

# VOICE OF BUSINESS

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2025 Year in Review

### ADVOCACY AT WORK NEW FACES OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Over the course of 2025 there have been many new faces in our business community and in the Chamber membership.

It was particularly encouraging to see and hear of so many young entrepreneurs with great stories to tell and share, who submitted applications for the Saskatchewan Young Entrepreneur Bursary program in 2025. Over 340 province-wide applications resulted in the announcement of 57 outstanding young business leaders being awarded a \$5,000 bursary each to support their business growth and expansion plans. Examples of these young entrepreneurs in the northwest include:

- **Jessica Laing**, Free Bird Bodywork, North Battleford; **Elissa Parker**, Authentically Rooted Wellness, North Battleford; **Teigan and Makenna Furber**, Swimming Lessons @yourtownhere, Biggar; **Brent Rogers**, BiteRite Lures LTD, Goodsoil; **Monica Cholin**, Cholin Rural Wellness Ltd., Kerrobert; **Danielle Schneider**, Northern Lights Trucking, Lloydminster; **Jillian McKinnon-Kryzanowski**, One Eleven Wellness (Jillian McKinnon Chiropractic Prof. Corp.), Macklin; **Julie Maxwell**, Crocus Hill Garden, Maidstone; **Kiana Walker**, Kiana Walker Professional Counselling, Marshall; and **Brett Moore**, BM Mechanical, Meadow Lake.

On top of this great crop of young entrepreneurs, we saw several other new faces move to the community. This will not be a comprehensive list, but welcome to:

- **Hardeep and Sandeep Samra**, McDonald's; **Luciano Amico**, Canadian Tire; **Rowena Orcajada Materne**, MGBHLM Economic Development Company Ltd.; **Ryan How**, Inspector, Battlefords RCMP;

All this change along with new businesses like: Seed 2 Leaf Environmental Consulting; Cutlet Express; The Flats; City Furniture & Appliances; Blade and Brush Barbers; the new outlets at Eagle's Landing; Café 4U in Battleford; Eleven 65 Clothing Co.; Hiral Patel Beauty; Clubs & Suds Indoor Golf Lounge; Osker's Surplus Outlet; The Hall (Spin Studio); Shop & Go Convenience Store; Unreal Vape and Cigar; and so many more.

All great news for business in the Battlefords!

**GET CONNECTED IN 2026!**

### Upcoming Event Calendar 120th Annual Chair's Luncheon



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**120<sup>th</sup>**  
**ANNUAL (ANNIVERSARY)  
CHAIR'S LUNCHEON**  
**Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**Times: 11:30am - 1:30pm**  
**Location: TBD**  
Join us for the celebration of the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce & the induction of the 2026 board Chair.

**"When someone focused on my family's health, so I could focus on the farm."**

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**Small Business Week - Open House**  
held at Battlefords Chamber of Commerce to launch 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration events and happenings for 2026.



#### The Chamber in the Community:

- Attended the State of the City Address by Mayor Kelli Hawtin, City of North Battleford
- Participated in the two local parades, in Battleford and North Battleford
- Evan Bray Community Tour and Reception
- Young Entrepreneur Bursary Presentations
- Attended the grand opening of Eagle's Landing
- Attended Budget Deliberation sessions for the City and Town
- Participated in and submitted a community application for HGTV's Hometown Takeover Canada
- COO Linda was a guest speaker at PROBUS Club.



#### Monday Minute

- Weekly newsletter distributed by email on Monday's to members.



#### Chamber had Meetings with

The Hon. Jeremy Cockrill, MLA, The Battlefords;  
The Hon. Jim Reiter, Minister of Finance;  
Erika Ritchie, NDP MLA, Saskatoon Nutana (Critic of Municipal Affairs), together with MLA Hugh Gordon, NDP MLA, Saskatoon Silversprings; Inspector Ryan How, Battlefords R.C.M.P.; Rep's from City of North Battleford, and Town of Battleford, including Mayor Hawtin; Destination Battlefords; Battlefords Hotels Association; Sask. Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum; Social Services - Community Living Division.

#### Chamber Launches - Battlefords Merchandise



### CONNECTING MEMBERS IN 2025

**119<sup>th</sup> Annual Chair's Luncheon** - February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Induction of Chair** - Glenda Rye, North Battleford Luk Plumbing Heating & Electric Ltd.

**Guest:** Keynote Presentation - Craig Reynolds, President & CEO of the Saskatchewan Roughrider Football Club

**Topic:** "Instilling Pride in Rider Nation"

**Hosted at:** Blend Kitchen & Bar - Riverside (Golf Course)



**Chamber's Annual Meeting of Members** - February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025,

at Balych Mural Meeting Room, Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce Building. February 11<sup>th</sup> was also Canada Ag Day!

**Guest:** Karla Wiens, Co-owner, of Saskatchewan's first and only outdoor micro-cultivation (cannabis) operation in SW Saskatchewan licensed by Health Canada.

**Topic:** "The Path to Entrepreneurship and What Led Us Into Business After 50"

**Member of Parliament's Address** - March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025,

at Balych Mural Meeting Room, Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce Building

**Guest Speaker:** Rosemarie Falk, M.P. Battlefords Lloydminster Meadow Lake

**Post Budget Address 2025** - March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

at Balych Mural Meeting Room, Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce Building

**Guest Speakers:** The Hon. Jeremy Cockrill, Minister of Health, MLA for the Battlefords; James Thorsteinson, MLA for Cut Knife-Turtleford

**11<sup>th</sup> Chamber Business Golf Challenge**

May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, at Jackfish Golf & Conference Centre, with **Title Sponsor:** Bridges Chevrolet Buick GMC - Sold Out event!



**Chamber on Tap - Networking with a Twist**

Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at The Blend Kitchen & Bar, Riverside (Golf Course)

**Guest Speakers:** Kelli Hawtin, Mayor, City of North Battleford; Ames Leslie, Mayor, Town of Battleford

**Topic:** Discussion of the Newly Approved Strategic Plans for the City and Town, respectively

**Sponsored by:** Corporate Members: Discovery Co-op, Regional News-Optimist and Sask-Tel



Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Café 4U - Battleford

**Guest Speaker:** Ryan How, Inspector, Battlefords Royal Canadian Mounted Police

**Sponsored by:** Aaron Cadrin, Chambers Group Insurance Plan

**31<sup>st</sup> Battlefords Business Excellence Awards**

Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Don Ross Community Centre, North Battleford, with **Title Sponsor:** Gold Eagle Casino.

Award Recipients:

Heather Guthrie Customer Service Star Award - (Owner/Entrepreneur) Gold Eagle Lodge (sponsor Swanson Gryba & Co.)

New Business Venture - Eston's Place; (sponsor SIIT) [pictured]

Impact Award - Battlefords Early Years Family Resource Centre (sponsor Innovation Federal Credit Union)

Agriculture & Agri-Business Award - Prairie AG; (sponsor Fisher's Drug Store)

Young Entrepreneur Award - Birdies Golf Lounge;

(sponsor North West Community Futures Development Corporation)

Micro Business Award - Jety Builders Ltd.; (sponsor TD Canada Trust)

Community Contribution Award - Home Hardware Building Centre North Battleford; (sponsor Sask-Tel)

Heritage Award - Ultra Print Services Ltd.; (sponsor Scotiabank)

Members' Choice - Café 4U; (sponsor Bralin Technology Solutions)

Business of the Year Award - Birdies Golf Lounge;

(sponsor Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board)

Battlefords Business Hall of Fame Inductee - Swanson Gryba & Company and the Swanson Family (sponsor Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce)

