



25th Anniversary **BBEX AWARDS**

Business excellence in the Battlefords was celebrated in October, 2018 at the 25th Anniversary BBEX Awards gala and awards ceremony. Along with the milestone achievement of the 25th anniversary event and the announcement of the category award recipients, there were two other announcements made that evening.

The first announcement was from the Council of Past President's of the Chamber of Commerce to introduce the "Battlefords Business Hall of Fame" and its first inductee. Milbanke Flowers was announced as the inaugural inductee and on hand were members of the Libbey family, Glen, Cindy and Landon and Mrs. (Louise) Libbey, better known as Bunny, to accept the honour.

The second announcement of the evening was from the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce notifying the local chamber and its members, that their Chief Operating Officer, Linda Machniak was named the Roger Phillips Chamber Builder Award in Saskatchewan for 2018.

The award recipients of the 25th Anniversary BBEX Awards include:

Heritage Award	Dance Connection, Virginia Winterhalt
Community Contribution	Discovery Co-operative Ltd.
New Business Venture	Kaye Custom Contracting
Micro Business	Hawtin Plumbing Services Inc.
Marketing	Gold Eagle Casino
Customer Service	4-K Auto Service
Battlefords' Best Employer	North West College
Business of the Year Award	Gold Eagle Casino

This milestone BBEX Awards program was held at the Event Centre, Gold Eagle Casino and decor included all 24 previous years awards, miniature desks by master-craftsman Stan Wychopen (1994-2006), and original artworks of Pam Lowe (2007), John Vanderveen (2008, 2011), Kevin Quinlan (2009-2010), Sister's Stepping Stones & Glass (2012 - 2015) and Gilbert Katerynych (2016-2018).

The 2018 recipient of the Stan Wychopen Memorial BBEX Scholarship was Ali Lesmeister of North West College.

Plans are already underway for the 2019 - 26th Anniversary BBEX Awards. Be sure to be part of this celebration of business excellence.



CONNECTING MEMBERS IN 2018



112th Annual President's Banquet:

January 23rd, 2018 @ Dekker Centre for the Performing Arts
Induction of President - Terry Caldwell, Carpet Superstores & Empress Floors & Home/Porta Bella Restaurant
Guest: Billy Coles, President & CEO, BCP Group of Companies and CCR Hospitality (new Comfort Inn & Suites in North Battleford)

"Talk with our Kids About Money":

April 18th, 2018 @ Holy Family and Notre Dame Schools, Along with St. Mary's and EMBM Grade 7 classes

7th State of the City and Town Address:

May 8th, 2018 @ Western Development Museum
Guests: Mayor Ryan Bater, City of North Battleford
 Mayor Ames Leslie, Town of Battleford

5th Chamber Business Golf Challenge:

May 25th, 2018 @ Jackfish Lodge Golf & Conference Centre

Post Budget Breakfast:

April 30th, 2018 @ Battlefords Chamber of Commerce
Guest: Hon. Donna Harpauer, Minister of Finance, Government of Saskatchewan

Small Business Week:

October 14th thru 20th, 2018
 Innovation Credit Union - Business Forum:
 November 29th, 2018 - 11:00 a.m. session
Guest: "Your Future Prosperity" with special guest speaker: Dr. Jean Clinton

2nd Holly & Heels -

A Celebration of Women in Business:

December 11th, 2018 @ Chapel Gallery
Guest: Elysia Vandenhurk, owner COO and Red Seal Chef of "Three Farmers"



3rd year of Chamber on Tap events

Held @ Blend Restaurant & Bar

	Guest (s)	Subject
February 1st, 2018	Jennifer Niesink, Director Planning & Development	City of North Battleford Plans for the Dept. - 2018
April 5th, 2018	Cassandra Germshied, Kerr's Cleaners Jesse Crozier, Canada Post Bldg, B'ford Tom Hutchison, Magic Lantern Theatres	"Why We Invested in the Battlefords"
June 7th, 2018	Jim Thiessen, Consultant - JHT & Associates Shandon Reichert, President and Governor Battlefords North Stars	"The Value of an SJHL Franchise to a Community"
Sept. 6th, 2018	Staff from NWC	Jeopardy! - North West College Style
Nov. 7th, 2018	Cory Rideout, Director of Education Light of Christ R.C. School Division	(Gallop) CliftonStrengths and a Path to Employee Engagement



ADVOCACY AT WORK

Action Battlefords is a Battlefords Chamber of Commerce initiative aimed to reduce crime, provide positive activities for youth and change the story of the Battlefords.

Rationale: **Action Battlefords** has identified a 3 pronged approach utilizing existing local organizations as well as seeking outside expertise with a goal to be the #1 Safest Community in Canada.

- A. Battlefords Citizen's on Patrol (COPP)** – promote and support the local volunteer COPP to increase membership, patrols, and increase community signage and awareness.
- B. Youth Network** – hire a full time youth co-ordinator who will promote and support existing local youth organizations in order to plan, implement and market both new and existing youth events to provide Battlefords' youth with positive activities at low to no cost to attend.
- C. Marketing and Communications** – working with local marketing experts, businesses, media and experts from outside the community to change how the Battlefords is portrayed locally, provincially and nationally. Together let's write a new future.



The 1st donation of \$4000 has been made to the local COPP. With that, they have recruited and trained new patrols, updated and enhanced community signage, and more.

A media strategy and campaign has begun and will continue for the next several months. Key to this is the changing of the current community narrative and tell the more complete story of the Battlefords.

Chamber had Meetings with:

- Lisa Raitt, Deputy Opposition Leader, MP Milton, ON
- RoseMarie Falk, MP Battlefords Lloydminster
- The Economic Caucus Policy Committee of the Sask. Party
- NDP Leader Ryan Meili
- "Carbon Tax – Where Do We Stand", Hon. Don Morgan for Min. Dustin Duncan

**find
your
voice!**

EDUCATION

Cannabis 101: Cannabis and the Workplace – Realities, Rights, and Responsibilities

Date: March 28, 2018 @ Don Ross Centre, Room #107, North Battleford

A full-day seminar informed employers of what their workplace-related rights and responsibilities are once cannabis becomes legalized.

Attendees heard from legal experts at Miller-Thomson LLP about the main provisions of Bill C-45 the Cannabis Act, as well as the rights and responsibilities of both employees and employers in the workplace. This includes information around an employer's duty to accommodate; distinguishing between recreational and medical cannabis use; the legality of drug testing protocols in Canada and much more.

The afternoon session featured a hands-on drug and alcohol policymaking workshop facilitated by an HR consultant. Attendees left with a draft policy for their own workplace.



Roger Phillips Chamber Builder Award

LINDA MACHNIAK

ABEX Awards gala in Saskatoon October 20th, 2018. In the photo: Patricia Warsaba, Past Chair, Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, and Linda Machniak, Chief Operating Officer, Battlefords Chamber of Commerce.

OUR SUCCESS = YOUR GAIN

A very busy year on the legislative agendas at all levels of government have made for significant work and dedication on behalf of business. This is only part of the list of key files. **Things like:**

- Cannabis Legalization
- NAFTA Negotiations
- Action on Tariffs & Trade (Steel & Aluminium)
- State of the Economy (in the midst of trade spats)
- B7 Summit
- Trans Mountain Pipeline
- Death by 130,000 Cuts: Improving Canada's Regulatory Competitiveness
- Intellectual Property & AI
- Ride Sharing Services
- Rural Internet Services
- Made In Saskatchewan Climate Change Plan
- Interpersonal Violence in the Workplace
- Water Council and Water Resources
- Municipal Budgets
- A Truth & Reconciliation Journey
- Community Reputation

Annual Conventions: Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, Yorkton, SK. May, 2018
Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Thunder Bay, ON. September, 2018

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Tom Hawboldt

Linda Machniak, *Chief Operating Officer*
Heather Guthrie, *Operations Manager*

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