

# VOICE OF BUSINESS

Connecting Voices. Building Business

Phone: 306-445-6226  
Find us on Facebook  
[www.battlefordschamber.com](http://www.battlefordschamber.com)  
P.O. Box 1000  
North Battleford SK S9A 3E6



## The Battlefords & Area Re-location Guide – What You Need To Know!

The Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce is preparing to launch its new online “Re-location Guide” for the Battlefords and area. The intent is 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 will also be a postcard circular to support the website and drive traffic to the website.

A Co-op student from the Edwards School of Business (University of Saskatchewan) has been with the Chamber since January and has been working on this project. The website is nearing the population phase with the basic framework established. The student, Sarah, pictured below, has been working 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 sees 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. Our student has also been working to secure “welcome” messages from elected officials in the area and hopes to share their thoughts on relocation to the Battlefords.

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. We anticipate that the 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.



Keep a watch over the next few weeks for more information and the actual launch of the website. We know that Sarah will be returning to school in the fall, so we anticipate an August timeline for her initial product. While we know that more information can and likely will need to 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 recruitment efforts.

The Battlefords and Area Awaits!



GET CONNECTED IN 2023!

Friends with Benefits  
Health & Dental

Canada's #1 Plan for Small Business

Talk to your local advisor:  
Aaron Cadrin | 306.446.8080

visit  
**chamberplan.ca**  
Employee Benefits with a Difference. Simple. Stable. Smart.

## Calendar of Events:



### Upcoming Chamber on Tap Dates:

Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Blend Riverside  
North Battleford Golf & Country Club

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Blend Riverside  
North Battleford Golf & Country Club

Sponsored By:



**The Power Hour**  
Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.  
Western Development Museum

## Policy Matters: Economic Reconciliation

June has marked **National Indigenous History Month** in Canada, a time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Learning about and honouring Indigenous Peoples in Canada is also an important part of Canada's Reconciliation journey.

We are all responsible for helping to build a renewed relationship with Indigenous Peoples based on the recognition of rights, respect and partnership. The business community has a major role to play, especially when it comes to economic reconciliation.

For centuries, the economic vitality of Indigenous Peoples in Canada was actively and purposefully suppressed. This legacy of colonization has led to a society where Indigenous People continue to be at a disadvantage and cannot fully share and thrive in the economy.

Economic reconciliation is complex, and while policy solutions may seem far-removed in the realm of politics and government bureaucracy, there is no shortage of tangible actions businesses of all sizes and sectors can take. For example:

- Identify and create opportunities for mentorship programs that can support Indigenous employees and foster their professional growth.
- Establish committees or mechanisms to create culturally safe work environments that accommodate the diverse needs and backgrounds of Indigenous employees.
- Recognize that the Indigenous community is not homogenous. Each Indigenous nation, reserve or community has different traditions and tailored approaches to address their specific needs and challenges are necessary.
- Encourage the development of ideas and initiatives that promote collaboration and modify training programs to facilitate the hiring and inclusion of Indigenous individuals.
- Recognize and support initiatives like Orange Shirt Day to raise awareness about the experiences and challenges faced by Indigenous communities.
- Address and eliminate abusive behaviours and practices in the workplace.

The Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce is pleased to have two of its board of directors participate in the celebration of the National Indigenous History Month nationally, through the Canadian Chamber of Commerce with the following quotes on what ‘economic reconciliation’ means to them. Thank you Harris and Tracy.



To me, economic reconciliation means our people gaining our voices back to pre-treaty, to share our resources. It has always been our vision to see and share our Indigenous peoples' independence.



**Tracy Benson**  
General Manager, BATC Community Development Corporation  
Board Director, Battlefords Chamber of Commerce



Our ancestors were land guardians, respecting its resources and living in balance with all things. We continue to fulfill this role. The world heals daily, and we must do the same. Economic reconciliation demands rediscovering balance. We owe it to Mother Earth and have a moral duty to safeguard her. The business community and First Nations must collaborate, partner and stand united in this new economy for our people, by our people.



**Harris Sutherland**  
Customer Experience Manager, Gold Eagle Casino  
Board Member/Past Chair, Battlefords Chamber of Commerce  
First-ever First Nations Chair, Battlefords Chamber of Commerce

