

# VOICE OF BUSINESS

Connecting Voices. Building Business

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BATTLEFORDS & DISTRICT  
**CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**  
Connecting voices. Building business.



## ANNUAL REPORT 2023 Year in Review

### ADVOCACY AT WORK

### THE BATTLEFORDS & AREA RE-LOCATION GUIDE

The Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce launched in 2023 its new online "Re-location Guide" for the Battlefords and area. The intent was to provide a one-stop information location for people looking to relocate to the Battlefords, with a source for key pieces of information to assist them in finding all they need for or in a move. There is also a postcard circular to support the website and drive traffic to the online guide.

A Co-op student from the Edwards School of Business (University of Saskatchewan), Sarah Hashim, was working on this project as her main focus during her term with the Chamber. She worked hard to initiate contact with businesses and organizations to gather information key to the website. The website itself, has a robust site plan, that includes tabs for Living; Education; Services; Business Resources; Arts & Recreations; Indigenous/First Nations; and Newcomers, all in-an-attempt to cover off basic information and provide contact and links to the needed services when first discovering a new community. The Chamber views the postcard support piece as a recruitment tool for businesses when they are interviewing people or offering jobs to those who may consider moving. It will provide a positive first impression of the area and link them to needed services and products. The online re-location guide will also serve as a tool to encourage exploration of the communities and surrounding region with key notes on some history and perhaps some answers to the age-old question "what is there to do" in the community. In Arts & Recreation tab, with its information and 'get involved' page will show new arrivals to the community there are a wealth of options when it comes to becoming involved, volunteering, or being active in their new community.

Sarah returned to school in the fall, with the website having launched prior to her departure. While we know that more information can and will be added to the site, it will be easily updated to provide the most up-to-date information possible. The Chamber of Commerce has been pleased to work on this community project and particularly happy with the support it can provide business members in their employee recruitment efforts.

Find Your Place – The Battlefords and Area Awaits!



Find Your Place  
THE BATTLEFORDS  
AND AREA Awaits

**GET CONNECTED IN 2024!**

### Calendar of Events:



#### 118th Annual Chair's Luncheon

Tuesday, January 30th, 2024

11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Guest Speaker:  
Dr. Keith Martell

Location: Balych Mural  
Meeting Room  
Battlefords & District  
Chamber of Commerce

Induction of Incoming Board  
Chair: Glenda Rye,  
North Battleford Luk  
Plumbing Heating &  
Electric Ltd.

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without risking  
my family's  
health."



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**Chambers Plan**  
Employee Benefits

### Member Development Open House

Two Open Houses were held this year as part of the outreach to our new service area, including Cochin and Meola. Businesses in the region were invited to attend to hear about the Chamber and its activities.



**BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
**Austin's Saddlery**



**BATTLEFORDS BUSINESS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**  
**The Tatchell Family**

#### Chamber on Tap – Networking with a Twist -

Sponsored by Battleford Furniture

Held at Discovery Co-op Café, and Blend Kitchen & Bar Riverside

**March 30th, 2023**

"The Northwest Perspective" on the Provincial Budget, with guests:  
The Hon. Jeremy Cockrill, Minister of Highways and MLA – Battlefords;  
Ryan Domotor, MLA – Cut Knife Turtleford

**May 4th, 2023**

"Beans, Rum & Beer" with guest Michael Brennan,  
President & CEO Great Western Brewery

**June 1st, 2023**

"The Workforce Landscape – What Lies Ahead", with guest:  
Jaimie Malmgren, Senior Account Executive Ministry of Immigration & Career Training

**September 14th, 2023**

"My Entrepreneurial Journey" with guest: Travis Low, CEO, Blue Moose Media

**October 26th, 2023**

"The 3P's of Business Safety" (mini version of the workshop event) with guests  
as noted in the 3P's of Business Safety workshop below



#### 29th Battlefords Business Excellence Awards –

Wednesday, November 8th, 2023, at the Dekker Centre for the Performing Arts, North Battleford.

Award Recipients:

*Heather Guthrie Customer Service Star Award* – (Owner/  
Entrepreneur): Lousie Erbach, Chic & Shabby, Florals – Home  
Décor – Gifts;

*New Business Venture*: Montana's BBQ & Bar – North Battleford;

*Impact Award*: Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies;

*Young Entrepreneur Award*: Jordyn Nachtegale, Student Works  
Painting;

*Micro Business Award*: Café 4 U;

*Community Contribution Award*: Dejma's Curry House;

*Agriculture and Agri-Business Award*: Redhead Equipment;

*Members' Choice*: Discovery Co-operative Ltd.;

*Business of the Year Award*:

Austin's Saddlery;

*Battlefords Business Hall of Fame Inductee* – The Tatchell Family



In 2023, the Chamber had 3 new persons join the team. Melanie Roberts joined as an employee, one day a week to assist with Member Development activities. Sarah Hashim, of the U of S was an Edwards School of Business Intern working mostly on the Re-location Guide, and summer student Abbey Neufeld, joined us from the University of Waterloo for the May thru August summer period working on specific Chamber projects. (Both students have returned to school.)