

VOICE OF BUSINESS

Connecting Voices. Building Business

Find us on Facebook
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GET CONNECTED IN 2026!

Upcoming Event Calendar



Chamber on Tap

Thursday, June 11th, 2026
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Guests: Young Entrepreneur Panel

Join us at the Armoury Brewing Company
702 – 102nd Street, North Battleford.

Tickets / Registration Required. Call the Chamber



Looking forward to the 12th Chamber Business Golf Challenge. Friday May 22nd, 2026 at NBGCC
Get your team registrations today!

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Chambers Plan
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Local advisor:
Aaron Cadrin | 306.441.8269



Reis Wealth Management

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The Battlefords & District Chamber of Commerce was pleased to join a delegation of chambers from across Saskatchewan for a day of meetings with provincial ministers and officials in Regina last week.

Discussions with the Premier and key ministers included transportation infrastructure, tax competitiveness, crime and safety, the needs of small and mid-size businesses, and workforce development and immigration. It was an opportunity to connect directly with decision-makers — and affirmed that the chamber network's advocacy efforts are valued and heard. Thank you to the Saskatchewan Chamber for coordinating this day on behalf of the network.

This brings us to another piece of equal importance, even if it gets talked about even less.

Things slow down when governments pull in different directions. Projects take longer, investors start to hesitate and trading partners start to wonder whether Canada can follow through. That is why the recent trade missions stood out. Seeing Prime Minister Carney and Premier Moe present a unified front sent a strong signal that Canada can act with consistency and alignment when it matters. We need more of this — not as a replacement for sound policy or investment, but as the foundation that allows both to work.

Tariffs and trade disputes will always be part of the conversation, but they are not the whole story. Canada already has what much of the world is looking for. The real question is — are we organized enough to make the most of it?

Canadian Chamber President & CEO to Serve on Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on Canada-U.S. Economic Relations

-Canadian Chamber of Commerce

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that its President and Chief Executive Officer, Candace Laing, will serve as a member of the Prime Minister's new Advisory Committee on Canada-U.S. Economic Relations.

To tackle the fight for North American economic security, the Advisory Committee brings together leaders from business, labour and public policy to provide strategic advice to the Prime Minister and Cabinet on the Canada-U.S. relationship — the most productive and competitive economic zone in the world.

"I am honoured to be asked to contribute the expertise and perspectives of Canadian businesses of all sizes from every region as we face a pivotal time for our economy," said Laing. "The North American economic partnership has been central to the success of many of the over 200,000 businesses we represent."

The Canadian Chamber's unique ability to convene small businesses is vital at a time when they are often overlooked in large negotiations — despite making up 98% of all businesses.

As we approach the Canada- U.S.- Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) review period culminating on July 1, 2026, the governments of all three jurisdictions are increasingly looking to those who most directly benefit from trade agreements: businesses, workers and communities.

Through its connection to almost 400 Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade, as well as 100 trade associations, and ongoing dialogue with members through our councils, committees and missions, our network brings the Canadian Chamber firsthand perspectives of the businesses faced with the reality of this powerful trade relationship being at risk. "Businesses, especially the many that are part of our integrated supply chains, have been advocating loudly and clearly for an extended, enhanced, effective CUSMA. Millions of workers on both sides of the border benefit from our trade relationship and are counting on us to find a path to becoming an even stronger economic force in the world," added Laing.

The Prime Minister's new Advisory Committee on Canada-U.S. Economic Relations will play a critical role in helping Canada navigate evolving cross-border challenges and opportunities, including trade, investment and economic security, at a time of heightened uncertainty in the bilateral relationship.

Laing concluded, "North American competitiveness and prosperity depends on a modernized, strong and future-focused relationship between Mexico, Canada and the United States."

Quick facts:

- \$1.3 trillion crosses the border in annual two-way trade between Canada and the U.S.
- 1.4 million American jobs are supported by exports to Canada.
- 866,000 American jobs are supported by Canadian investment in the U.S.
- 2.3 million Canadian jobs are supported by exports to the U.S.
- 34 states have Canada as their #1 export destination.
- 50% of bilateral goods trade is between related companies.

Why Canada has more leverage than it thinks

-Prabha Ramaswamy, CEO, Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce

Around the world, governments are trying to secure reliable access to food, energy and critical minerals. Canada is one of the few that can supply all three at scale.

I don't think this is something we talk about enough.

Western Canada sits at the center of this advantage. Oil, potash, uranium and agricultural exports are regional strengths, yes, but they also help drive jobs, supply chains and revenue from coast to coast to coast.

The opportunity in front of us is not simply to defend market access when it's challenged, but also to use what we already have more deliberately and turn this into long-term growth. That means diversifying trade, investing in how we get our products to market and making sure governments are moving in the same direction.

Saskatchewan is a good example of what this looks like in practice. Our potash fertilizes crops around the world, our uranium powers electricity grids and our canola, lentils, peas and grains help feed growing populations. These are not small contributions, and they certainly don't stop at provincial borders, and this doesn't take away from the importance of the United States. That relationship is foundational and will remain so, but we've seen what happens when too much depends on a single market. It limits flexibility, and over time, it limits growth.

That's why diversification matters. And by diversification, I don't mean walking away from our closest partners. I mean making sure Canada has a presence in the markets where demand is growing. You can see that approach in the recent Canadian trade missions, for example.

Premier Scott Moe joined Prime Minister Mark Carney in both China and India, not as a symbolic gesture, but because Saskatchewan has built strong relationships over many years and has something to offer in those markets. In China, discussions focused on tariff relief and energy cooperation. In India, meetings led to a major uranium agreement with Cameco and renewed momentum toward a broader trade deal. Premier Moe was one of only two premiers on that leg of the trip, alongside New Brunswick's Susan Holt, which speaks to how central these sectors are to the conversation.

This is about showing up where demand is increasing and making sure Canada is part of those discussions, not necessarily choosing one trading partner over another. That is a clear distinction I think it's important to make.

Of course, none of this matters if we can't move our products more efficiently. Resources in the ground don't create prosperity on their own. They need to get to market reliably and at a competitive cost, which ultimately comes down to infrastructure. Port, rail, road and air links are what connect Western Canada to the world. When those systems work well, exporters can move quickly and compete. But when they don't, that's when we start to see opportunities slip away or land elsewhere.

