton, SCC, Lyle Daniels, Inclusion Manager for the Build Together initiative and Bev Cardinal Inner City

Facility Integration Coordinator at the City of Regina. To date, over 200 people have completed some level of Indigenous Awareness Training through the SCC.

The SCC also announced a provincial partnership with Southeast College to provide the Business Management Essentials program to chamber members across Saskatchewan. Modules are one-day workshop style classes that focus on skills such as supervisory, workplace bullying/harassment, time management, leadership skills, etc.



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SCC Tours



As part of 2019's Energy Series, the SCC organized 1-day tours to explore the energy industries in the Moosomin, Estevan and Weyburn communities. These tours highlighted the innovative approaches and technology that are changing traditional energy processes while also exploring the ramifications of transitioning away from coal in areas that are heavily reliant on the energy sector.

On the Moosomin Energy Tour, participants visited the TransCanada Compressor Station, iJack Technologies, Red Lily Wind Power Facility and North Power's Spy Hill Generating Station. Lunch featured

a presentation from Sinclair Harrison on the Energy East Pipeline and its potential to reinvigorate the economy in eastern Saskatchewan.

For the Estevan and Weyburn Energy Tour, participants visited the Boundary Dam Power Station, Westmoreland Coal Mine, Wil-Tech Industries and Whitecap Resources Weyburn Unit. Participants also had the opportunity to connect with the Estevan Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and learn about how the community is grappling with the potential loss of hundreds of jobs as the province transitions away from coal.

The SCC is planning Economic Development Tours to Northern Saskatchewan with engagement in communities such as Buffalo Narrows and Wollaston Lake as well as Indigenous Community Tours to Cowessess First Nation, Fort Qu'Appelle and Whitecap Dakota First Nation in the future.

SCC members took part in the 2019 Energy Tours.



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Research and Advocacy Activities at the Federal Level



Historically, a significant portion of the SCC's advocacy activities have centred around the provincial government, but over the last four years there have been a number of important federal files (e.g. carbon pricing, Bill C-69, Bill C-48, changes to business tax planning) that have directly impacted the Saskatchewan business community. It is for these reasons that the amount of research and advocacy work directed at the federal level has increased during this time. Our focus on federal matters in 2019 was simply a continuation of this larger trend.

Some noteworthy actions at the federal level included the following:

- Meeting with then-senior Minister for Saskatchewan, Ralph Goodale and Mackenzie Hird from the Minister's Regional Office on numerous occasions throughout 2019. Discussions with Minister

Goodale's office were productive and encompassed a diverse array of files, including carbon pricing, pipelines, funding for WD related to the water file, and more.

- Meeting with then-Leader of the Opposition, Andrew Scheer in summer 2019 prior to the federal election. A number of issues were discussed including carbon pricing, Bill C-69, national pharmacare, amongst others.
- Participated in a Saskatchewan industry roundtable discussion with then-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chrystia Freeland in Regina in June 2019.
- Submitting a formal letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the leaders of the three other major parties communicating the SCC's seven policy priorities for the 2019 federal election.
- Commissioning an independent research project that studied the funding disparity between Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) and its Atlantic Canada counterpart, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA). Our research found that WD has received much less funding for regional development than the Atlantic Provinces based on actual program spending, spending per capita, and spending per unemployed worker. SCC Chair Valerie Sluth wrote a letter to

Ministers Melanie Joly and Bill Morneau summarizing the report's findings in December 2019.

- SCC Vice-Chair Thomas Benjoe, CEO Steve McLellan, and Director of Research and Policy Development Joshua Kurkjian met with Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland in November 2019 in Regina. Topics for discussion included carbon pricing, pipelines, pan-Prairie water projects, and the newly released SCC *Indigenous Engagement Charter*.

Going forward into 2020, SCC will also continue to build upon the positive working relationships that it has developed with several past and current Senators, in light of the changing role of the Upper Chamber in scrutinizing bills from the House.

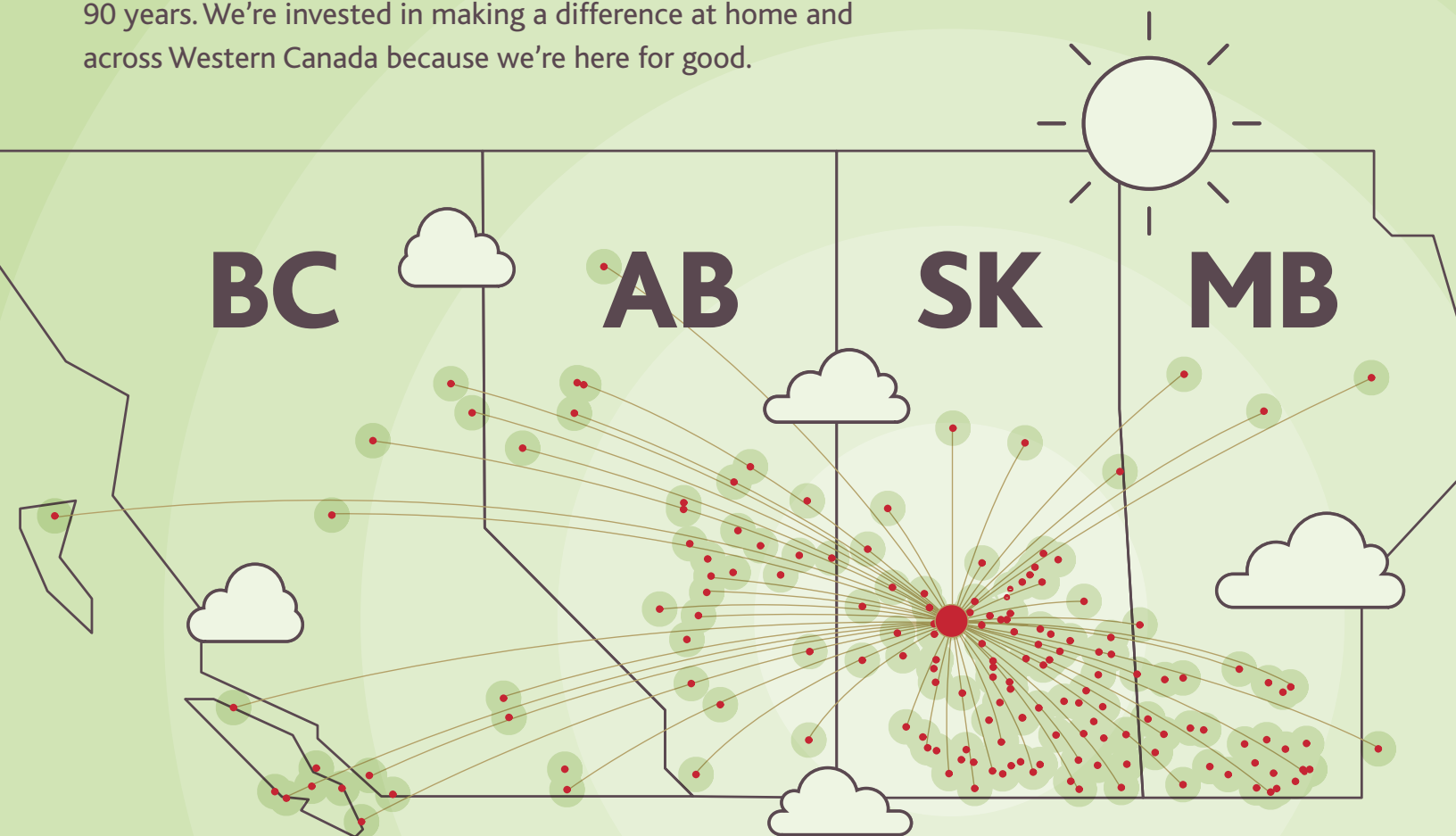
The SCC participated in the Saskatchewan industry roundtable discussion with Minister Freeland.



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SASKATCHEWAN'S VOICE OF BUSINESS
CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

CHAPTER TWO

Rebirth and Boom: The 1940s and '50s

The end of the Dirty Thirties and the Second World War ushered in a new economic era in Saskatchewan, with the return of servicemen from the war and the resulting baby boom, which dramatically increased demand for housing, workers and consumer goods and services.



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The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, originally known as the Saskatchewan Associated Boards of Trade, has been representing the Voice of Saskatchewan business since June 21, 1920, when 26 delegates gathered at the McCallum Hill Building.

Over its 100 years, the Saskatchewan Chamber has been the reasoned, level-headed advocate for the Saskatchewan business community to ensure that businesses are treated with well-deserved respect and careful consideration. The chamber continues to be a trusted voice for reason and pragmatism for its members and for the business community at large.

As part of its centennial celebrations, the chamber has released a historical publication which chronicles the growth of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, the key issues over the decades, and the history of the province over the last 100 years.

"A Century of Enterprise – Saskatchewan's Voice of Business Celebrates 100 Years" was written by Bruce Johnstone, designed by Bradbury Brand + Design Experts and is supported by The Hill Companies and The Brandt Group of Companies.



Old Standard Motors Building 1950s

ISSUES OF THE DAY:

- Urge the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation government to define its policy on the status of free enterprise in the province
- Construction of irrigation projects including the South Saskatchewan River Irrigation Scheme
- Diversifying the farming industry
- Government-owned revenue producing enterprises to be subject to municipal taxes
- Advocating for a 44 hour work week
- Advocating against a 30% increase in freight-rates
- Approving Daylight Saving Time
- Uniform closing hours for retail businesses
- Natural gas distribution
- Highways
- Tourist accommodation

After two decades in a state of suspended animation, the province's 85 boards of trade decided 1945 was an "opportune time" for the association to resurrect itself.

Just as there were many factors that led to the dissolution of the Saskatchewan Association of Boards of Trade in 1925, there were many reasons why the province's boards of trade decided to give it another go 20 years later.

First, the Depression and the Second World War were finally over and business owners, who had struggled through the economic devastation of the 1930s and the war economy of the 1940s, were looking forward to a return to normalcy.

After years of war rationing and a decade of drought and deprivation during the Dirty Thirties, there was pent-up demand for consumer goods, new housing and vehicles, as thousands of servicemen were coming home and going back to work.

Also, during those two decades, the economy of the province was changing from a predominately agricultural producer of grains and livestock to a more diverse industrial and resource-based economy.

As University of Saskatchewan economist Peter Phillips noted in *The Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan*: "By 1929, Saskatchewan had a vibrant developing economy," but one focused on primary and secondary production of agricultural commodities.

Economic development followed a decision in 1930 by the federal government to transfer ownership and control of the land and its resources to the provincial government. Further development resumed after World War II with the discovery of rich natural resource deposits below the ground and the growth of export markets for these products.

Another event would have an even more galvanizing effect on Saskatchewan's business class: the election of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) on June 15, 1944.





2019-20 Sponsors

It is thanks to these sponsors that various Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce events and projects were possible in 2019 and 2020.



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...Byron Mack, MNP



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