



# **The City of Yorkton**

## **Municipal History 1900 to 2020**

*Containing Facts and Figures About  
The City and its Various Departments*

**COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**

[www.yorkton.ca](http://www.yorkton.ca)

## **PREFACE**

This Manual is updated annually by the City of Yorkton in order to provide the citizens of Yorkton, and others, with information relative to the history of the City, its form of government, departments and general activities.

The information contained in the manual is the latest made available for the year ended 2020.

The co-operation of all civic departments, and the material supplied from other sources for insertion in this manual is appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

Yorkton, Saskatchewan  
July 2022

Jessica Matsalla  
Director of Legislation/Procedures (City Clerk)

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## City of Yorkton

### **Location**

Yorkton enjoys a strategic location ideally suited for serving central and western Canada as well as the U.S. market. Linked by one of the most sophisticated fibre optic communications networks in the world, businesses in Yorkton interact daily with customers worldwide.

- Largest city on the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway (Hwy.16) between Winnipeg, Manitoba and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.
- Largest city in east-central Saskatchewan, an area of approximately 14,000 square miles.
- Largest city nearest to the port of Churchill.
- Served by four main highways in all directions, with several trucking firms passing through.
- On both the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National rail lines.
- Adjacent to the lakes and scenic recreation areas characteristic of the city's rolling parkland setting.

### **Early History of Yorkton**

It falls to the firstly arrived of a frontier settlement - if it is to be a successful one, to firmly establish the essential services required of the people of a community, and set up institutions to meet their needs, and the needs of the settlers yet to come.

In the history of the Yorkton area, this mantle fell primarily on the shoulders of the founding members of a chartered company - the York Farmers' Colonization Company. Early in

1882, a group of businessmen met in Toronto, Ontario, to discuss a plan to invest in the opening of lands for homesteading in Western Canada, specifically in the newly created Provisional District of Assiniboia, North West Territories. The Dominion Government had provided for the acquisition of free homestead quarter sections, as well as offering certain sections for sale to companies, who in turn could sell for profit, at the same time furthering the Government's dream of Western expansion. The York Farmers Colonization Company, with an Ontario Member of Parliament N. Clark Wallace as President, and a capital shareholders' investment of \$300,000.00 was incorporated May 12, 1882. Their charter allowed them not only to buy and sell certain lands, but to set up businesses, build roads, operate ferries, run stagecoaches, make loans, and generally take charge of the founding of a new colony. They also acted as agents of the Dominion Government for the assigning and filing of free homesteads.

When four company officials, one being the Managing Director, James Armstrong came to view the area, they were impressed with the woodland scenery which resembled parts of Ontario, and with the rich quality of the soil. They obtained 6 townships and invited settlers from York County and other parts of southern Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes, Manitoba, Great Britain and United States. Settlers began arriving in the summer of 1882, most of them heading east for the winter and to return the following spring. Four men stayed and wintered in one shack, existing on a minimum of supplies and with the help of Native people. They called their settlement "York Colony" and the hamlet, erected on the banks of the Little White Sand River "York City" situated 2 ½ miles (4.6 kilometres) north of present day Yorkton. The name of the hamlet changed to "Yorkton" with the official opening of the post office on January 1, 1884. Compared to most

other communities out West, it had an added boost simply because it had the backing of a wealthy colonizing company and its members who had business savvy and political clout. The company and the settlers transplanted from Eastern Canada the political, social, religious, educational, judicial and entrepreneurial systems. With the influence of the settlers from the British Isles, an English culture dominated in organizations, clubs, churches, and the business sector. Some settlers would make their mark beyond the colony - Joel Reaman, and Dr. T. Patrick, for example, were both elected to the Council of the Territorial Government.

By 1883, Rufus Stephenson, Inspector of Colonization Companies reported: "The total number of settlers is one hundred and fifty-eight." He goes on to explain: "Altogether the Colony is *very prosperous*." While this was a successful venture, Yorkton was not well positioned for growth. No village was if it was not located on a rail line. After seven years, the railway had not extended beyond Saltcoats. There were also the usual hardships of farming, with some years of poor crops. Many took up cattle raising to increase their income.

By 1887 the York Farmers' Colonization Company had met its requirements with the Dominion Government. It had founded a colony, and settled most of the homesteads and its lands in the acquired townships. Contrary to previous writings however, the Company did not quit doing business. It continued to have land holdings in the Yorkton area, until 1947 when the company was dissolved.

When the Manitoba & North Western Railway extended westward in 1890, Yorkton moved to its present location. Some buildings were moved from the old site, and construction of new ones began. Progress continued with the arrival, in the late 1890s, of immigrants from many lands; Poland, Russia, Germany, Hungary, Sweden, and in greater majority Ukraine. The Dominion government erected an Immigration Hall, and hired interpreters to

assist the newly arrived. Most being experienced farmers, they took up homesteads still available in the outer reaches of the original York Colony lands; Rhein, Canora, Beaver Hills, Crooked Lakes, Otthon, Ebenezer, etc. In time, these settlers, in particular the Ukrainian people would build new institutions, and bring a wealth of cultural diversity to the city and the region. Another main factor in the community's prosperity was the emergence of a strong Board of Trade. Yorkton soon became known as an important distribution and trading centre.

This community has never experienced a "boom" but rather it has been characterized by a steady growth, making for a very stable economic base. For a couple decades, at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Yorkton had the appearance of a western frontier town. An article written in 1922 by a former manager of the town's Union Bank gives us that impression. C.W.R. Pearson who had worked here from 1897 to 1917, describes Yorkton as follows: "Cattle ranching was the main business in the early days and our customers extended over a large territory. The cattle used to be driven from great distances to Yorkton to ship. Yards full of cattle and the town full of ranchers meant a busy time in the bank, as these men crowded in to cash their cheques."

When Saskatchewan became a province in 1905, the population of Yorkton was 1,200. The city's population in 2010 was 19,588 according to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health. The more dramatic growth over the years was due to the general urbanization of Saskatchewan, and the regionalization of government and corporate services. In recent years, Yorkton has experienced an economic boom, along with an increase in immigration.

In the annals of our history, the work of the York Farmers' Colonization Company as colonizers of farming lands and village builders needs to be recognized as having set the direction for the later and present prosperity of this community.

## Yorkton History and Folklore Summary

### 1882

The York Farmers' Colonization Company Limited of #1 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, under the presidency of N. Clark Wallace was incorporated May 12, 1882 with a capital of \$300,000. The Company sent emissaries to this area of the North West Territories to view the land. Impressed, they purchased portions (the odd-numbered sections) of 6 townships and began inviting settlers from York County, and other parts of Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes, Manitoba, British Columbia, England, Scotland, Ireland, and United States.

Four settlers, Wm. Meredith, Cosmo McFarlane, Wm. Hopkins and Edward Hopkins stayed the winter of 1882-1883. They lived in one shack, existing on a minimum of supplies and with the assistance of Native people.

### 1883

The York Farmers' Colonization Company opened for business at York City, District of Assiniboia, North West Territories. They acquired 2 more townships. Acting as agents of the Dominion Government for the assigning of free homesteads, they also sold their lands at \$3.00 per acre. The settlement was called "York Colony" and the hamlet, situated on the banks of the Little White Sand River became "York City." Mail would be freighted from Whitewood, and delivered at Reaman's store.

It would appear that in the summer of this year, a colonist by the name of Donald Livingstone returned from a trip to Minnedosa, Manitoba with a cat and four kittens. He sold each for a dollar and half--a high price for the times. These "pioneer" cats saved the colony from being overrun by mice, and being robbed of their precious food.

### 1884

On January 1, 1884, the post office was officially opened under the new name of "Yorkton." The first postmaster was Joel Reaman. The change of name occurred to prevent confusion with "York" in Ontario. (The hamlet or post office was never named "Yorktown.")

SE 1/4 of Section 2-Township 26 Range 4 West of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Median, (designated a Pre-Emption quarter) which comprises north of Broadway Street, now part of the downtown business sector and northward, (includes City Hall on Third Avenue North) was entered as a pre-emption quarter by the first woman in York Colony, Ida Jane Reaman to make entry on a homestead quarter (NE 1/4 S2-T26 R4 W2<sup>nd</sup> Mer.) and this pre-emption quarter, on July 15, 1884. Ida Jane Reaman's entry was cancelled in a letter dated May 11, 1885.

Residents of York Colony got together for their first Fair and Exhibition.

### 1885

The new colony now comprised 180 settlers. Fearing that the Riel Uprising might find sympathetic followers with Native people of the region, Fort Watson was erected nearby the Hamlet of Yorkton. The "Yorkton Home Guard" made up of 58 volunteers was organized.

Charles H. Smith made entry on the cancelled SE quarter Section 2, Township 26 Range 4, on June 2, 1885. Charles Smith, at the turn of the century sold this land to his brother John J. Smith who had the land surveyed into lots. John J. Smith's development plan represents Yorkton's first privately owned sub-division.

Canada's first intercontinental railway was completed at 9:22 am on November 7, 1885 in Craigallachie, British Columbia when a construction crew from the east and one from the west met at this location. The Canadian Pacific Railway representative, Donald Smith drove the last spike.

### 1886

Joel Reaman's store and hotel served for multi-purposes; entertainment centre, church, and other public gatherings.

The crops were poor this year.

Thomas H. Garry became operator of the stone grist mill.

The Yorkton Home Guard volunteers received Military Bounty Warrants or cash as grants for service in the militia organized at Yorkton.

### **1887**

Few women made entries on homesteads in this area. Mrs. Jane Fergusson made entry on North East Quarter of Section 26, Township 26, Range 5 West of the 2nd Meridian on June 6th.

### **1888**

The York Farmers' Colonization Company had now successfully achieved settlement as per the agreement with the Dominion Government. Contrary to previous writings, the Company did not become "obsolete." It continued to have interest in local land holdings until 1947, and was doing business in Ontario and other parts of Canada.

The Manitoba and North Western Railway built a line up to Saltcoats, 16 miles (26 Kilometers) east of Yorkton.

Joel Reaman, who was Dominion Land Agent for the York Farmers Colonization Company was still recording entries for homestead and pre-emption quarters.

### **1889**

On January 18th, the first Yorkton and District Board of Trade was organized.

First school was opened in a cottage near the old flour mill on the banks of the Little White Sand River, December 13th. There were 15 pupils.

During the summer of this year, a North West Mounted Police outpost was established in Yorkton, under the command of the Saltcoats detachment.

### **1890**

The Orkney Literary and Debating Society's subject for the week of March 4th was Stock-raising versus Grain growing, resulting in favour of Stock-raising. (Source: THE REGINA LEADER, MARCH 11, 1890)

Joel Reaman, Member of the Legislative Assembly of the Territorial government traveled to Ontario in the interest of immigration. (Source: THE REGINA LEADER, March 11, 1890)

On August 16th, the Dominion Land Surveyor, R.C. McPhillips declared that the map of the "Plan of Yorkton" bearing the seal of the Manitoba and North Western Railway Company of Canada dated Dec.12, 1890, being the north half of Section 35, Township 25, Range 4 West of the 2nd Meridian was accurate and made in accordance with the "Territories Real Property Act."

The Manitoba and North Western Railway extended its line to Yorkton, now at the new location, 21/2 miles (4 kilometers) south of the old site. The railway company put their lots for sale and businesses moved to the new site.

### **1891**

Yorkton's first school at the new location was "Argyle School" constructed of field stone and situated on Argyle Street.

The M. & N.W. Railway's first train pulled into Yorkton on January 9th.

N.H. Neilson, Justice of the Peace, met with a severe accident Tuesday last, being so unfortunate as to be kicked by a mule. Dr. Watson dressed the wound and reports the patient doing well. (Source: THE LEADER, Regina, N.W.T. Front Page Feb. 10, 1891)

A settlers' train arrived in Yorkton in May, 1891. They had left South Dakota after a series of very dry years. They brought their household effects and farm machinery on the train and drove their livestock across country.

## **1892**

Joel Reaman was elected as Yorkton's first representative to the Territorial Legislative Council.

The first newspaper THE MESSENGER, published Issue No. 1 on June 24, and the last one in September. It was handwritten by Editor, Rev. R.P. Byers, a Presbyterian missionary.

Frederik Robert Insinger, immigrant from the Netherlands, educated businessman, fluent in English, rancher near Willowbrook, was elected as the member for Wallace Constituency (which included Yorkton) to the Legislative Assembly of the North West Territorial Council. He resigned in 1897 and moved to Spokane, Washington to manage a bank.

## **1893**

John F. Reid, early York Farmers' Colonization Company settler served on the first board of the Orkney Presbyterian Church.

On April 29, the Yorkton Anglican Church was officially established as a parish. Christie's Funeral Home was founded.

## **1894**

On July 15th Yorkton achieved the status of "VILLAGE" with a population of 215.

## **1895**

The Legislative Assembly of the North West Territories authorized the appointment of a deputy clerk of the court of the Judicial District of the Eastern District of Assiniboia for the Yorkton area.

## **1896**

THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE began publishing a weekly newspaper.

The Legislative Assembly of the North West Territories established a Cheese and Dairy Association and appointed a Dominion Dairy Commissioner.

It was reported that the wheat crops of the Yorkton and Saltcoats districts were excellent.

## **1897**

An influx of settlers began to arrive by train from various countries, they were Germans, Russians, Poles, Hungarians, Americans, and in greater numbers, Ukrainians. The great majority of these pioneers came for the most part to settle on homesteads still available in the outer reaches of the original York Colony lands; Rhein, Canora, Beaver Hills, Crooked Lakes, Otthon, Ebenezer, Preeceville, etc. They continued to arrive until the early 1900s.

An epidemic of scarlet fever and typhoid fever ravaged the area.

Dr. T. A. Patrick was elected to the Territorial Council of the North West Territories.

On December 10, C.W.R. Pearson opened a branch of the Pickering Private Bank.

The Hudson Bay Company opened a store.

The Balmoral Hotel was built by R.C. Arnold, and initially known as "Arnold House."

Ukrainian pioneers arrived to this area from Vitlyna, Makovyska, Liasky, in the Jaroslaw County of Ukraine.

## **1898**

Dr. T. A. Patrick, Secretary of the Board of Trade was corresponding with THE GOLDIE & McCULLOCH CO. LTD., for equipment supplies for the flour mill being constructed in the village.



The City's second school—Victoria School was built on 5th Avenue North.

### **1899**

On July 1, the Union Bank of Canada, took over the Pickering Private Bank.

Two organizations were founded this year; the Masonic Lodge and the Odd Fellows Lodge.

In July this year, after taking part in a parade, Scotty McDonald a well known horseman took the notion to ride his horse into the Balmoral Hotel bar and order a drink.

### **1900**

Yorkton was officially incorporated as a TOWN, with a population of 600. It was then larger than Saskatoon, which did not obtain "Town" status until 1903.

The "Travellers' Aid Society "was organized under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. These volunteers provided assistance to travelling women and children arriving in the town.

On April 13th, a meeting was held at Meredith Hall to discuss cricket, baseball and football.

### **1901**

Bylaw #28 was enacted exempting from taxation Levi Beck's Flour Mill enterprise for one year. It was signed by W. Hopkins, Mayor and R. H. Lock, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital was erected at a construction cost of \$5,380.00, \$100.00 for the land and furnishings: \$3,131.11.

The record of the first organized hockey was January 10th with a game played by two Senior Teams, the "Reds" and the "Blues."

The population of Yorkton was 1,486.

### **1902**

The Yorkton Hotel was built this year. Over the 103 years of its existence, the Yorkton Hotel had a number of successful owners/managers. It was only during Prohibition in Saskatchewan (1915-1923), when bars were closed that the Yorkton Hotel fell in the hands of creditors. Famous owners were Harry and Sam Bronfman of Montreal from July 18, 1927 to November 28, 1945, when Frank Brunner purchased it. The Bronfmans were never the operators of the Hotel, but had a lease agreement for both the Yorkton and the Balmoral Hotel with their friend, Frank Brunner. The hotel has been closed since 2001. <Written Feb. 9, 2006>

THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE of July 18th reports that the 17th Annual Exhibition was a successful one. Native people from the Little Bone Reserve and other Reserves in the region arrived early to camp, and soon the town took on the appearance of an old frontier post. They participated in pony races and pow-wows.

Levi Beck erected a mansion on Smith Street and 2nd Avenue North --site of present day fire hall.

### **1903**

Bylaw #40 (now obsolete) stated:" It shall be the duty of the Town Constable, at least once in every year, to enter the premises of any baker or vendor of bread, within the said town and weigh the bread found therein."

The Scandinavian Canadian Land Company began operation in Yorkton under the management of John D. Lageson, a graduate of Agriculture from Minnesota. The Company established an office in Canora as well, and helped settlement of mostly Scandinavians in Sturgis, Preeceville, Ketchen and North Prairie districts.

Citizens of Yorkton were able to talk to each other via telephone for the first time.

A faction of the Doukhobor sect marched from their communities in the Good Sprit Lake area to stage a nude parade near Yorkton to protest homestead policies.

#### **1904**

"A windmill was erected on Front Street in Yorkton to pump water from a hand dug shallow well."

"It was early in the year that agitation began for a public library, skating rink, curling rink and electric light plant for Yorkton." (THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE –Jan. 15, 1904.)

January 21st, The Yorkton Enterprise reported that a telephone was to be installed in the office of the Town Clerk, Robert Lock.

The Roman Catholic Redemptorist Fathers broke the first sod on Third Avenue North to erect a monastery, the first in the North West. The work will be under supervision of Rev. Father Gerard. (THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE July 7th, 1904.)

Detachments of the Royal North West Mounted Police were circulating a warning to newly arrived American settlers that the practice of carrying revolvers was prohibited in Canada. (THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE May 19, 1904.)

#### **1905**

*The Saskatchewan Act* and *The Alberta Act* both came into force on the first day of September 1905. Alberta's inaugural ceremonies took place on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1905 in Edmonton. Saskatchewan's inaugural celebrations took place in Regina on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1905. No special celebrations took place in Yorkton on either of those dates.

A resolution was passed by Council to send a telegram to the Superintendent of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Winnipeg, stating that "Yorkton is blocked with grain elevators all full."

On August 4th this year, Abe Bronfman and Harry Bronfman became owners of the Balmoral Hotel.

On Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, Mr. and Mrs. James L. Magrath were the host and hostess at a garden party attended by about 50 guests. "Time was spent in dancing, promenading and playing cards. A sumptuous repast was held at 11:30 and guests dispersed at 1:00 A.M." (*The Yorkton Enterprise Wednesday Sept. 6th, 1905.*)

#### **1906**

Thomas Veitch Simpson, veterinarian travelled to Chicago, and returned with a "Jolsman"—Yorkton's first automobile.

About this time, Jewish settlers of the Yorkton area founded the congregation, Shaarey Shomayim, and made plans to erect a Synagogue.

An addition was made to the Town Hall which served as a fire hall, and housed two fire trucks, offices and repair rooms on the main floor and quarters for the firemen on the second floor. A volunteer fireman and barrister by profession, Harold Brown, started living in the quarters in 1924 and was still there in 1961. (Article in *THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE* by Ruth Shaw dated June 9, 1961.)

The Horticultural Society made its debut with an exhibition in the town hall on September 7th.

## **1907**

In the YORKTON ENTERPRISE VOL. 11 NO. 5 OF JANUARY 31st: "Doukhobours were warned by means of a circular printed in both Russian and English by the Dominion Government, that they can hold land only by obeying regulations and becoming British subjects. They can occupy and cultivate their lands individually as other citizens do. It assured them of protection of religious beliefs. Warned them that entries on lands not properly held will be cancelled, but the Doukhobours will be given an opportunity to make re-entries so as to hold lands properly."

The land abandoned by the Doukhobours was opened for homesteading by the Dominion Government, causing the largest land rush in the region.

Yorkton was established as a judicial district exercising the powers of the Court of Queen's Bench. Two brick yards were in operation; one by Carl T. Erichsen and the other by the Doukhobour Brickyard Society.

Prairie Schooners from Nebraska were photographed on Broadway Street in front of Collacott's Hardware store. Settlers were looking for land in the region. At time of settlement, a study of the differences in farming between some north-central states such as Nebraska and the Canadian West had shown that from the middle of June to the middle of July there were over 2 hours more daylight in every 24 hours than in Nebraska. The longer period of sunshine was one reason why Western Canadian wheat grew to such perfection.

## **1908**

The Post Office building was erected at 29 Third Avenue North. It also housed the Lands and Customs Office, and the upper story provided a residence for the R. N. W. M. Police.

The Fire Brigade consisted of a chemical truck, a fire engine, two hose reels, and the ladder truck; all horse-drawn and manned by volunteers.

Harry Bronfman became sole owner of the Balmoral Hotel on June 8th.

The newspaper THE YORKTON TIMES announced in the November 5<sup>th</sup> issue that it would feature a "Ladies Column" on a weekly basis. Church activities, social and philanthropic news would be topics of interest.

The Ladies Auxiliary were planning a Shakespearian tea at the home of Mrs. Christopherson in the afternoon of Tuesday, November 10. Admission was .25 cents.

THE YORKTON TIMES announced that "sign boards indicating names of streets were put up by the town fathers. The new boards are made of enamel and fill a long felt want besides adding greatly to the appearance of the town." (Dec. 24, 1908 issue.)

## **1909**

The Canadian Bank of Commerce opened a branch in Yorkton.

The City purchased the property west of the Hospital for a town gravel pit. Cost: \$1,500.00.

THE YORKTON TIMES newspaper was established by supporters of the Liberal party to oppose the Conservative monopoly of THE ENTERPRISE.

William Simpson, Clerk of the Surrogate Court and his wife Margaret built a large house at #51 Smith Street East, which still stands today.

This year the directors of the Yorkton Agricultural Society concluded that the work involved with the annual fair had increased to the extent that a more formal organization was necessary. In December, the Yorkton Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition Association, Limited, was incorporated.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (St. Andrew's United Church) was opened this year.

On May 15, at 10:15 pm, Yorkton residents felt the tremors of an earthquake, especially experienced by those who were indoors. Some at first thought that a box car of dynamite had blown up in Melville, and that the vibration felt in Yorkton was an aftermath. However, it was soon learned that the earthquake was felt all over the Southern part of the Prairie Provinces.

The first cement sidewalks were built by C. Deverill of Winnipeg, starting on North Front Street. After the fair was over, the workmen did Broadway. "From the favorable remarks heard on every hand it is safe to predict that few wooden sidewalks will ever again be asked for in this growing burgh." (THE YORKTON TIMES, June 17, 1909.)

The Yorkton Enterprise Editor, Sam Wynn stated that "Incoming settlers do not speak the English language and most are not familiar with the glorious history and heritage of Canadians. It's beholding that we Canadians do our best to acquaint them of Canada's history and instill a spirit of patriotism to their new adopted land." He further stated that in Eastern Canada, Dominion Day on July 1st is patriotically celebrated, while in the West it is merely a day of vacation. (June 30, 1909)

On December 16, the Yorkton Fire Brigade held their fourth annual banquet at the Balmoral Hotel. (THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE –Dec. 23, 1909.)

## **1910**

The C.P.R. roundhouse was in operation in December with two freight trains leaving daily, one going east and one west. While this building is sometimes referred to as a "roundhouse"(usually found in large railroad divisional points) in fact it was an engine shed, with a spur line, likely holding no more than two locomotives. These were brought into the building to keep them warmed up, and for the purpose of cleaning and repairs. The train would proceed in either direction by using rails shaped in a "Y" on which the train would back up, then the rails were moved using the "switch" device. The "Y" lines were located about where the Yorkton Tourism offices are today. (Sources: THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE, and interview with retired CPR Conductor, John Maluga.)

Father Achille Delaere founded St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic parish.

The Agricultural Society was absorbed by the Yorkton Agricultural and Industrial Association Ltd.

Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier visited Yorkton.

St. Gerard's Roman Catholic Church and Monastery were built this year.

Yorkton received long distance telephone service.

## **1911**

Levi Beck, Yorkton's "Merchant Prince" was elected Mayor.

The citizens of Yorkton turned on their electric lights during the spring of this year.

Yorkton shipped 2,600,000 bushels of grain. 125,000 remained in the farmers' hands.

The Yorkton High School was officially opened on December 20th by Lieutenant-Governor Brown and Dr. Murray, the First President of the University of Saskatchewan. Total cost of the structure and the equipment was \$75,000.00.

The population of the town was 2,309.

## **1912**

January 2nd, a company of 24 from Sydney Australia, known as the "Lilliputians" were in Yorkton for a performance and stayed overnight at the Balmoral Hotel.

The YORKTON ENTERPRISE reported that Levi Beck's Yorkton Flour Mill was regarded as the pioneer industry of the town, making products that have become household words in eastern Saskatchewan.

The Hudson Bay Company erected a new building this year.

Yorkton boasts to be the "largest and most prosperous community in eastern Saskatchewan."

A major fire occurred on April 19th when the Canadian Grain Elevator was badly damaged.

The Rural Municipality of Wallace was organized.

## **1913**

Charles Douglas Livingstone, a lawyer became Mayor. He resigned within a year to join the army. He achieved the rank of Major, and died in battle in 1916.

On July 3rd, 1,635 Yorkton people visited a "Made in Canada" touring train of exhibits of a great variety of manufactured products.

The Rural Municipality of Orkney was organized.

## **1914**

World War 1 began. Yorkton became the squadron training base for such areas as Indian Head, Regina, Weyburn and Moosomin. The Royal Hotel became a mess hall for Yorkton recruits.

Chief Peepeetch of the Little Bone Reserve was interviewed by a reporter of THE ENTERPRISE. He gave an account of the local incidents surrounding the events of the 1885 Riel Uprising.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Order of Odd Fellows was founded this year.

## **1915**

A barrel of oil exploded in the basement of T. H. Collacot's Hardware and caused a disastrous fire.

Prohibition in Saskatchewan was enacted July 1st, shutting down the hotel bars, resulting in province-wide illegal manufacturing of booze. The Bronfman brothers began to capitalize on all the loopholes of the complicated prohibition laws.

Simpson School was built on Melrose Avenue.

## **1916**

The Sacred Heart Institute, a boarding school and orphanage was opened under the ministry of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate.

Saskatchewan women, over 21 years of age won the right to vote in municipal, civic and provincial elections.

At the October 13<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting a motion was passed to reduce Harry Bronfman's water account for the year by 40%. This was in consideration of the lavatories and wash houses in the premises known as the Balmoral Hotel being kept open for the use of the public.

## **1917**

John F. Reid was elected Member of Parliament for the Mackenzie Constituency.

Thomas Garry defeated J.A.M. Patrick in the Provincial election.

The Dominion Lands Office located in the J.J. Smith Block on Argyle Street was closed this year. All available homestead lands in the district had been disposed of.

### **1918**

Lieutenant Edmund De Wind, a former Yorkton banker was killed while defending a position near Grougic, France. He was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously.

A Yorkton landmark, the Royal Hotel was torn down.

The Yorkton Literary Society held a meeting at the Collegiate Institute on April 8th. The purpose was to study Longfellows' "EVANGELINE."

Women over 21 years of age obtained the right to vote in the Federal elections.

### **1919**

A "Peace Arch" was erected on the corner of Third Avenue and Broadway to welcome returning servicemen.

Harry Bronfman erected a building on the east side of the Balmoral Hotel and opened the CANADA PURE DRUG COMPANY.

Construction began on the Provincial Court House on Darlington Street. It was designed by Saskatchewan's first Provincial Architect, Maurice Sharon. Completed in 1920, it was officially opened in February 1921.

A Grand Peace Concert was held in the Town Hall on March 11<sup>th</sup> in aid of the Red Cross funds. A chorus of 40 voices sang old songs and an arrangement of the "National Anthem of the Allies." There were also male choruses, male quartettes, mixed and ladies quartettes, and local violin soloists such as Miss Gertrude Oathwaite.

In a colourful ceremony Right Reverend Bishop Budka laid the cornerstone of St. Joseph's College on September 7th of this year.

### **1920**

The Allen Theatre was built at 17, 3rd Avenue North and opened for business on February 5th.

Burke School was opened this year.

### **1921**

On May 24, Deer Park Golf Course held its official opening.

March 29th of this year, the Rotary Club of Yorkton held its first luncheon meeting.

The population of Yorkton was 5,151.

### **1922**

On January 14, the Gibson Block at #33 Broadway St. East was destroyed by fire. Total loss \$68,190. (The Yorkton Enterprise)

The Council made a resolution whereby unemployed men who refused to make themselves available for employment would be refused relief.

Fire completely destroyed the Curling Rink on Agricultural Avenue on March 24<sup>th</sup>. (Note from the Howard Jackson Papers.

### **1923**

Spring floods affected Yorkton in April.

A.R. Reusch was the man in charge of the local Wheat pool campaign.

Harry Bronfman purchased the Yaholnitsky Block on Betts Avenue.

The unveiling of a memorial tablet dedicated to Major C.D. Livingstone took place at the Provincial Court House on November 11, 1923. The tablet was a project of the International Order of the Daughters of the Empire.

The *Yorkton Enterprise* Friday Nov. 23, 1923 published this message:

#### **WHAT WE NEED**

What we need in this country today is more common, old-fashioned horse sense and less damn foolishness.

We need more backbone and less wishbone,

We need more honest, sincere, courageous thinking along sane constructive lines and less chasing after rainbows and following false ideals,

We need to check our mad career of lawmaking and law tinkering and make some effort to return to the old-fashioned principles of right and justice,

We need to abolish the mess of red tape in our business government that envelopes us in a fog of doubt and uncertainty, that bewilders and befuddles everybody and gets us nowhere!

On December 14, the R.A. Patrick Block at # 37 Broadway St. East was consumed by fire, with a total loss of \$40,000.

### **1924**

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities held a meeting in Regina on March 6, 7 & 8th.

The Bronfman Block at #73 Third Avenue South was destroyed by fire on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Total loss \$25,799.

This year saw the opening of the Hudson Bay Railroad. Yorkton now had north-south, and east-west railway traffic.

### **1925**

George Headon—six feet two inches tall and 215 pounds—became chief of police at \$165.00 per month. He immediately recommended that the curtains be removed from the windows of the Chinese Restaurants.

### **1926**

The Yorkton Rotary Club established a library in the Patrick Block on Third Avenue.

This was the last year gas lamps were used on Yorkton's streets.

The Yorkton Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was organized with General Alexander Ross as President.

The Krushen Block at #13 Broadway Street West suffered a major fire on December 26<sup>th</sup>, with total loss of \$74,562.

**1927**

Chinese restaurant owners still had to apply to Council for a permit to hire white waitresses.

C.J.G.X. Radio Station was officially opened on August 19th.

**1928**

Yorkton was incorporated as a CITY on February 1st.

J. J. Maloney leader of the Provincial Ku Klux Klan was in town to make a speech.

York Farmers' Colonization Company Limited of Toronto donated \$500.00 to help with the construction of the new hospital (The Yorkton Enterprise).

**1929**

Building permits for the City of Yorkton amounted to over \$62,000.00

J.T.M. Anderson, school inspector and leader of the Conservative Party was elected Premier of Saskatchewan.

A.C. Stewart, who was Mayor from 1927-1929, became an MLA and joined the new Anderson Government.

The official opening of the Roxy Theatre at #11 on Broadway Street was held on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

The new Queen Victoria Hospital was erected on the same grounds at the cottage hospital (Source: Eighty Years of Caring by Kathleen Wood).

**1930**

The mercury dropped to 50 below zero Fahrenheit on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, the first Canadian National Railway train passed through Yorkton on its way to Churchill.

The Royal Canadian Legion founded the Ladies Auxiliary on April 22nd.

On May 25th, Yorkton's War Memorial was erected on Darlington Street.

THE ENTERPRISE Sept. 16th: "Famous Montreal Distiller and Former Yorkton Man is Found Not Guilty By Jury on Last Charge of "Tampering with Witnesses." This news referred to Harry Bronfman's acquittal.

The first water tower manufactured by Horton Steel Works Limited of Brigeburg, Ontario was erected this year.

**1931**

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Bank of Toronto was robbed of \$3,000.00 The culprit was arrested at Fenwood on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Harry Spalding Swallow opened a Chiropractic clinic in Yorkton.

The first bus arrived in Yorkton to compete with rail passenger service.

**1932**

Richard Beatty was chosen president of the Yorkton Agricultural and Exhibition Association.

This year Howard Jackson, who later became known as a local historian obtained the position of City Clerk.

The Doukhobor Community erected 6 brick houses on Myrtle Avenue for rental purposes.



**1933**

Peter Veregin, prisoner at Prince Albert was taken to the Atlantic seaboard for deportation to Russia.

In July, 363 old-timers were present at a reunion celebration in conjunction with the annual Yorkton Exhibition.

Enthusiasts founded the Yorkton Hardball Association under the Presidency of D.R. Ball.

Headline of YORKTON ENTERPRISE: Thurs. Aug. 10; "Each freight train brings more "rod riders."

A coned shaped cairn was erected on July 17th on Darlington Street, in honour of Yorkton pioneers.

An unsuccessful robbery attempt was made at the Crescent Creamery.

**1934**

A Council resolution read: "That all recipients of relief be required to work for the amount of relief given."

Jubilee Park was the place where baseball games were held.

**1935**

150 unemployed petitioned Council for an open voucher system, and increased quotas.

Three people were arrested in an unemployment strike on March 16th.

In August, J.A.M. Patrick, King's Counsel was appointed district court judge at Moosomin, Saskatchewan.

In October, Stan Hunter was appointed Boy Scout Commissioner.

**1936**

B. Sachatoff presented a petition to Council signed by the unemployed protesting the City's policy to appoint a doctor for indigents.

Council imposed a large license on big dogs.

On Feb, 5th, CJGX sold to James Richardson & Sons of Winnipeg.

In March, Yorkton pioneer, Levi Beck died.

**1937**

The first mechanical sewage plant was constructed at Dracup Avenue and York Road.

Yorkton Minor Hockey was in the limelight, when the Midgets won their first Provincial Championship.

Milk sold for 10 cents a quart, coffee cream was 22 cents a quart, and whipping cream was 45 cents a quart.

The first advertising for EATON'S STORE appeared in the Yorkton Enterprise on August 5. (Enterprise Progress Edition Mar. 31, 1982.)

The City of Yorkton paved Broadway Street.

**1938**

A colourful Pow-Wow took place by the Crescent Lake Indian Reserve on Sunday July 24th, as part of a joint celebration with Yorkton and area people.

**1939**

Charles A. Peaker returns to the Mayor's chair and remained for 8 years.

Construction of the new Armoury was underway when war broke out in September.

Stephen Meush undertook the work of creating the beautiful painting of St. Mary's dome, completing it May, 1941.

#### **1940**

In May, Mayor Charles Peaker and Council dedicated a park in memory of Brother Stanislaus, which is located between Wellington and Ontario Avenues, facing Darlington Street.

Chief Kinistino of the Little Bone Reserve died.

The Yorkton Coop was organized on March 6th.

#### **1941**

Council resolved that any City employee wishing to enlist for military service, would be assured of a job upon return.

The three-storey Western Grocers building located at #72 Broadway West was totally destroyed by fire on March 2. They erected the two-storey building still standing today.

By May, the first class of Australians arrived for training at No.11 Yorkton Service Flying Training School of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan.

Official opening of the B.C.A.T.P. base took place on June 11.

In May, there was an armed robbery at the Bank of Toronto.

#### **1942**

The City of Yorkton was asked to find a name for a war ship. "ORKNEY" was chosen. During war time maneuvers, a ship named "Yorkton" could have been confused with the existing ship USS YORKTOWN.

On January 20th, Miss Phyllis Brown was appointed superintendent of nurses at Yorkton hospital.

On February 9th, "all clocks in Yorkton advanced one hour to start one of the greatest controversies in Yorkton's history." (From an outline of past events published in 1955 in *The Enterprise Golden Jubilee Edition, July 14th.*)

In June of this year, sugar was rationed on an "honour" basis of half-a-pound per person per week. The coupon ration system was to go into effect across Canada on July 1st. (*The Yorkton Enterprise June 18th, 1942.*)

Charles Beck's Hardware on Broadway East closed after providing 40 years of service.

On November 18th, 40 Yorkton young women left to work in munitions plants in Eastern Canada.

Representatives of Ducks Unlimited were honoured on November 20th for building a \$15,000 ditch at Willowbrook Creek.

#### **1943**

The mercury registered an all-time 54 degrees below zero Fahrenheit in Yorkton on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Three of Yorkton's first pioneers Cosmo J. McFarlane, John F. Reid and Dave Fergus visited the offices of THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE in July to reminisce about their 60 years in Yorkton.

Over 1000 people attended a hoof and horn dance at the John Deer showrooms.

The Rotary Club raised \$5,000 for the "Milk for Britain" fund.

John F. Reid, parliamentarian farmer and public spirited citizen died in July.

No. 11 S.F.T.S (Fight Training School) won the pennant for the most efficient twin-engine school in Canada.

September 6<sup>th</sup>, pioneer doctor Thomas Patrick died.

October 18<sup>th</sup> Archie Fraser signed a professional hockey contract with the New York Rangers.

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, the Yorkton Community Savings and Credit Union was incorporated.

#### **1944**

The sale of Victory Bonds in the City of Yorkton totalled \$662,000.00.

January 29, Bob Rousay, pioneer Orkney farmer shipped a car of outstanding cattle to Winnipeg. (It was a big deal in those days when a farmer came into town to ship a carload of cattle.)

King's Counsel F.C.Wilson, who practiced law in the city for years died in Vancouver on Feb. 16th.

Toy Ying, former longtime Yorkton restaurateur died in China on May 4th.

On June 11th, Cosmo J. McFarlane one of Yorkton's first citizens died.

#### **1945**

The Victory over Japan Committee requested that a civic holiday be declared for VJ Day celebrations.

This year Yorkton was mentioned in Robert L. Ripley's BELIEVE IT OR NOT. Broadway Street constituted a section of highway deemed the "longest straight road in the world". It ran 82 miles without a curve, from Roblin, Manitoba to Ituna, Saskatchewan.

On January 15th, A.P. Simpson presided at the annual meeting of the Yorkton Queen Victoria Hospital at which time it was decided to transfer ownership of the hospital to the City.

James Sinclair, a Yorkton pioneer died at Flin Flon on the 24th of January.

On March 16th, the Yorkton Kinsmen Club received their charter.

June 20th, Premier T.C. Douglas opened a new wing in the hospital.

August 14th, "The greatest war in history ends. Yorkton with all humanity goes wild." (The Enterprise Golden Jubilee Edition published 10 years later on July 14, 1955.)

On September 2nd, Japan formally surrendered to the Allies after two major events: Hiroshima, a city of considerable military importance was almost completely wiped out when an American Air Force bomber dropped the first atomic bomb used in warfare over the city on August 6th, followed three days later by the second bomb to explode over the City of Nagasaki.

October 15th, the First Yorkton Light Anti-Aircraft Unit was given a thunderous welcome home.

October 17th, Yorkton sent a railroad car full of clothing to Europe.

December 18th, Yorkton viewed a total eclipse of the moon.

## **1946**

The Dept. of Veterans' Affairs officer, Jack Willis and Dr. H. G. Grant of the Yorkton branch of the Canadian Legion attended a convention in Regina about rehabilitation of veterans.

The Yorkton Flying Services was organized with cooperation of the Board of Trade.

A school for Metis children of Crescent Lake settlement was opened in the autumn of this year.

Retail sales and services in Yorkton approximated \$20,000,000.00

On April 14th, a Mammoth Auction Sale of Power Farm Equipment took place in Yorkton. One report has it that 10,000 farmers attended.

March 2, an air ambulance brought in the first patient, Mrs. Charles Rathgaber of Macnutt to the Yorkton hospital.

March 18th, Yorkton wanted a Union Station--a combined CPR and CNR station, and relocation of tracks.

On May 22nd, the Rotary Club celebrated its silver anniversary.

On June 16th, a dance pavillion and booths were being erected at York Lake.

On September 27th, Mayor Charles Peaker officially opened the York Theatre on Third Avenue.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Charles Peaker opens the first wartime house and handed over the keys to Charles Taylor, the first veteran to move into the house.

## **1947**

Yorkton District Board of Trade reports that Yorkton region has the biggest crop in the province.

The first 50 wartime houses were filled on May 15th.

A 50-bed Auxiliary Hospital opened at the airport on May 20th.

On June 2nd, 5,000 people flock to Yorkton to visit Cardinal Eugene Tisserant.

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, local organizations founded the Yorkton Film Council.

On July 6th, thousands of Lutherans gathered at the Fair Grounds for a divine service.

On July 7th, 4000 attend the religious feast of Vidpust.

The Board of Trade organized a drive on October 8th to collect funds for a gift to Princess Elizabeth on the occasion of her wedding. It was decided to send her a carload of flour milled in Yorkton to help with post war shortage of food in England.

The Post Office reported that letter carriers delivered 82,700 Christmas cards in Yorkton in the five days preceding Christmas.

## **1948**

The City Planning Commission recommended Peaker Heights for new homes on January 8th.

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation agreed to soon start building 58 houses here, which were part of the wartime housing project.

Cliff Shaw of the Yorkton Historical Society requested that City Council erect a cairn for the old millstone and locate it at the York City site, not far from where the old mill stood.

On March 13th, Samuel Wynn, Editor of *THE YORKTON ENTERPRISE* sent a wire from Ottawa to announce that Yorkton would be served by the Trans Canada Airlines. The TCA officially opened for service on May 10th.

The Yorkton Lions Club received its charter on September 13th.

### **1949**

A Parks Board was set up by the City of Yorkton to plan for any development of designated areas.

George Morris moved his farm implement business from Bangor to Yorkton.

City Council sent a telegram of good wishes to the Government of Newfoundland on becoming Canada's tenth province.

Dr. Harley Large purchased the dental practice of Dr. D.J. Brass on May 23rd.

On August 7th, an all-time heat record was set at 99.9 degrees Fahrenheit (37.7 degrees Celsius.)

On August 28th the Yorkton Branch of the Canadian Legion dedicated a cairn in the cemetery to "To the glory of God and in grateful memory of our gallant dead."

Mac's Barber Shop, Lutcher's Leather Goods and Wolfe's Shopping Centre opened stores on First Avenue in November.

### **1950**

The first Yorkton International Documentary Film Festival was held at City Hall.

The Pro for York Lake Golf Course was Metro Prystai, Detroit Red Wings Hockey star.

Emmanuel Balacko and M. J. Yaroshak took over the ownership of the Balmoral Hotel in March.

The Coop Store opened on Betts Avenue on January 14th.

Cradle phones were installed in the city in mid-January.

On the weird side of life, it was reported January 28th that Derek Everard set a new record by consuming 38 eggs in 25 minutes!

On March 11th, over a thousand people flocked to the opening of the new Bank of Montreal.

On June 26th, the Crest Drive-In Theatre on Broadway East opened with a capacity crowd.

In mid-July, Yorkton and district raised \$9,000 for the Manitoba Flood Relief Fund.

### **1951**

The Patrick Block on Third Avenue North was sold in early January to Levine and Silverman.

On January 28th, a huge fire consumed Croll's Broadway Store.

A movement began to restore the Presbyterian Church in Yorkton, and on February 15th, it became officially known as Knox Presbyterian Church.

In May the famous R.C.M.P. dogs were being trained in Yorkton.

In a newspaper column "Along Game Trails" dated July 5th the author Harry Swallow reports that 2 whooping cranes had been seen in the area.

The official opening of the Dr. Brass Vocational School took place in the new auditorium on September 28th.

Over \$1, 200,000 worth of livestock was handled at the Yorkton Co-op Stockyards in the first three months of the fiscal year, August 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30th.

Preston's Prescription Pharmacy opened Monday, December 4, 1951.

## **1952**

In June, parking meters were installed on Broadway and Betts Avenue on a trial basis, although polls showed much opposition.

King George VI died on February 6th.

Saskatchewan Motor Club opened a branch office in Yorkton.

Parking meters were installed on June 18th on Broadway Street and Betts Avenue, on a trial basis, although polls showed much opposition.

CJGX celebrated its 25th anniversary.

Blommaert and Svenson took over the General Motors agency.

Private Gregory Anaka died in battle in the Korean War on October 23. He was the only one to die of the Yorkton men who enlisted.

## **1953**

After having been situated in two different locations in the city, the Salem Evangelical Church was relocated on the corner of West Broadway and Franklin Street.

Parrish and Heimbecker built a new elevator on 7th Avenue North.

Louis St. Laurent, Prime Minister, visited Yorkton in July.

A severe lightning bolt hit the tower of City Hall then located at # 30 - Third Avenue North (in 2006 the location of the Painted Hand Casino & Parking lot.) The tower considered unsafe, was removed along with the bell and displayed at the Western Development Museum located at the Yorkton Airport. Both can be viewed today at the WDM on Highway #16 west of the City.

## **1954**

In October, the traffic signal lights were in operation on Broadway Street.

Woolworth Stores bought the old Hudson Bay property on Broadway and Second Avenue North.

The Canadian Federation of University Women/Yorkton Club was established this year.

The first diesel-driven freight on the Canadian Pacific Railway passed through Yorkton at 3:10 p.m. on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, having left Winnipeg at midnight on it's way to Edmonton.

The official opening of the Federal Government Building at #37 Third Avenue North was held on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **1955**

On the occasion of the Governor General Vincent Massey's visit a reception was held at Dr. Brass School, and a dinner at the Yorkton Armouries.

"Terriers won the league standing and went on to win the playoffs to advance to the Allan Cup playoffs. Vern Pachal won the league scoring honors."(A CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF SENIOR HOCKEY IN YORKTON, 1901-1967)

### **1956**

The City Council purchased 100 copies of Dr. H. Swallow's book "OX-TRAILS TO HIGHWAYS."

In the first part of July, Survey Aircraft Limited of Vancouver (Anson CF DLF) spent four days completing photo survey work in the Yorkton area; crew members were H.W. Topliss and H. Russel.

In July, the Deer Park Ladies Club voted in favour of affiliating with the Canadian Ladies Golf Union.

H. M. Bailey, City Engineer gave a report that the Post Office building was being renovated for City offices. The first meeting of Council took place on June 25, 1956 in the new offices.

A two-man diplomatic Russian delegation from the Canadian Embassy visited Yorkton and attended Yorkton's 16th International Film Festival. (Yorkton Enterprise Oct. 25, 1956.)

### **1957**

William E. Fichtner became Mayor, serving until 1969, making him the longest to hold this office in the history of Yorkton.

The Smith Block located at #33 Broadway Street East was gutted by fire on February 3.

### **1958**

Yorkton Television Ltd –CKOS-TV was established.

Anderson Lodge was officially opened on Wednesday May 27, with Premier T. C. Douglas officiating.

The Yorkton Film Council introduced a special trophy in the form of a "Golden Sheaf" representative of the "Wheat Province" of Saskatchewan. <Note: It has been awarded yearly since to the exhibitor judged the most outstanding of the entire Film Festival.>

### **1959**

This year, a monthly periodical of the Ukrainian Redemptorist Fathers, THE REDEEMERS VOICE first published in the Ukrainian language, began publishing in English and Ukrainian.

### **1960**

Yorkton's last horse drawn milk wagon made its final run.

The last C.P.R. east bound passenger train No. 42 left Yorkton Tuesday night, May 31<sup>st</sup> to terminate its run at Winnipeg. The C.P.R. west bound passenger train No. 41 departed Yorkton at 8:50 a.m. Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> for its last run to Saskatoon.

### **1961**

In June, one of Yorkton's early landmark buildings, the City Hall on Third Avenue North was demolished.

The population of the city was 9,995.

A men's rink from Yorkton won the Marshall Field trophy in the 12th Annual Chicago International Bonspiel.

Three thousand people from across the prairie provinces attended the Vidpust celebrations—a Ukrainian Catholic pilgrimage which took place in July.

### **1962**

Bylaw #1503 authorized issue of debentures amounting to \$38,000.00 for the purpose of paying the cost of installing an artificial ice plant in the city skating arena. (Aug. 27/62.)

A Christmas gratuity was given by City Council to their employees; married employees received one turkey, and single people received \$5.00.

The Yorkton Union Hospital was completed at the beginning of the year.

The Dominion Silver Ladies Curling Championship was held February 13 & 14 this year.

The Yorkton Figure Skating Club was organized this year.

### **1963**

A 48-bed Psychiatric Centre was constructed next to the Union Hospital.

Bailey's Funeral Home was established this year.

### **1964**

The Yorkton and District Board of Trade underwent a change of name; now Yorkton Chamber of Commerce.

On March 8 at St. Mary's Parish Hall, His Excellency Bishop Andrew Roborecki, D.D. presented a papal medal and certificate to Dr. Stephanie Potoski of Yorkton for her dedicated services to people and to the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Theodore Onufrijchuk, Horticulturalist and Landscaping Architect for the City of Yorkton (1959 to 1981) wrote and published a book entitled "*LANDSCAPING FOR MODERN CANADIAN LIVING IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES*".

The Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church on the corner of Bradbrooke Drive and Independent Street was officially opened October 25th.

### **1965**

Dr. Houston appeared before Council to promote the idea of making York Lake into a regional park.

Yorkton hosted the Saskatchewan Turkey Conference on January 27, 28, and 29<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. George Procyshyn was crowned Yorkton's Turkey Queen after winning the province-wide contest for best turkey recipe.

### **1966**

A Farmers Tour group, led by Norman Roebuck visited Australian farms and ranches.

The Yorkton Arts Council was founded this year.

### **1967**

Howard Jackson, retired City Clerk and local historian presented a 5 album pictorial history of Yorkton to City Council Mayor W. E. Fichtner said: "It is a pictorial essay on the settlement of Yorkton during its first 50 years."



The City of Yorkton chose as a centennial project the building of a new outdoor sports centre. The name "Century Field" was proposed by the City's Centennial Committee and the Parks and Recreation Board, and accepted by City Council.

The Yorkton Regional High School was officially opened on November 10th.

Two grants were given by the City of Yorkton: \$500.00 to the Yorkton Art Centre, and \$500.00 to Yorkton Minor Sports Association.

The Kinsmen Club of Yorkton agreed to build a new fountain at the corner of Second Avenue and Broadway Street at a cost of \$3,000.

### **1968**

Dedication of the new Yorkton Apostolic Church at 175 Gladstone Avenue South took place on October 14th.

The Yorkton Friendship Centre opened its doors this year. They provided counselling, recreational, vocational assistance to those in need, and to all races and nationalities.

The Yorkton Credit Union Ltd. was located in their new building on Fourth Avenue North and Smith Street.

### **1969**

Some events planned for "Sno Sho '69" were: skating party, turkey shoot, dog races, contests, wild game dinner, borsch and perogie supper, and ice sculpturing.

The Church of Christ located at 550 Parkview Road opened for services in April this year.

### **1970**

The Yorkton Terriers Hockey Club captured the Provincial Senior Championship.

A sod turning ceremony was held for the opening of Yorkton's Industrial Park.

### **1971**

Yorkton's population was 13,430.

Yorkton International Film Festival received a grant of \$500.00 from the City of Yorkton.

### **1972**

Jack Zepp was appointed curator for the Western Development Museum on Highway 16.

Lorne Nystrom, Federal N.D.P. candidate for this constituency was elected.

### **1973**

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce elected its first woman president, Winnie Spence.

Brigadier General Alexander Ross died.

Fifty rinks entered the Annual Ladies Curling Bonspiel.

### **1974**

Brother Methodius Koziak, teacher at St. Joseph's College received the ORDER OF CANADA.

The Parkland Synchronize Swim Club was founded by Margaret Cugnet, with the objective of entering a team in the first Saskatchewan Winter Games held in North Battleford.

The City donated \$500.00 for the Senior Citizens Lounge at the S. I. G. N. building.

For the first time in years Yorkton had 2 newspapers. YORKTON THIS WEEK began printing this year.

### **1975**

The YORKTON THIS WEEK was founded by Bob Thom, Ed Betker, and Dick DeRyk.

York Lake Cross Country Ski Club was established on December 21st.

Yorkton Slow Pitch was organized this year.

Brent Logan was President of the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce.

### **1976**

The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Yorkton and District hosted the 7th Annual Malanka at the Corona Hotel.

The Yorkton Farm and Leisure Show was founded by the Broadway Park Merchants Association, with a promotional feature held at the Broadway Park Plaza.

The Parkland Mall was opened on October 7th.

Artificial ice was installed at the Kinsmen Arena.

### **1977**

John Wytrykush, Manager of Eaton's Store became Mayor. He was a strong proponent of railway relocation.

The Yorkton School Unit Band broke an earlier record by playing non-stop for 15 hours.

### **1978**

Yorkton Mayor, John Wytrykush greeted Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip as they stepped down on Broadway Street from their special train on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Dominion Lands Office, 10 Argyle Street constructed in the 1890s and one of the City's oldest buildings was demolished.

### **1979**

Antoinette Kryski received a special Gold Sheaf Award for her many dedicated years of work with the Film Festival.

The water consumption in Yorkton was 457 million Imperial gallons per year (mga) for a population of 15,400; or an average of 81 Imperial gallons per capita per day (gcd). (Source: YORKTON MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, MAY 1982).

### **1980**

The Orkney Historical Society was formed to plan the restoration of the Orkney Church and School.

George H. Morris, President of Morris Rod Weeder Company of Yorkton received the ORDER OF CANADA on June 23, 1980. Recognized for his contribution to industrial development, farming and his own community. (Source: The Governor General of Canada website)

### **1981**

The population of the city was 15,339.

The Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre's official opening took place on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 1981. (Source: Letter signed by G.W. Crowder, City Commissioner Dec. 24, 1981).

**1982**

The Yorkton Centennial Committee and the City of Yorkton produced the history book: YORK COLONY TO TREASURE CHEST CITY.

In January, the City's new flag designed by Dean Printz was unveiled at City Hall.

The "Yorkton Centennial Song" was composed by Paul Malec and the Grade 6 students of Columbia School.

The Ravine Ecological Preserve was established.

A cairn was unveiled in July in Patrick Park to commemorate Dr. T. A. Patrick's efforts with conservation issues, as well as his work as a pioneer physician and legislator.

The Yorkton and District Historical Society buried a capsule at the Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre, with Norman Roebuck officiating. The capsule was manufactured and donated by RAM Industries of Yorkton.

This was the year the Yorkton Lions Club, along with The Parkland Lions, the Lionelles, and the Sunrise Lions and Sunrise Lionelles organized the Annual Bunny Drive.

**1983**

A group of theatre enthusiasts founded the Paper Bag Players.

St. Mary's Parish Ukrainian Catholic Cultural Centre held its official opening.

A thunderstorm deposited four inches of rain in a four hour period, causing flooding around Laurier and Assiniboia Avenue.

Christie's Funeral Home was established 100 years ago.

Yorkton Regional High School Curling team took the Provincial Championship.

**1984**

The Synchronize Swimming Provincial Championship event was held in Yorkton April 14th.

The Ukrainian Catholic Women's League donated \$10,000 to the St. Mary's Ukrainian Cultural Centre.

The new facilities at the Western Development Museum were opened this year.

June 15th, the York Lake Ladies Golf Club invited the Deer Park Ladies Club for a "Fun Day."

**1985**

A prominent historical landmark, the famed Balmoral Hotel was destroyed by fire on February 12th.

**1986**

A group of writing enthusiasts founded the Parkland Writers' Alliance.

Yorkton hosted the Saskatchewan Winter Games attended by 2500 athletes, plus coaches, officials and spectators.

**1987**

The City of Yorkton Council established a Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee.

Norman Roebuck was nominated for the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame by the Yorkton Exhibition Association.

**1988**

The Yorkton Court House was declared a Provincial Heritage Property on February 15th.

The City of Yorkton opened the H. M. Bailey Water Pollution Control Plant.

On September 7, George Morris, inventor, was the recipient of the 1988 Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

In September, Mayor Brian Fromm attended the sod turning ceremony for the new Yorkton Coop Shopping Centre.

The Provincial B Men's Playdown Slo-pitch event was held here this year.

The opening of the White Spruce Youth Treatment Centre took place in June.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church celebrated its 75th Anniversary May 21 and 22.

### **1989**

The old Land Titles Office achieved Municipal Heritage status on November 20th.

The Saskatchewan Provincial Parks & Recreation Association Conference was held at St. Mary's Cultural Centre in October this year.

Ruth Shaw received the "Yorkton Citizen of the Year" award during the Canada Day Celebrations at the Western Development Museum.

Yorkton hosted the Provincial Bantam Baseball Playdowns, and the Provincial Playdowns & National Qualifiers for Slo-pitch National.

### **1990**

The ENTERPRISE AND YORKTON THIS WEEK are purchased by Armadale Company Ltd. of Hamilton, Ontario.

On March 26th, the old Hudson Bay Company Store on Broadway Street and 2nd Avenue received "Municipal Heritage Property" designation.

The American Bus Association selected Yorkton's Threshermen Festival as one of the top 100 events on this continent.

### **1991**

The population of the city stood at 15,320.

The Yorkton Regional High School Girls Volleyball Team took the Provincial Championship.

The Yorkton Regional High School Football Team became Provincial Champions this year.

YORKTON & DISTRICT PAPER INC., owned by Ken Chyz and David Buscis, starts publishing THE PAPER, a free-distribution advertising publication.

### **1992**

The Doukhobor brick house located at #29 Myrtle Avenue received Municipal Heritage designation on August 10th.

Labatt's Men's Curling Playoffs were held here this year.

Members of the Zion Eight Scout Troop planted 13 trees at the Arboretum, representing each Province and Territory, and one representing the First Nations.

The Yorkton Credit Union Ltd. introduced the city's first Drive Through ATM. (Source: Booklet "50 years of History YORKTON CREDIT UNION LTD. 1943-1993)

YORKTON AND DISTRICT PAPER INC. begins publishing THE NEWS PAPER which is free of charge to residents.

### **1993**

On December 13, the official opening of the City of Yorkton and R.C.M.P. building was held. Master of Ceremonies was G. Wayne Jensen, City Commissioner.

In March eleven area residents received a medal each for their contribution to the community and to the country. Presentation was made by Lorne Nystrom, N. D. P. Member of Parliament.

The Sports Hall of Fame was established with founding members: Vern Pachal, President, Dave Rusnak, Randy Goulden, Bev Fruin, Patti Pilon, Lynda Ziglo, Dave Baron, Byron McCorkell, Merv Laube, Gordon Johnson and Gerry Bulitz.

The Yorkton Credit Union had the grand opening of their new building at #64 Broadway Street East on Tuesday, November 2nd.

### **1994**

The Kinsmen Recycling Centre began operation in May this year.

Canada Post issued a stamp in the Architecture series illustrating the Provincial Court House in Yorkton, describing it as "A distinctive public landmark....a striking example of the Beaux-Arts style of architecture in Canada."

The Special Olympics Summer Games were held in Yorkton.

Yorkton was host to the Saskatchewan Country Music Awards.

Saskatchewan Wildlife Convention was held here, with 350 delegates attending.

Yorkton hosted the Western Divisional Figure Skating Competitions.

The Canadian High School Rodeo was initiated in Yorkton this year.

Yorkton Regional High School initiated the Student Leadership Conference hosting 1500 delegates from across the United States and Canada.

### **1995**

In April a large area around Yorkton experienced extreme flooding due to the swollen Assiniboine River.

Yorkton hosted the Western Canadian Premiers Conference.

The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan held a 50th Anniversary Reunion.

On the occasion of the 65 Anniversary, Morris Industries held a "Dealer Days" event.

**1996**

The Painted Hand Casino opened its doors at 30- 3rd Avenue North.

The Henry Apartments at #81 Second Avenue North was designated a Municipal Heritage Property on February 26th.

THE COMMUNITY REVIEW is first published by Community Publishing Ltd.

**1997**

The official opening of the building housing Tourism Yorkton and The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce took place on June 6.

A reunion celebration of the Yorkton Terriers was held this year.

**1998**

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce held their first "Celebrate Success" Awards night.

Work got underway to redesign Jubilee Park to upgrade it to standards required for provincial competitions.

The population stood at 16,783.

The Logan Green Committee as part of the Arbor Day project asked Yorkdale School for help to plant 3,400 trees on Logan Green park. One hundred and fifty students from Grades 4, 5 and 6 were responsible for about 30 trees each. The project was funded by the Logan Green Committee and the City of Yorkton. (*Yorkton This Week & Enterprise, May 27, 1998.*)

FLETCHER'S DRUG STORE was sold after 48 years of operation and finished business on Wednesday, June 30th. It was the longest continuous Drug Store/Pharmacy in Yorkton and Western Canada, owned by only four different families dating back to 1895. (Source: Garry Fletcher.)

Yorkton Tribal Council celebrated the opening of Safe Haven on Bradbrooke Drive on October 30th.

St. Paul Lutheran Church was designated as a Municipal Heritage Property on November 20th.

Yorkton hosted the Saskatchewan Real Estate Convention attended by 250 delegates.

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Annual Convention was held here with an excess of 500 delegates.

In December, the new water Tower was erected.

**1999**

Yorkton hosted the National Hockey Championship Royal Bank Cup.

The Parkland Writers' Alliance instituted a one day Children's Writing Workshop at the Public Library.

The population of the city reached 17,113. (Sask. Health figures.)

It was the 25th year of the Yorkton Arts Council "Stars for Saskatchewan Concert Series."

The first water tower built in 1930 was demolished in August this year.

## **2000**

Yorkton was the site of the "2000 Saskatchewan Summer Games".

On February 7<sup>th</sup> City Council presented Meritorious Service Awards to Ruth Shaw and Stan Stephenson.

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, the First Baptist Church held their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

This year, St. Joseph's College held a reunion for approximately 500 former students and teachers.

Yorkton Short Film & Video Festival was held May 11<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>. It's ads state: "Longest Running Short Film Festival in North America & Home of the Coveted Golden Sheaf."

The City of Yorkton Municipal Heritage Advisory Commission launched the book "City of Yorkton Cemetery Walking Tour."

On Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> the Trans Canada Trail officially opened up through Yorkton. Mayor Ben Weber was presented with the official Trans Canada Trail 2000 flag.

On Nov. 15, a Plan of Survey was registered confirming the official name "Yorkton Creek" for the waterway previously known as "Little White Sand River", and/or as locals often called it "Bull's River." The creek crosses the East boundary of the North East Quarter of Section 1, Township 26, Range 4, West of the Second Meridian. (Letter signed by W. Larson, Deputy Chief Surveyor, Property Registration Branch, Chief Surveyor's Office Regina, Sask. Mar. 8, 2001.)

## **2001**

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, YORKTON THIS WEEK & ENTERPRISE published a special booklet entitled: "A Salute to Minor Hockey 2001."

Yorkton hosted the Western Canadian Midget Softball Championships, the S.H.S.A.A. Provincial Track and Field Championships, the S.G.A. Mid Amateur Gold Championships, and R.C.G.A. Future Links Junior Golf Championship.

THE COMMUNITY REVIEW and THE NEWS PAPER amalgamate to form THE NEWS REVIEW.

YORKTON THIS WEEK & ENTERPRISE is purchased by Peter Ng, owner of THE ESTEVAN MERCURY, who shortens the name to YORKTON THIS WEEK.

Mayor Phil De Vos and Director of Leisure Services, Jody Hauta presented Norman Roebuck and Lucien Cugnet with certificates of appreciation for their years of work in heritage preservation on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **2002**

YORKTON IS 120 YEARS OLD. The York Farmers Colonization Company was incorporated on May 12, 1882, and settlement of the area began.

Leon's Manufacturing Company founded by Leon Malinowsky celebrated 50 years in business on Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

City Councillor, Brian Fromm died suddenly on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Fromm was Mayor of Yorkton from 1985 to 1988, and was Councillor since 1989.

City Leisure Services Department installed banners on several streets as part of a downtown beautification plan.

## **2003**

The Grand Opening of the new Sacred Heart High School located on Gladstone Avenue North took place on March 4, 5 and 6th.

The Saskatchewan Tourism Awards of Excellence was accepted by Tourism Yorkton President Terry Wright and Executive Director, Randy Goulden on March 14th.

A small publication entitled "THE WHISKEY MAN" was launched this spring by the City of Yorkton Municipal Heritage Advisory Sub-Commission. It tells the story of the Balmoral Hotel and the Bronfman family's saga in Yorkton and Saskatchewan.

In April, two brick buildings originally constructed by Harry Bronfman on the corner of Broadway and Second Avenue South were demolished. On this site the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority is erecting a liquor store. The parking lot will be located on the land where the Balmoral Hotel once stood.

A Kids Convention for ages 6 to 12 was held at the Gloria Hayden Community Centre, April 21 to 25th.

City Council announced a "Crow Eradication Program" allowing the removal of nests within the city.

City Elections were held on Wednesday, October 22. Phil De Vos was returned for a second term as Mayor. Also re-elected Councillors were: Les Arnelien, Janet Hill, Randy Goulden, and Chris Wyatt. New councillors were Bob Maloney and Deb Schmidt.

This year Morris Industries celebrated their 75th Anniversary.

## **2004**

YORKTON THIS WEEK, THE NEWS REVIEW AND THE COMMUNITY POST are purchased by Glacier Ventures International Corp.

Robert Thom, co-founder of YORKTON THIS WEEK died on Monday, April 12th.

March 11 – The Celebrate Success Awards Night, an event held by the Chamber of Commerce handed out awards: Sherring Gold in the field of Community Development, Gene Denischuk in Property Restoration, Parkland Greenhouses in New and Expanded business, Key Chevrolet Oldsmobile Cadillac for Customer Service, Natural Nail Impressions by Leigh-Ann, Young Entrepreneur, and Harley Davidson of Yorkton Ltd., for Business of the Year. Community Merit: Kalyna Ukrainian Dance, Yorkton Community Theatre, and Yorkton Arts Council Sunflower. The Wall of Success: Christie Hill Funeral Chapel, Parkland Tire and Services, and Logan Stevens.

March 15 - The Dulmage Farmstead was designated as a Municipal Heritage Property in accordance with the *Heritage Property Act* at Yorkton City Council meeting.

March 18 – St. Michael's School Choir sang at the opening of the session at the Legislature.

June 23 -The Yorkton Public Library closed its doors for renovations to begin

June 28 -The Public Library's temporary quarters were at the old Credit Union Building on the corner of Smith Street and 4th Avenue North.

July 1 - Bylaw 38/2003 to regulate smoking in public places and work places within the City of Yorkton came into effect.

August 15 - City of Yorkton Aquatic Centre closed for construction of the new water park.



September 23rd, the Saskatchewan Centennial 2005 Launch took place at Century Field. Dr. Lynda Haverstock, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan; Lorne Calvert, Premier of Saskatchewan; Clay Serby, Deputy Premier and Minister of Rural Revitalization; Legislative Secretary Glen Hagel; Yorkton Mayor Phil De Vos and other special guests were in attendance to kick off the countdown to Saskatchewan's centennial year and preview the first of the centennial plans.

October 14 - Yorkton Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors for 2004-05 are: Murray Wagner, Jim Jeske, Calvin Daniels, Don Szabo, and Rachel Spilchen.

October 20 - The Yorkton Regional High School street fair took place in the school gym.

October 20 - Deputy Premier Clay Serby and Yorkton Mayor Phil De Vos unveiled a plaque commemorating the opening of the new Parkland Regional College campus that was officially opened Dec. 11, 2003.

October 20 - Yorkton has a new logo and brand YORKTON Where Good Things Happen.

October 27 - It was announced that local author Calvin Daniels had released his hockey book GUTS AND GO.

November 26 - The World Curling Tour took place at the Yorkton Agriplex with 32 teams participating.

December 13 - The first patient was put through the new CT scan at Yorkton Regional Health Centre.

Throughout December until Ukrainian Christmas on January 7th, 2005 school children and the public were invited to tour the Yorkton Court House at #19 Darlington Street East to view the historic building and the elaborate interior Christmas decor.

## **2005**

The Business Improvement District (BID) bylaw was enacted January 12<sup>th</sup>.

An ice sculpture of the War ship "HMCS Orkney" was created in the CPR Park on Broadway by cadets, officers and parents of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps. It was unveiled Friday, February 4th.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> the Brother Stanislaus Knights of Columbus Assembly held their Second Annual Patriotic Dinner at St. Mary's Cultural Centre. In celebration of Saskatchewan's Centennial, the special guest speaker was William A. Waiser, Historian and University of Saskatchewan professor who spoke on the hardships of the early pioneers.

Saturday, June 17th a British Garden Fete was held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church as a celebration of the British culture of Yorkton, the first settlers of York Colony and their encounter with Native people.

One unique production – a "Ghost Walking Tour" of areas and buildings of the downtown called THE HaUnTs of Yorkton written by Kathy Morrell took place on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, and Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The history book "Windows on our History" was launched December 22<sup>nd</sup> at City Hall.

It has been 12 years since Sonya Pawliw of Wellington Avenue opened her Healing and Meditation Garden to the public. This year, she welcomed nearly 400 visitors from as far away as the Netherlands, Israel, Germany and the United States.

On September 4th, the special Centennial Celebration of Yorkton kicked off on the Exhibition grounds and was attended by a crowd estimated to be at 10,000. All sorts of events took place culminating with a spectacular show of fireworks. Another 5 to 8,000 people were estimated to be on surrounding streets, school playgrounds, and other places around the city.

On September 5th, Mayor Phil De Vos presided over a 1905 Mock Council meeting in City Hall.

St. Andrew's Centennial Fall Tea and Bake Sale was held on October 29th.

## **2006**

On September 7th, two major agricultural companies each announced plans to build state-of-the-art canola crushing plants to be operational within the next two years. The Companies are: James Richard International, and Louis Dreyfus Canada.

The Gallagher Centre--a multi-purpose facility held its official opening on Saturday, September 16th. Officials were: Randy Goulden, Chairperson, Dave Farrell, Mayor Phil DeVos, George Gallagher whose donation had his name attached to the Centre, Yorkton-Melville MP Garry Breitkreuz, and Yorkton MLA Clay Serby.

On October 19, the plasma cut metal mural, entitled "Grassroots" by artist Linda Keilback, honouring the peoples who were here first and those who came after, was officially dedicated. A project of Renaissance Yorkton Foundation Inc., the mural is the first in the RYF series, "The Storytellers Circle". It was installed on the wall of Liquidation World facing Livingstone Street.

Local Barrister, Arliss Dellow won the Ken Filippelli Award at the Annual General Meeting of the SWIMMING NATATION CANADA held in Vancouver October 14. The award is given to an outstanding Canadian official who has made a difference to swimming in Canada.

The following City Council was elected following a civic election held on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Chris Wyatt, Councillors Les Arnelien, Dick DeRyk, Randy Goulden, Bob Maloney, Larry Pearen and James Wilson.

## **2007**

On April 28th, five persons were inducted as athletes to the Yorkton Sports Hall of Fame: Adeline Wuschenny, Sandra (Flaman) England, Jason Parker, Gary Gawryliuk and Joan (Inglis) McCusker. Gary Gawryliuk and Adeline Wuschenny were inducted in as builders. The 1967 Yorkton Cardinals senior baseball team was also inducted. (Source: Yorkton This Week, Wednesday May 2, 2007)

The third yearly production of the HAUNTS OF YORKTON took place May 31, June 1, and June 3. It portrayed this year's theme of 125 years of settlement.

The Princess Royal, Princess Anne visited Yorkton on June 2nd to help celebrate the 125th anniversary of the settlement of York Colony and York City/Yorkton.

The official opening of the office of the Assiniboine Watershed Stewardship Association with Aron Hershmilller as Manager, took place on June 6.

Yorkton's big 125th celebration "FAMILY FUN DAY" was held on Sunday, September 2nd at the GALLAGHER CENTRE FLEXIHALL.

The book *Lest We Forget* compiled by the Royal Canadian Legion, Yorkton Branch volunteers was launched in November.

Gordon, Brian and Derek Berrns, third, fourth and fifth generations of the family to farm north of Springside received the Farmer of the Year Award at the Grain Millers Harvest Showdown on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Yorkton candidate Greg Ottenbreit of the Saskatchewan Party was elected to the legislature on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

## 2008

Cornerstone Credit Union officially amalgamated with Tisdale and Gateway Credit Unions on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Yorkton and District Scottish Society hosted their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Robert Burns Banquet and Dance on Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Elmer McInnes, Yorkton author of Old West history launched his second book *Bud Ballew: Legendary Oklahoma Lawman* on March 27.

Clay Serby, who served as City Councillor, New Democrat MLA, Cabinet Minister and Deputy Premier was roasted and toasted on April 19 at the Gallagher Centre.

The Yorkton Nursery Cooperative held their annual Grandparents Tea in May.

Agrium Inc., undertook potash exploration work south of Yorkton in the spring, with a view of a possible mine project in the near future.

The Yorkton Exhibition Association is celebrating 125 years this year. In the early 1880s, Agricultural Societies sprang up across the Canadian West, organizing fairs dedicated to entertain the new settlers, and to bring first hand information on agricultural methods, marketing, etc.

A Ukrainian Dance Festival hosted by the Yorkton Kalyna School of Ukrainian dance was held in Yorkton May 1-4<sup>th</sup>.

S.S.F.A. 55 Plus Provincial Games were held July 8 – 10. Over 600 participants from across the province competed in a variety of events such as cribbage, bowling, golf, kaiser, track & field and slo-pitch.

Habitat for Humanity of Yorkton announced that the first home in Yorkton would be built to meet the need of one qualifying family.

The City of Yorkton has a new Economic Development Officer, Faisal Anwar.

Brenton Myles Klause, Q.C. was appointed Provincial Court Judge for Yorkton.

In November, it was announced that the Olympic Torch on route in 2010 to the Winter Olympics in Vancouver will be visiting Yorkton.

The City of Yorkton set out a condo development policy on November 17.

The Musical *Beauty and the Beast* was performed by students of Sacred Heart High School on the last weekend of November.

The Yorkton Airport Authority is working on revitalizing the facility.

A replica of the skull of Scotty, the Tyrannosaurus Rex dinosaur found in the Frenchman River Valley, was on loan in October to the local Western Development Museum from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum.

In December it was announced that the possibility of an Agrium potash mine south of Yorkton in the Leech Lake area is on hold pending further exploration, information and analysis.

## **2009**

On January 24, the Yorkton & District Scottish Society hosted its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Robbie Burns Dinner and Dance at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall. The event marked the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the famed poet born in 1759.

The City of Yorkton achieved a big surplus in 2008.

In February, the Provincial Government allotted \$100,000 to the Saskatchewan Abilities Council in Yorkton.

The City of Yorkton received \$12 million in March through the joint federal/provincial Building Canada Fund for the water treatment plant upgrade.

The new Painted Hand Casino building opened its doors at #510 Broadway Street West on Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup>.

A public meeting was set for April 8<sup>th</sup>, in respect of the annexation of land from the Rural Municipality of Orkney.

On May 25, the Society for the Involvement of Good Neighbours (SIGN) hired a new Executive Director, Richard Sevigny.

In July, City Council extracted \$380,000 from the City's 2008 surplus to fund the Bradbrooke Drive reconstruction project.

Volunteers demonstrated the art of steam threshing at the 54<sup>th</sup> annual Threshermen's Show on August 1<sup>st</sup> weekend.

Habitat for Humanity handed out the keys to the new owners of the first home built in Yorkton under this project on September 26.

James Wilson was elected mayor of Yorkton on October 28.

On November 1, the City Medical Centre Walk-in Clinic opened its doors at 398 Broadway Street West.

Immunization against the H1N1 flu virus began November 2.

In November, the Good Spirit School Division opened their new Distance Learning Centre.

## **2010**

The Olympic Torch Relay Community Celebration was held on January 9.

In February, GOOGLE STREET VIEW now contains online photographic images of Yorkton streets and those of nearby towns and villages. In fact Street View for all of Canada was put online around the same time.

Dancers from the Kalyna Ukrainian Dance School performed at the St. Mary's Valentine's Social on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Agrium Inc., the potash company exploring for potash deposits in an area between Yorkton and Melville decided in March to put an indefinite hold on development plans.

In April, the City Department of Leisure Services underwent a change in name to the Department to Community Development, Parks and Recreation.

On the afternoon of Saturday, May 15 a rededication ceremony was held for the City of Yorkton cenotaph.

The new City of Yorkton Fire Station held their grand opening on June 25.

Richardson International Limited officially opened its canola processing plant on Tuesday June 29

Heavy rains on Thursday July 1<sup>st</sup> led to extensive flooding of homes and business in Yorkton. A State of Emergency was declared on the morning of July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A spray water park was opened in Weinmaster Park in mid-July.

The “Flood Fund Cabaret” was held on August 27 at the Gallagher Centre.

Yorkton Group Beauty for Ashes sang at a concert to benefit flood victims at the Heritage Baptist Church on the last weekend of August.

The implementation of Bike Lanes took place in August.

City Council approved in October the installation of six historical markers in the downtown area.

Regarding the old mill property: The wood structure elevator and other buildings were demolished on Friday Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>, except for the brick mill.

A Community Strategic Plan Conference was held at the Gallagher Centre on October 28-30.

The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program opened an office in Yorkton in October to deal with the flood claims process.

The Holy Trinity Anglican Church Women’s group held a Christmas Tea and Bazaar on Nov. 27.

In December, the Paper Bag Players performed at the Painted Hand Casino *The Long Weekend*, a comedy by Norm Foster.

In December, the Federal Government announced the Prairie Oat Growers Association was to receive \$1.8 million to develop new oat breeding varieties.

## **2011**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, Yorkton City Council heard from Economic Development Officer, Faisal Anwar of the city’s housing shortage compiled by the Housing Needs Assessment Study.

In January, Dolores Harris, Royal Bank Account Manager became President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Digital imaging, a new computer-based system, was installed at the Yorkton Regional Health Centre.

Kalyna Ukrainian Dance School held a Valentine Social & Dance at St. Mary’s Cultural Centre on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Heritage Canada Day was held at the Western Development Museum on February 20<sup>th</sup>. The theme was **100 years of Parks history in Canada**, and the 80<sup>th</sup> year of Saskatchewan’s Provincial Park system.

In April, the Yorkton Spring Expo was held at the Gallagher Centre. 161 Display Booths were booked for the event.

Y.U.M.M.Y. (Yorkton Understanding Minds of Many Youth) hosted the first Youth Summit in April – YouthSpeak 2011. It was an opportunity for youth to identify problems they see in the community and generate possible solutions.

The Royal Bank of Canada, a supporter of the Yorkton Film Festival, sponsored a bursary for the top emerging filmmaker.

A St. Patrick's Day Stew Supper was held at St. Andrew's United Church on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

In May, Municipal Heritage Advisory Subcommittee Chair, Gene Denischuk, presented the Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport, the Honorable Bill Hutchins, with a copy of "Pioneer Ways and Bygone Days" – a tour of the Old Town Centre of Yorkton.

The Disc Golf Course at Patrick Park was officially unveiled on Saturday, June 11, 2011. Course designer, Joe Hunt, attended the event and conducted an introductory session for residents.

In June, the Cavalier Sports and Social Club travelled from Regina to host the first Cricket Clinic.

The City received CIF funding of \$50,000 towards recreational multi-use pathway development along Mayhew Avenue.

An R.C.M.P. Appreciation and Recognition Event was held at the Western Financial Group City Centre Park on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

The Yorkton Film Festival launched the celebration of 65 years in October.

The City started working on a new commercial sub-division adjacent to the Tourism Centre in October.

The Boys & Girls Club hosted a mini kid's carnival and free movie for Halloween at Sacred Heart High School on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Yorkton Bantam Terriers appeared on CBC's "Hockey Night in Canada" in November.

The 2011 Farmer Recognition Award was presented to Blake and Nicole Frederickson of the Theodore district at the Grain Miller Harvest Showdown on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Yorkton Public Library housed in temporary quarters at the Parkland Mall after the July 2010 flooding has moved back to the Library building on Broadway Street and officially opened on December 14, 2011.

## **2012**

Samara Yung was named the 2012 Female Vocalist of the Year by the Saskatchewan Country Music Association in February.

The Queen Street Water Treatment Plant officially opened June 8, 2012 at a cost of 33 million. The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan each contributed 7.36 million through the Canada-Saskatchewan Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund and the Building Canada Fund Communities Component and the City of Yorkton 18.3 million. This is the largest municipal project to date in Yorkton's history.

The City of Yorkton concrete Skatepark was designed and constructed by Newline Skateparks Inc. and was completed in August 2012.

In August, former Yorkton Terrier Jarret Stoll, and Assistant Captain of the Los Angeles Kings brought the Stanley Cup home to Yorkton.

His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk, world head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church presided over a prayer service at St. Mary's in September 2012.

Bob Maloney was elected Mayor of Yorkton on October 24.

Yorkton Regional High School Robotics Team consisting of Jayden Leister, Bo Chiasson, Taylor Pachal and Rachael Machnee continues to bring home Gold. First at the Provincial Championship in Regina, then the national championship in Edmonton and at SkillsAmerica in Brazil in November. Bo and Jayden will be competing next at the WorldSkills global competition at Leipzig, Germany in July 2013.

The City of Yorkton received approval from the Saskatchewan Municipal Board for annexation of city owned lands within the RM of Orkney No. 244. This annexation will add 450 acres for industrial development and 400 acres for residential and some commercial development.

The City of Yorkton launched a new website "Moving to Yorkton" to assist newcomers to the city and those thinking of moving here. It includes everything from employment and educational opportunities, to health and retail services, housing and quality of life and maps of the community.

The City received \$250,000 for upgrades to the Yorkton Municipal Airport under the Federal Government Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF).

Cory Neifer was named to the 2012 Canadian Olympic Shooting Team, competing in the 2012 London games.

## **2013**

The Boys and Girls Club opened a new teen centre in Yorkton. The centre is open to teens age 13 – 18 years old.

On February 13<sup>th</sup> the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) announced the City of Yorkton as the winner of a 2013 Sustainable Communities Award, recognizing the City's new Water Treatment Plant. The award recognizes innovation and excellence in municipal sustainable development across Canada in water.

Yorkton Terriers win the Canalta Cup in game six of the League final against the Humboldt Broncos. The Terriers advanced to the Western Canada Cup in Nanaimo, BC.

On May 29<sup>th</sup> the City of Yorkton received national recognition for the Logan Green Water Management System from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA). Yorkton was presented with the 2013 Willis Award for Innovation, in the less than 20,000 population category, during CAMA's national conference in Victoria, BC.

Yorkton Municipal Airport receives \$150,000 through the provincial Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. The City of Yorkton will match that amount to go towards runway and taxiway repairs, drainage rehabilitation, fencing, and apron and taxiway expansion.

Tourism Yorkton releases a Community Action Plan that the organization hopes will “increase tourism revenues and visitation through managing and marketing the city as a tourism destination.”

The Farming for Health project utilized 750 acres of farmland donated by the City of Yorkton as well as numerous donations from others in the industry to farm a crop with all funds going to fund a new regional hospital.

Premier Brad Wall visits the city and attends a community BBQ on August 21 at City Centre Park.

The B17 Bomber - Sentimental Journey of the Commemorative Air Force visited Yorkton on August 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a barbeque, pancake breakfast, and on Saturday evening Yorkton’s All That Jazz Band performed during the Big Band Hangar Dance.

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the City of Yorkton was the recipient of a Saskatchewan Municipal Award for the Logan Green Water Management System – “an innovative, environmentally friendly, and cost-effective new water treatment plant that created 210 acres of green space while ensuring a 25-year supply of water for the city”.

Parkland College will be opening a new Trades and Technology Centre in the city after Premier Brad Wall announced that the province will be providing \$10 million in funding.

On December 12<sup>th</sup> the City of Yorkton’s Logan Green Water Management System won a Utility Excellence Award for Innovative Technologies in the medium/small utility category. The award was presented to Environmental Services Director Michael Buchholzer by the Canadian Water & Wastewater Association (CWWA) in Ottawa.

The City of Yorkton Logan Green Water Management System received the 2013 APEGS Environmental Excellence Award from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan. It is given in recognition of exceptional achievements by an individual or team in the application of engineering, geological and/or geophysical methods related to environmental protection and preservation.

## **2014**

New mixed density 13.7 hectare residential development (York Colony phase 2) was approved for sale January 15.

The Grey Cup, accompanied by 14 members of the 2013 Saskatchewan Roughriders Grey Cup team visited Yorkton January 17 signing autographs at the Coop Food Store followed by a basketball game at the YRHS gym.

Yorkton’s Sobeys’s Grocery Store closed at Parkland Mall March 20.

Yorkton City Council took over responsibility for the Yorkton Airport Authority in February, replacing the previous Volunteer Board, which had one council representative.

The need for replacement of Broadway Streets aging infrastructure was emphasized at a special public meeting Feb 5. The estimated \$45 M project would see almost the entire length of Broadway, from Highway 9 in the east to Highway 10 on the west side completely rebuilt.

Council approved plans for a new 80 unit Seniors Assisted Living Facility at 348 Morrison Drive in February.



The deep freeze of Winter 2014 and relatively low snowfall combined to cause an abnormally large number of problems with residential water pipes and sanitary sewers freezing. By March 6 there had been 75 complaints of residential water service freezes compared to between three and five in a normal year.

In March City Council provided \$100,000 as start-up funding for the Habitat for Humanity Restore in the city. The money is in the form of a five year interest free loan, with annual repayments to start in 2015. Restore opened in July.

Home Hardware received approval in March for a major expansion at its downtown location. Trevor Morrissey was named as Yorkton's new Fire Chief effective March 19.

Snow removal costs for 2014 were the highest in history at \$873,000, some \$375,000 over budget. Those additional costs were a major contributor to a budget deficit of \$175,049. The shortfall was covered by reducing planned transfers to reserves and creation of an ongoing rainy day fund.

On March 31 Yorkton Fire Protective Services unveiled their new \$665,000 pumper truck, Engine # 3, as part of their normal pumper truck replacement program.

Local Contractor Logan Stevens Construction was awarded the contract for construction of the new Parkland College Trades and Technology Centre.

A full marketing package including Economic and Community profiles, videos and USB's was created to attract investors and labour to the City. The City received two national awards for the package from the Economic Development Association of Canada.

The City participated in a two day National Job Fair and Training Expo in Toronto in April, to create awareness of labour needs in the city and region. This was a first for Yorkton, which was among only three other cities represented at the event. An estimated 700 individuals visited the booth for information.

The \$3.3 M Dracup Avenue Channel upgrade contract was awarded to Unger Construction in April. The contract included storm water mains, water mains, sanitary sewer mains, drainage channel and roadway construction including the intersection with York Road. An additional \$3M was later added to the budget for work necessary for Dracup Corridor reconstruction.

Saskatchewan's Ministry of Central Services announced a \$900,000 refit to Yorkton's 93 year old Courthouse in April.

The sod was turned May 13 for the new Parkland College Trades and Technology Centre. The centre is projected to become the cornerstone for the region in terms of education and training young people for jobs here at home. The City contributed 20 acres valued at \$3.8M in land to kick start the project in 2012.

Prospective local nursing students can now complete all four years of their Bachelor of Nursing degree at Parkland College. A new Agricultural Operator program was also launched at the college with three modules covering seeding, spraying and scouting and harvest, and a Power Engineering Lab will also open in 2015.

Yorkton Terriers won the Royal Bank Cup as Junior "A" Canadian champions, beating Carleton Place Ontario in overtime in May, after winning both the SJHL Championship and Western Canada Cup.

Yorkton's Official Community Plan, Our City Our Future was adopted by Council in June following a public review process. The plan provides a vision and broad structure for how Yorkton should develop over the next 25 years.

Yorkton received \$36,000 in provincial infrastructure funding for airport runway and taxiway repairs and drainage.

Richardson Oilseeds expanded its crush capacity by 25% to 3,000 tonnes of canola per day.

The Brick Mill in Yorkton had a new roof installed in June and fundraising continues for additional ongoing preservation work.

Logan Green Trout Pond was stocked with trout June 6.

City Manager David Putz retired in July after nine years in the position.

The City held the first “Don’t Bag It - Mulch It” contest to promote mulching grass clippings rather than disposing of them in residential waste.

Deer Park Golf Course received a major equipment upgrade in June and has initiated an ongoing fleet replacement program.

Council voted in June to continue accepting garbage from neighboring municipalities.

The City continued with its annual park parties in June at Silver Heights and Patrick Park.

Council approved the City’s first Off Leash Dog Park in June.

Investment in storm water infrastructure including three new retention ponds paid dividends to the community during the July 1 intense rain event. Over 100 mm of rain was recorded over the weekend. Although there was substantial flooding in the city, damage was greatly reduced.

Over 800 PDAP Provincial Disaster Assistance Program forms were filled out for the Yorkton area following the “one in 100 year” rain event July 1.

Lonnie Kaal was appointed Yorkton’s new City Manager effective August 4.

Habitat for Humanity turned over the keys to their fourth build in the city.

Yorkton worked with the City of Regina to determine the feasibility of using Regina’s Open System Content Management System for a new Yorkton website to be designed in 2015.

Council approved a 6% tax hike for 2015 in September.

The Hamilton Road/Highway 9 intersection was re-developed to increase turning radiuses for trucks, improve safety for both vehicles and pedestrians and included new traffic and street lighting. The \$487,000 project was completed in October.

The City began investigating Transportation needs and growth opportunities with Regina consultant John Law, and conducted 12 in depth interviews with major business players in the City and surrounding region as part of the study. A report is expected in 2015.

Farming for Health raised \$261,000 in net revenue for the Health Foundation through land donated by the City of Yorkton.

Yorkton MLA Greg Ottenbreit was promoted to cabinet as Minister of Rural and Remote Health in October.

An explosion at Luis Dreyfus Commodities meal pellet storage shed October 24 could be felt up to seven kilometers from the City. There were no life-threatening injuries.

Yorkton Housing Corporation held the official sod turning in November for Fromm Manor, a new housing complex for mentally challenged individuals, those with long-term mental illness and those with an acquired brain injury.

Harry Wilkins was hired in November as Deputy Fire Chief, Prevention and Inspections.

Canada Post announced an end to home delivery in Yorkton in November.

Yorkton Plumbing and Heating took top prize as Saskatchewan Business of the Year in November.

A tender for \$1,378,997 was awarded in November for construction of a water trunk line for Phase 3 of the York Colony residential development.

Ray Malinowski, Chairman of Leon's Mfg company and Ram Industries Inc was awarded a lifetime membership by the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce.

Two teenagers received certificates and medallions from the Fire Department for rescuing a man from a burning vehicle November 25.

Firefighters received a new three year contract for 2013-15 through arbitration. Increases were awarded of 6%, 6% and 6.1 % over the three years of the contract.

Fifty residents were displaced in a fire December 2 that destroyed Yorkton Manor Apartments, formerly the historic Queen Victoria Hospital. Volunteer organizations, residents and City departments were quick to step up to help those affected rebuild their lives.

The City's IT strategic Plan was adopted by Council in December.

A collision between a semi trailer truck and CP rail Freight Train delayed a response to a deadly two vehicle crash which killed one person December 8th.

A new Asset Management Policy was rolled out in December.

Yorkton hosted its first Canadian Open Curling Grand Slam Championship in December with Brad Gushu of Newfoundland taking the Men's title and Eve Muirhead's Scottish team taking the women's title.

## **2015**

The Health Foundation reported some 5000 donations in 2015, with \$538,000 funding new equipment and \$340,000 put aside to fund a new hospital.

The City forwarded a request for funding to the Building Canada Fund for the estimated \$52.5 million reconstruction of Broadway Street. The project would only move forward if the cost is shared equally by the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

A request for Building Canada \$21.4 million in funding for the Integrated Commercial Transportation Project (ICTP) was approved by Council at the January 26 Council meeting. The ICTP consists of several multiyear projects focused on transportation infrastructure corridor improvements throughout the city, particularly focused on Grain Millers Drive.

In March the City submitted a 5-year capital plan to the federal government as part of the Gas Tax Fund requirement. The City receives approximately \$900,000 annually through this grant, which goes towards improvements in road reconstruction, drainage improvements and street lighting.

Mosaic Company announced a \$1.7 B expansion for their K3 mine in Esterhazy and this is good news for Yorkton, said Mayor Bob Maloney. One Hundred and thirty-three of the company's permanent employees and their families already live in Yorkton and expansion is anticipated to be very good for the local economy.

Councillor Randy Goulden was unanimously endorsed by City Council to stand for election to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors for the 2015 -17 term.

The city's research and data assistant Rachel Leshchyshyn took home the Support Employee Award at the biannual Chamber of Commerce Employee Recognition Awards event March 31.

At the April 13 Council Meeting Finance Director Shannon Bell reported the City realized a revenue surplus of \$506,000 for 2014. Council approved transferring the surplus to various City reserve accounts.

Yorkton hosted the first "Three Councils Meeting" April 15, gathering the councillors from the City and the RM's of Wallace and Orkney to discuss areas of mutual concern. The meeting was arranged by City Manager Lonnie Kaal to foster cooperation in working on common issues, such as highways and infrastructure, drainage and development.

Installation of a new 500 mm water main along Broadway Street East began the first week of May.

The province approved spending to a maximum of \$1.9M for reconstruction of Hwy 10 between Mayhew and Highway 9 under the province's Urban Connector Program. The City will pay the remaining portion of the total \$2.5M cost of the project. The roadway was deemed by the Public Works Department to be one of those in the worst condition throughout the city and was a priority for repair based on traffic volumes.

Yorkton received \$41,140 in provincial funding for the Yorkton Regional Airport in May, through the Community Airport Partnership Program.

A media event at the Logan Green trout pond, stocked by the City in 2015, showcased the success of the program. Both the Mayor and local fisherman Patrick Thompson caught fish that had successfully overwintered in the catch and release pond.

The new \$720,000 Century Field Community Clubhouse opened in June. The City of Yorkton donated up to a maximum cost of \$60,000 for the water and sewer installation.

Wiggly Field Dog Park officially opened June 7.

A Master Composter workshop was conducted in Yorkton June 13-14 as part of a city wide effort to reduce compostable materials ending up in the landfill.

The City identified potential capital projects amounting to some \$60 M over the next 15 years to meet the looming shortfall in infrastructure renewal, according to the City's Director of Finance Shannon Bell.

A twenty-nine rental unit complex opened in the city in July, twenty-two of which are subsidized under the Federal/Provincial Capital Rent Subsidy Program. The City provided tax abatements for the property for five years. This complex is an extension of the Allanbrooke Apartments located at 44 Allanbrooke Drive.

Canada Post began breaking ground on new community mailboxes throughout the city.

City Council approved a total expenditure of \$6,437,500 for renewal of Dracup Avenue North and South infrastructure, including a roundabout at the Dracup Avenue and Darlington Street intersection, at the July 13 Council meeting.

Yorkton crime severity ranking dropped significantly for the third year in a row, from 20<sup>th</sup> in Canada in 2013 to 34<sup>th</sup> in 2014.

Parkland College announced that it will offer a new four-year Bachelor of Indigenous Education program at the Yorkton campus.

New high luminosity lighting was installed in the Gallagher Centre parking lot in September. YBID presented the City with \$50,000 to cover half the cost of the new Gallagher Centre parking lot lighting.

Concrete paving, a first for Yorkton, continued on the reconstructed Highway 10 East (Broadway Street East) in October.

The old curling rink at Tupper Avenue and South Front Street burned to the ground October 8 and the fire is the subject of a criminal investigation.

George Gallagher renewed his naming rights sponsorship for the Gallagher Centre with a \$500,000 donation over the next ten years.

TA Foods received the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce ABEX award for Growth and Expansion in November.

Council discussed the 2016 Operating and Capital budgets December 14 which could see a hike of 3.9% if passed. The budget was tabled for decision to the January 11 meeting.

The Pinty's Grand Slam of curling event was held in Yorkton December 8 – 13 and was a huge success for the community. The City sponsored the Steve Laycock team in the Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling event.

## **2016**

Council approved the 2016 Capital and Operating budgets January 11. Property taxes will increase 3.9 %, with 3.0% going to funding capital infrastructure improvement projects and 0.9 % to fund ongoing city operations.

The Canadian Junior Girls Golf Championship in 2015 was a large success in terms of operations and made a profit of \$10,000, which was donated to the Deer Park Golf Course in 2016. This was the first national golf championship held in Yorkton and all provinces were represented. The top two players were from Vancouver, B.C.

Yorkton Arts Council celebrated their 50th anniversary in February with a special concert.

Council adopted a fire protection plan at the February 22 Council meeting that sustains the current compliment of 16 full-time firefighters and establishes a minimum of four full time firefighters on duty at all times. The number of temporary firefighters will be increased from four to 24, while also increasing their roles and responsibilities.

Fromm Manor, 11 Tupper Avenue, made up of 11 affordable rental units for individuals with complex needs was completed in February.

The City's Director of Finance reported a net surplus of \$418,697 in 2015.

The Trans Canada trail will be expanded throughout the city this year, with plans to complete the trail across the country prior to the Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2017.

The City joined the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in supporting implementation of a six year, \$19.M program to strengthen Ukraine's municipal sector in areas of democracy, economic development and entrepreneurship. The program is funded by Global Affairs Canada.

Fire destroyed the Parkland Greenhouse May 6<sup>th</sup>.

A new landfill cell was approved by council to be constructed in 2016 to meet future needs, as the existing landfill cell reaches capacity.

Council increased 2016 mill rates by 0.20 mills for residential properties and 1.52 mills for commercial properties.

Five hundred fingerling rainbow trout were released into the city's Logan Green Pond in early June to ensure future stocks of fish for catch and release fishermen to enjoy. The pond is part of the Logan Green Water Management area for which the city received numerous awards over the past several years.

Pedestrian countdown signals were installed at three Broadway Street intersections downtown in June to provide safer crossings for residents.

Some 70 individuals attended an Open House July 11, as part of the Yorkton Regional Transportation Study. The study, geared to assess current and future transportation needs in the region, is a partnership of the City of Yorkton, the RM's of Orkney and Wallace and the provincial Ministry of Highways.

The city announced in July that it had joined the SaskAlert public emergency alerting program, and that smart phone apps which provide real time alerts were now available to download.

Mayhew Avenue between Broadway Street and Morrison Drive officially opened July 29, following reconstruction of the underground infrastructure and road bed, and installation of a new concrete roadway. This was the second concrete roadway installed in the city, following a section of Broadway Street East in 2015.

Sixty mm of rain fell on Yorkton July 31 in less than an hour, leading to flooding in several areas of the city and particularly on Broadway Street, where several businesses were closed for a significant period while cleaning up. The city applied for designation as an eligible community under the Provincial Disaster Relief Program.

The Public Works Dept. identified 11 problem areas affected by rain events for Council at the August 22 meeting including: Gladstone and Booth Street; Maple Avenue, Smith Street to Broadway Street; Circlebrooke, the entire area south of Lakeview; Marquis Cres. North, west leg; Independent and James Ave.; Independent and Haultain; York Road and Dracup intersection; Fifth Avenue North from Darlington to Henderson; Dunlop Street East from 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.; Madge Way and Pheasant Cove; Aspen Place and Tamarack Cove. Two main problem areas were identified, including the storm pipes under Highway #9, which are already scheduled for replacement in the 2017 budget, and the Victoria Ditch system, which will be cleaned this year to improve storm water flow. Council approved funding of \$100,000 for a city wide storm sewer modeling system to test potential remedies to ensure they will work before implementation at the August 22 meeting.

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways agreed to fund 72.5% (\$688,750) of a project to reconstruct the intersection of Broadway Street and Highway # 9. City Council agreed to fund the remaining 27.5% (\$261,250) of project costs.

Staff Sgt. Jeff Simpson took over as Yorkton City RCMP detachment commander August 22, replacing Staff Sgt. Greg Nichol who retired.

A moderate 3.8 on the Richter scale earthquake hit 32 km southwest of Yorkton at 4:40 am September 5<sup>th</sup>. The region has experienced 11 similar quakes since 1981, but those of this scale do not generally cause damage.

Yorkton Fire Chief Trevor Morrissey held a news conference seeking to recruit paid on-call firefighters to beef up response capacity for major emergency events.

A switching error caused five rail cars containing canola oil to derail north of York Road at Gladstone Ave. September 13. There were no leaks or danger to the public, but the crossing was blocked for several days while crews repaired the track.

Yorkton Legion members voted to sell their building in September in the wake of declining revenues and the need for extensive upgrades to the building.

Four individuals registered to run for Mayor and 24 individuals for the six Council positions in the October 26 Municipal election.

The City and its 63 members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees signed a new four-year contract, with unionized employees receiving an average 1.78 per cent annual wage increase for the duration of the contract. A new wage scale based on competencies was established to bring more pay equity among certain positions that were unrelated but require similar levels of skill and certification. The city's 120 non-unionized employees will receive the same wage increase.

Bob Maloney was returned as Mayor with Councillor Randy Goulden the only incumbent councillor reelected. Five new Councillors were elected including Quinn Haider, Aaron Kienle, Darcy Zaharia, Mitch Hipplesley and Ken Chyz. 4,819 ballots were cast in the election, compared to 4,185 in 2012. The new Yorkton Council was officially sworn in November 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Yorkton Film Festival received the Saskatchewan Arts Award for Leadership in November, with Council agreeing to display the award at City Hall.

Council approved purchase of new single head 15-minute parking meters on downtown streets and multi-space pay stations to replace meters in the cities four downtown parking lots. The cost of the new meters and pay stations was estimated at \$50,000.

Mayor Bob Maloney was elected Vice President of Cities and Chair of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) Mayor's Caucus in November, at the annual SUMA conference.

The city was presented with a cheque for \$88,573.52 November 21, by various Deer Park Golf Club organizations, for construction of new tee boxes at the city owned facility.

Council approved the new Yorkton Regional Planning District Plan December 12. Members of the planning district include the RM's of Orkney and Wallace, the York Lake Regional Park Authority and the City of Yorkton.

Public Works Director Trent Mandzuk advised Council December 12 that administration is taking a fresh look at service levels provided to maintain gravel roads within the city. He said gravel roads are underfunded, with the city's portion of York Lake Road being the most controversial and problematic due to heavy usage.

## **2017**

Council voted January 9<sup>th</sup> to hold Council meetings every three weeks rather than every two (as had been the tradition for some time), and increase the number of strategic planning meetings of Council and Administration. There will now be 17 regular Council meetings and 9 Strategic Planning Meetings throughout the year.

Council adopted a new Code of Ethics Bylaw in January which defines how members will act when dealing with other members of Council, municipal employees and the public, and provides a process to deal with contraventions.

A news conference January 17<sup>th</sup>, plus a recent water service break in front of City Hall, were used to highlight problems with aging water infrastructure in Yorkton. The problems become more apparent in winter and during periods of extreme temperature change, as experienced this year. There are 200 km of water lines in the City, 1800 valves used to isolate water service when breaks occur, and 6200 residential and commercial service connections in the Yorkton.

A multi-year Flood Mitigation Plan for Yorkton was presented to City Council at the January 30 regular meeting. The plan involves 12 major projects designed to relieve flooding in the 11 main problem areas. These areas were identified by specialized software using historical data, and demonstrated the effects of potential solutions. Council resolved to defer this report to 2017 budget deliberations.

Council approved an updated, comprehensive Traffic Bylaw at their January 30 regular meeting. The bylaw includes: a new Snow Route Parking Ban, which when declared, prohibits parking on designated routes for three days or until snow is cleared; prohibits pushing snow from private property onto City property and includes potential fines for contravention; prohibits school bus parking on City streets at any time; sets a new two-hour limit on weekday downtown parking; increases parking permit fees; requires construction trailer permits on a per-trailer basis; and makes bike helmets mandatory within city limits.

The 2016 Census shows moderate growth for the City of 4.3%, although the total population figure of 16,343 is considerably lower than the 20,000 figure (based on health region coverage) that the City normally uses.

Draft 2017 Capital and Operating Budgets, including a proposed 6.68% tax increase, were presented to Council at their regular February 21 meeting. The draft budgets were posted on line to solicit public feedback.

Land designated for a new city cemetery was released for other uses by Council in February, following a recommendation from the Community Development, Parks and Recreation Department. Council was told recent expansion work at the existing cemetery will meet the community's needs for decades to come.



The 2017 Property Tax assessments by the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) resulted in a controversial average increase of 25% in assessments for Yorkton residential property owners. Information (including calculations) was provided in the local newspaper and on the City Website.

Yorkton Mayor Bob Maloney, with Melville Mayor Walter Streelasky and Langenburg Mayor Don Fogg held a news conference in Yorkton March 27<sup>th</sup> to protest Provincial cuts to municipal funding, particularly urban centres. The loss to Yorkton could total \$2.3 million from the cancellation of Payments in Lieu of Revenue (for power and energy assets and subsequent revenue, turned over to the province in the 1940's and 50's and granted in perpetuity) and reductions in the level of PST revenue sharing. Yorkton would see the highest per capita loss of revenue of any provincial city, due to a larger industrial sector relative to population.

After the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting, Mayor Bob Maloney announced that the province capped the amount of losses through cuts to Payments in Lieu to Yorkton at 30%, but this still translated into a tax increase of 6.6 % just to cover the shortfall in revenues. City Manager Lonnie Kaal noted that efficiencies had already been implemented in the previous year's budget, including reducing administration costs by 10% and therefore the only options are to reduce service levels or eliminate or postpone some planned infrastructure projects. The overall loss in funding due to the provincial budget amounted to \$2,279,242 when reductions to revenue sharing, increases to PST and losses to the Payments in Lieu agreements with SaskPower and SaskEnergy are factored in.

Council approved a long-term loan of \$6,200,000 over 10 years to cover reconstruction and underground infrastructure on Dracup Avenue from Broadway Street to York Road. Storm water lines along Dracup are key to drainage throughout the City and some sections date back to 1910.

Yorkton Council unanimously supported a commercial and/or light industrial subdivision on Highway 52 West being planned by the RM of Orkney.

Yorkton Library announced emergency measures, cutting staff and services, following a 58% reduction in funding in the Provincial Budget.

City Council approved a 9.46% tax increase, of which 6.25% was a result of provincial budget implications and the combined loss of funding of some \$1,275,542. The decision was made at the April 24<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Council also decided to reduce the commercial to residential tax rate ratio to 2.37 times, from 2.93 times in 2016, to be more equitable and comparable to other Saskatchewan urban centres. 2017 was an assessment re-evaluation year for property and commercial property tax assessments rose dramatically compared to all other assessments.

A medical marijuana growing operation was announced for Yorkton in May. Canopy Growth Corporation will occupy the old Dairy Producers building on York Road and will employ between 40 and 50 people.

The Stats Canada Census indicates Yorkton had a higher population of people under the age of 15 and lower percentage of those over 65 in 2016, compared to the 2011 Census.

Administration reported a \$406,000 budget surplus for 2016 at the May 15<sup>th</sup> regular Council meeting. Operations expenditures were down \$239,260 and savings in capital expenditures and increased revenue from other sources led to the surplus. This was despite significant losses in revenue from property assessment appeals.

The City RCMP Detachment launched a program in May to have police cars equipped with an automated External Defibrillator. The first four units were sponsored by The City of Yorkton, YBID, the Yorkton Lions Club and Yorkton Dairy Queen.

Council decided at the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to replace the current courtesy flag raising program at City Hall Park with an enhanced proclamation process and a photo opportunity with Council. At the same time, it was decided to permanently fly the Treaty 4 Flag on the former courtesy flagpole and erect a new pole to fly the RCMP flag at the corner of Third Avenue and Smith Street, adjacent to the RCMP detachment.

Yorkton celebrated Canada 150 on July 1<sup>st</sup> with events at the Western Development Museum and Fireworks at the Gallagher Centre.

The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) discussed the large increases in assessments, particularly to businesses, at a July meeting hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. Residents voiced concerns about the increases and the two year lag in the assessment system which created uncertainty. City Manager Lonnie Kaal said in some cases assessments doubled.

The 106<sup>th</sup> Saskatchewan Amateur Golf Championship was held in Yorkton for the first time. The July event included eight Yorkton and area golfers.

The inaugural Rhythm and Ribs Competition and fundraiser for the Health Foundation drew some 15,000 people to the event in July.

A murder in 2016 led to a jump in the crime severity index for Yorkton over the previous year. One serious crime has a significant impact on the numbers, according to Yorkton RCMP Detachment staff Sargent Jeff Simpson.

Council approved the concrete resurfacing of the intersection of Highway 9 and Broadway Avenue in August. The turning lane from Broadway to Highway 9 will be completed in 2017 and the remainder of the intersection will be done in 2018. Total cost for the project as tendered is \$1.4 M, with the province paying \$688,000 under the Highways Department Urban Connector Program.

New pathway construction along both Dracup Avenue and Mayhew Avenue was approved by Council at their August 28<sup>th</sup> regular Council meeting. Some work will be done in 2017, the remainder in 2018. The budget estimate for the work was \$534,190.

The new Roundabout at Dracup Avenue and Darlington Street was completed and opened the first week of September.

City Council approved of allowing for the installation of a Royal Canadian Legion monument and time capsule on City property adjacent to the Cenotaph. The monument and time capsule are from the old Legion Headquarters on Broadway Street.

The Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID) opened a new outdoor seating area at the Gallagher Centre in October, valued at \$35,000. This includes tables and chairs with inlaid checker Boards, and is part of YBID's Canada 150 Celebrations.

The City adopted a new Citizen Recognition Awards Program at the October 30<sup>th</sup> regular Council meeting, replacing the Meritorious Service Awards Policy in place since 2007. The new program will present two awards annually commencing in 2018, the Adult Civic Recognition Award and the Youth Civic Recognition Award.

A new Snow Route Parking Ban policy was implemented for the 2017-18 snow season in November. Red Routes mark main arterial routes throughout the City, while the Blue route encompasses the downtown area. Once a parking ban is declared it will be in force for 72 hours or until the snow is cleared.

Council approved an updated purchasing policy November 20<sup>th</sup> to adopt “best value” rather than just “best pricing” when weighing tenders for goods and services. Three quotes will be required for anything costing more than \$7500, while spending limits for departments, before the need to have Council’s approval, rise from \$200,000 to \$350,000.

The CP Holiday train made its first ever stop in Yorkton December 4<sup>th</sup> with hundreds of residents turning out for the event. Money and food was donated at the event to the Salvation Army Food Bank including a donation of \$4,000 from Canadian Pacific Railways.

Yorkton’s Canada 150 Mural was unveiled at the Gallagher Centre December 17. The mural is composed of over 1000 individual tiles created by local artists, students and volunteers.

## **2018**

In January, thirteen new solar powered 15-minute parking meters were installed in various locations in the downtown section of the City while pay stations were installed in the four City owned parking lots downtown.

Council passed a new property standards bylaw in January.

Mayor Bob Maloney said at the annual SUMA Convention in February he was hopeful the province would re-establish the Grants (Payments) in Lieu Agreements to affected municipalities following their termination last year. He indicated The Payments in Lieu should be called franchise fees, as they were an annual payment in lieu of lost revenue generated through local power production, which was turned over to SaskPower. Yorkton lost over \$1 million in annual funding through cancellation of the 60 year-old agreement with the City, while cities like Swift Current, who didn’t sign over local power generation rights, generate some \$4 million annually for their community.

Yorkton Heritage Researcher Terri Lefebvre Prince spoke about the British Commonwealth Air Training base in Yorkton and its place in local history, during Heritage Day at the Western Development Museum in February.

Council approved the 2018 Budget at their February 26 Council Meeting, including a 2.77 percent increase for future capital expenditures and 1.78 percent for operational expenses. \$22,699,450 goes toward completing projects from the previous year, \$852,000 to projects fully funded by reserves, grants and long term loans, and \$6,030,600 for projects that will be funded through 2018 taxation revenue. Proposed projects included repaving Broadway Street; completion of a concrete intersection at Highway 9 and Broadway; the North of York Road sewer trunk and storm channel, plus a bridge over Highway 9 to replace aging culverts; a new engineered landfill pit and landfill bridge; a pedestrian bridge for the Dracup pathway; and a new spray park at Ukrainian Pioneer park.

Council approved the tender for resurfacing Broadway Street at the April 2 meeting. Although the entire street needs rebuilding from the underground infrastructure up, the cost was estimated at over \$52 million in 2014. With no cost sharing funding from the provincial or federal governments, it was decided to only resurface the street due to its deteriorating condition. The first stage of resurfacing Broadway street west was completed ahead of schedule in June with work moving on to the second of three stages to the project. Broadway Street West resurfacing from James Avenue to Barbour Avenue was completed on schedule July 18.

Relatedly, the new concrete Broadway Street and Highway 9 intersection opened ahead of schedule, in time for the July Long Weekend.

The City’s Animal Control, Cat Control and Dangerous Dog Bylaws were combined and streamlined into a single Animal Control Bylaw by Council in April.

The Leech Lake Water Line from Queen Street heading south along York Lake Road was replaced in April.

Council approved an administrative recommendation in April to freeze general rates at Deer Park Golf Course at 2017 levels, while reducing both the New Adult, Young Adult and Twilight rates.

After the Provincial budget was finalized, Mayor Bob Maloney credited the provincial government for consulting cities prior release of their annual budget, but criticized the fact that the Payments in Lieu agreements, which stipulated cities subject to the agreements were to receive five percent of revenues generated by SaskPower and SaskEnergy in those communities in perpetuity, were not reinstated. Yorkton had receive \$1.7 million through those agreements annually and even with some concessions made by the province last year, will continue to see a revenue loss of \$1 million each year.

A fire destroyed a large brick warehouse on Smith Street June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Council invited public feedback on zoning issues related to retail sales for cannabis resulting from its legalization in Canada in October 2018. Yorkton will have two legal cannabis dispensaries.

Council approved changes to a bylaw governing shipping containers (seacans) within City limits at the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Seacans may continue to be temporarily placed in any zoning district for construction, renovation, loading or unloading purposes, but will be treated like buildings if remaining in certain designated commercial or industrial areas on a permanent basis. This follows a change in provincial legislation earlier in the year.

The city unveiled a new \$5.6 million landfill cell in July, which will open in the Fall. The size of six football fields, the landfill will have a total size of 250,000 cubic meters and will also serve a number of surrounding towns and municipalities on a fee for service basis.

In early July a semi-trailer was torn in half crossing the CP Rail tracks on Highway 9 near King Street. City EMS crews attended the scene and traffic was rerouted from the area for some time. The train was not derailed and there were no serious injuries.

In July, Greyhound Bus lines announced closure of passenger bus service in the Prairies effective October 31, 2018. This was the last bus passenger service available to Yorkton residents following the shutdown of the Saskatchewan Transportation Company (STC) last year.

Council unanimously supported replacement of the Ravine Boardwalk Bridge in July for a cost of \$100,000. A Trans Canada Trail capital grant of \$35,000 was obtained to put toward the cost of replacing the flood-damaged bridge. The new Boardwalk at the Ravine Ecological Preserve was opened October 22. Designed to rise and fall with water levels in the creek, ramps at both ends also make it easily accessible to the nature trails in the area, which are part of the Trans Canada Trail system.

Council approved a bylaw increasing the cost to homeowners for repair or replacement of service connections to residential property. Aging infrastructure and service leaks have cost the city \$500,000 for service connection replacement over the past year. When combined with improved, but more costly engineering standards (which provide a better product with a considerably improved lifespan), it was apparent service connection costs needed to be increased.

Council approved fixing the ongoing drainage problem in the Whitesand Drive area in July for a cost of \$700,000. In November, Council voted to draw \$500,000 from the City's 2019 Capital Budget to cover higher than expected costs for this project.

LEGO construction artist Kelly Litzenberger held a well-received show of Lego re-creations of many of Yorkton's historic buildings at the Godfrey Dean Art Gallery in July. Following the show the City purchased the City Hall model as a permanent display at City Hall.

Council appointed Yorkton's first Community Service Officer (CSO) in August. The new CSO has the authority to enforce the Highway Traffic Act, the All-Terrain Vehicle Act, the Snowmobile Act and all City Bylaws.

The Rotary Club of Yorkton donated three new benches on concrete pads along the Mayhew Avenue Pathway to the City.

A conciliator helped the City of Yorkton achieve a new six year contract with local firefighters. The agreement provides an annual wage increase of 2.54 per cent over six years, and allows the City flexibility to improve the current scheduling model while maintaining a full-time professional service.

During Fire Prevention Week in October, Yorkton Fire Protective Services reported they had responded to 36 fires to mid-October, 2018, and 26 of those fires were preventable. They had also conducted over 380 safety inspections of schools, businesses and apartment buildings over the past year.

Yorkton was chosen by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities as one of two communities to participate in the four year Jordan Municipal Support Project earlier this year. Yorkton was chosen because of its expertise in solid waste management, particularly given the influx of Syrian refugees experienced by Jordan. The first delegation from Yorkton spent 12 days in Jordan in October visiting their counterparts in the country, and sharing knowledge in areas like landfill development and potable water management.

Council approved upgrades to Holes 7 and 8 at Deer Park Golf Course in 2019, with the Deer Park Men's Club committing to pay \$135,000 toward the development costs.

Council approved an increase to remuneration for the Mayor and Council in November, following Federal legislation eliminating tax exemptions for Councillor's non-accountable expenses. Councillors do not receive remuneration for in-City expenses on City business and the change would have resulted in the Mayor facing a 13 per cent decrease in take home pay and Councillors a nine per cent reduction. The funding formula for the Mayor's salary was changed to 85 percent of an MLA's salary and Councillors remuneration at 30 per cent of that of the Mayor. This maintains the status quo in terms of take-home pay.

The Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID) announced in November that it will be donating \$100,000 this year and \$50,000 annually, to a maximum of \$500,000, towards pathway development, lighting and a pathway bridge along the Dracup Avenue corridor.

Yorkton Landfill began recycling grain bags December 1, joining over 20 other grain bag recycling centres across the province.

Nominations were open in October for Yorkton's first Citizen Recognition Awards. Bruce Thurston (Adult Category) and Maya Desmarais (Youth Category) were announced as the inaugural recipients of the City of Yorkton Citizen Recognition Awards Program.

The City launched a campaign to encourage more recycling in the City in August, as well as a survey to gather feedback on the existing residential recycling program. Changes to the City recycling program were announced at a media round-table at City Hall in late December. The city's recycling survey earlier in the year generated some 1,000 responses, and will be used to shape ongoing recycling programs in the City. In the meantime, the City will launch a new app in January which will let residents know their days for recycling and garbage pickup. It will also search specific items to determine if that item can be recycled in the curbside method or if it needs to be dropped off at a specific location. Also in January, all residents will be moved to a "same day" garbage and recycling calendar."

## 2019

The City continued the annual free Xmas Tree drop off and recycling centre at the Gallagher Centre throughout January.

A public meeting was held January 19 by interest groups to gauge support for a multi-use indoor turf facility.

The free Recycle Coach app was officially launched in January. Among many features it includes a personalized collection schedule, custom pickup reminders and a “What Goes Where” search tool.

Council approved the City’s 2019 Operating and Capital Budgets at the January 21 meeting. It included a 1.0 % increase for Capital projects and 1.9 % increase for Operations. The approved budget for all twenty-one 2019 Construction projects was \$22.9 million, including \$7.4 million in federal and provincial matching grants under the new Building Canada fund for critical infrastructure improvements. The upgrades covered by the federal and provincial funding include the North Sewer and Storm Water System from York Road to the Sewage Treatment Plant, a new bridge across Highway 9 replacing aging storm water culverts, and a new bridge into the Landfill. The Darlington Overpass will also be upgraded and a pedestrian bridge along Dracup Avenue will also be constructed. The other main construction project for the season will be the completion of resurfacing Broadway Street East from the CN tracks to Highway 9.

Council approved a new subdivision of property on the south-east side of the City, to allow Cowessess First Nation to apply for urban reserve status on a 2.00 acre lot owned by the band. The band opted to defer development of their adjacent 16.38 acres.

Yorkton’s second Community Safety Officer was sworn in at the January Council meeting.

The City launched its new updated Yorkton Transit Service at a news conference January 22, with a new look, new fixed routes and new 12 passenger transit vans. The objective was to streamline service to residents by replacing the old dial-a-bus service with fixed routes and schedules. The new service was to begin in February.

The City announced a new sponsorship agreement with Access Communications at a Feb 1 news conference. Under the five year arrangement, the water park at the Gallagher Centre will be renamed the Access Communications Water Park. The agreement is valued at \$130,000 over five years, and will provide improved Wi-Fi internet service through the entire Gallagher Centre complex.

Yorkton Municipal and Yorkton Rural RCMP amalgamated into a single detachment February 14. The move allowed resources to be combined, improved administrative efficiencies and will help to increase service delivery to Yorkton and the surrounding area.

The Pinty’s Meridian Open Grand Slam of Curling event was announced as returning to Yorkton in 2020. A destination event for many of the world’s top curlers, the event has huge economic and promotion spinoff for the City.

Council discussed the type of intersection necessary at Darlington Street and Mayhew Avenue when sections of both streets will be reconstructed. Administration favoured a roundabout in terms of long term maintenance and serviceability as development and density in the area increases. Council approved construction of the roundabout with pedestrian crossing lighting.

A special meeting of Council March 18 approved a tender from Accurate HD Ltd of New Bothwall, MB for \$3,486,926 for the North Sanitary Sewer System upgrades. The work will include a new high capacity storm water ditch system and new higher capacity underground wastewater line. The area of work extends northward from York Road and Dracup Avenue, then underneath Highway 9 to the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Council approved a tender of \$7,625,700 to Graham Construction and Engineering LP at their March 25 meeting for the 2019 Bridges project, which is associated with the North Sewer System Upgrades project. This project involves new bridges across Highway 9 and at the Landfill, plus upgrades to the Darlington Street Overpass and a new footbridge along the Dracup Avenue pathway.

At the same meeting Council awarded a contract for upgrades to the underground utilities on Circlebrooke Drive to Wyonzek Construction for their tender of \$633,748.68.

Council also awarded the 2019 paving contract of \$1,024,070 to Fedorowich Construction Ltd.

The federal government announced a one-time top-up to the gas tax fund for municipalities in March (an additional \$996,000). As a result Yorkton will receive \$1.8 Million in 2019 as opposed to the expected \$900,000. The Mayor said the additional funding means the City will need to borrow less money this year to complete needed streets and roads improvements.

The City is participating in a Federation of Canadian Municipalities Jordan Municipal Support Project in Jordan to help local government engage citizens by development of their Strategic Plans and to modernize solid waste infrastructure. Councillor Randy Goulden, Michael Buchholzer, Director of Environmental Services, Darcy McLeod, Director of CDP, Jessica Matsalla, Director of Legislation and Procedures, Aron Hershmillier, Assistant Director of Environmental Services, and Lisa Washington, Community Development Manager, have all spent time in Jordan working on the project to date.

During his annual “State of the City” address to the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce, April 29, Mayor Bob Maloney said Yorkton’s focus this year continues to be on improving aging infrastructure and drainage.

Council set the 2019 mill rate for taxes at their May 6 regular meeting. The average annual increase on a property valued at \$250,000 would be: \$145 for a commercial property; \$62.50 for a residential property; and \$55 for a unit in a multi-family high density property.

In May, Yorkton MLA Greg Ottenbreit and Mayor Bob Maloney announced 2019 provincial funding for Yorkton Regional Airport of \$257,760 through the Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. The funding will be used for runway rehabilitation.

Council approved a tender of \$771,053 from Fedorowich Construction for work on York Road east and adjacent service road improvements at their May 13 Council meeting.

Long time City Councillor Randy Goulden received the inaugural Saskatchewan Spirit Award at the YWCA Saskatoon Women of Distinction event May 21.

Construction of the North Storm Channel and Sewer Line Project from York Road to the Sewage Treatment Plant began in May.

In May, Council approved a tender for pathway development, upgrading gravel paths at Knights of Columbus and Silver Heights Parks as well as paving for a new outdoor skating rink at Ukrainian Pioneer Park.

In June, Council approved introduction and the public notification process for a Concept Plan for Cowessess First Nation development of a parcel of land in the Yellowhead commercial subdivision, next to Walmart. The first phase of the development is to include a gas station and administrative offices.

Yorkton Fire Protective Services responded to a collision of a Co-Op fuel truck and CP train at the rail crossing on Highway 9 near King Street July 25. Some 20,000 litres of fuel leaked from the truck, but crews were able to contain the spill and protect nearby water sources.

2018 Audited Financial Statements were approved at the August 19, 2019 Council meeting. The City has a debt limit of \$42,000,000, and with current total debt of \$14,670,741 that gives Yorkton a comfortable cushion of \$27,300,000 of debt limit available. The operating surplus for 2018 was \$33,372 which was transferred to reserves.

The new Harvest Grill was officially opened at the Gallagher Centre in early September, with Harvest Meats becoming the new sponsor of the existing concession. The event was live-streamed on the City Facebook page and the concession will now offer a wider variety of food choices and point of sale debit and credit card ability.

Yorkton RCMP and member agencies, including City By-Law Services and CN Police, held a public town hall in September. The idea was to encourage communication between the various agencies and the community. Some 50 individuals attended.

Council approved a contract in October with aodbt Architecture and Interior Design, to complete a schematic design for replacement the Kinsmen Arena at the Gallagher Centre. The contract also included holding a public open house and investigating the impacts of using field turf for the Nexera Flexihall.

Deer Park Men's Club repaid \$40,000 of an \$85,000 loan from the City last year for development of a new green at #7 hole at Deer Park. Repayment was scheduled over five years, but fundraising by the club allowed a much larger than expected repayment in the first year. In October, the Deer Park Senior Men's Club presented the City with \$8,000 to support cart paths at Deer Park Golf Course.

Repair and resurfacing of the Darlington Street Overpass was completed in late October. The Dracup Avenue Pathway Bridge was also completed in October, but pathway development associated with the project will not be completed until 2020. The new Landfill Bridge was also completed.

A new Federation of Canadian Municipalities Task force was announced in November, Chaired by Yorkton Councillor Randy Goulden. The task force is to foster dialogue between municipal governments and the federal government, and develop strategies to address the economic needs of communities across the three Prairie Provinces.

Taylor Greba was presented with the City's first Certificate of Achievement in November. The award is made to recognize citizens of extraordinary achievement, and Greba had recently won the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

An open house was held November 27 at the Gallagher Centre, to discuss a concept plan for a new Kinsmen Arena.

Council approved tendering for a new City Operations Centre at their December 2, 2019 meeting. The original building, constructed in the 1950's, has reached the end of its life, with cramped facilities for staff, no facilities for women, and a service shop no longer able to service some of the larger equipment like Firetrucks. In addition, recent environmental testing indicated hydrocarbon vapours exceeding regulated limits were leeching into the building. This made the need for replacement immediate.



The proposed 2020 budget was presented at the December 2 Council meeting and was made available for public scrutiny and comments. Taxes are to increase 2.9%, two per cent for ongoing operating expenses and .9 per cent for capital projects like streets and roads. The 2020 Operating and 2020/2021 Capital budgets were officially passed by Council at the December 16 meeting.

The CP Holiday Train visited Yorkton December 4, with hundreds of people crowding the staging area to hear the entertainers. \$4,000 was donated by CP to the Yorkton Salvation Army.

Winners of the Civic Recognition Award were announced at the December 16 meeting of Council. Mark Schendel was the winner in the Adult Category, with Connor Watrych getting the award in the Youth Category. The Soup Haven Lunch Program Inc. took the award in the new Group Category.

The City renewed its lease agreement with the Western Development Museum for 10 years in December.

The City and CUPE local 342 signed a new five-year agreement in December.

## **2020**

The 2019 Civic Recognition Awards were presented in January, this year going to Mark Schendel in the Adult Category, Connor Watrych in the Youth Category and the Soup Haven Lunch Program Inc. in the Group Category.

The Meridian Canadian Open Curling Event was held in Yorkton in January with 16 women's and 16 men's teams from across Canada competing. Over 180 volunteers from the community participated in the event, which drew large numbers of spectators to visit the city and patronize local hotels and businesses.

Morris Industries, a large and historic manufacturer of agriculture equipment in the city since 1960, filed for bankruptcy protection in January.

Crokieurl was a huge hit this winter at Heritage and Silver Heights Parks.

Council unanimously supported applying for a provincial grant to update Yorkton's Cultural Plan at their February meeting.

Snowarama raised over \$100,000 for individuals with disabilities in February.

The Royal Canadian Legion in Yorkton launched their Honour Our Veterans banner program with a presentation to City Council in March. The banners will be two sided, with a different veterans' photograph on each side. They will be placed on street light standards in the City's downtown core and along Darlington Street at the cenotaph.

Council unanimously approved the City's 5-year Capital Plan in March 2020, and an application for funding from the Federal Gas Tax fund - which normally amounts to \$950,000 annually.

Deer Park Golf Course was voted the 4<sup>th</sup> Best Value Golf Course in Canada, by Gold Advisor, a web site featuring golfers' reviews of courses across North America.

The City indefinitely closed all public facilities due to COVID-19 in mid-March, joining other cities and towns in their closure of municipal facilities. This included the Gallagher Centre, Kinsmen Arena, Gloria Hayden Community Centre and the Yorkton Public Library.

A wide range of businesses across the city closed their doors in late March, under a provincial mandatory closure order in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. Businesses considered essential, such as food and drug retailers, were allowed to remain open with restrictions.

On March 25, restricted access to all city facilities including City Hall was implemented, following a conference call of Council. Interest on all city accounts was deferred to June 30<sup>th</sup>. “We are doing everything we can to ensure the health and safety of our residents, and we will continue to follow the Province’s lead as we make our way through these difficult times,” said Mayor Bob Maloney. Staff will continue to work to keep essential services operational, garbage and recycling pickup will continue and the landfill will remain open. Yorkton Transit will continue operation. All meetings of the various sub-committees of Council were cancelled.

Reconstruction of Mayhew Avenue from Fietz to Darlington Street, a new roundabout at the intersection of Mayhew and Darlington, and reconstruction of Darlington Street from Mayhew to Dracup Avenue was approved by Council March 30<sup>th</sup>. The tender was for \$2.3 million. Council also earmarked \$1.2 million into roadway reserves for future maintenance and paving.

Plans to construct a new City Operations Centre housing both Public Works and Parks Departments, equipment and staff, was voted down by Council after discussion of tenders received on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The lowest tender was within the budget already approved for the project. The Project had been in the planning stages for roughly ten years but became a critical issue when environmental testing of the existing site revealed a high level of contamination from petroleum hydrocarbons. This necessitated relocation of City Staff. Other options for a new operations centre were requested.

A special meeting of Council convened by Mayor Maloney on April 3<sup>rd</sup> resulted in the City Operations Centre tender being approved, after costs were reduced by roughly \$1 M for the stockpile site and other expenditures. The total cost for the project is now \$18,730,000.00 excluding contingencies. Councillors Goulden, Kienle and Haider joined the Mayor in a majority of councilors approving the project.

Mayor Maloney provided the first COVID-19 Live Update on Facebook April 9 to reinforce provincial messaging and provide information on city related closures and COVID related initiatives. He emphasized the need to forgo big family gatherings for Easter and thanked all essential workers who are keeping things running through the pandemic. He announced interest on all City Accounts will be deferred to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Community Development, Parks and Recreation initiated programs to encourage physical activity outside during COVID and promoted them in the newspaper and on social media.

Five radio spots to increase awareness of COVID and of the need to follow health regulations during the pandemic, were recorded and aired for 10 days by the communications department. Each had a different message and were designed to appeal to various age demographics. They featured the Mayor, two Councillors, the Chamber of Commerce President, and the Student Council President from Yorkton Regional High School.

Council approved deferral of property tax payments to September 30, a moratorium on water disconnection for non-payment until June 30<sup>th</sup>, and waived most downtown parking fees at the April 20, 2021 regular Council meeting.

COVID Updates were published weekly on the City’s and Community Development, Parks and Recreation social media outlets, as well as in Yorkton This Week.

Phase 1 of the York Road Water Main Replacement program was approved by Council in May, as part of the annual water main replacement budget of \$707,700 in 2020. Over the past 5 years there has been a 150 percent

increase in water main breaks and a 363 percent increase in service connection breaks. This indicates the age of underground infrastructure. In 2019, \$340,000 was spent just fixing breaks to aging water mains.

In-class learning at schools was suspended until September and the annual Summer Fair was cancelled, both casualties of the pandemic.

Council set the mill rate at their May 11 meeting where an average residential property valued at \$250,000 will see a tax increase of \$86.25. An average commercial property valued at \$500,000 will see property tax increase by \$257.50.

The provincial government announced in late May that Yorkton will be receiving \$2.3 Million from the new Municipal Economic Enhancement Program. The funding is to support investments in infrastructure and stimulate economic recovery following the pandemic.

Yorkton Transit resumed their regular routes June 8<sup>th</sup> after some initial cutbacks due to COVID concerns.

The new # 7 hole at Deer Park Golf Club was opened in June, funded by the men's club. Total cost was \$140,000, with \$65,000 provided up front by the men's club and the remainder via an interest free loan to the club provided by the city.

The City of Yorkton and the Yorkton Arts Council sponsored a series of Sidewalk Concerts by local musicians every week from late June to August, as a way to provide some public entertainment during COVID-19 restrictions.

A Virtual Open House to seek public feedback for the Gallagher Centre Renewal Project was held between June 8<sup>th</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

A Yorkton Voter survey was conducted in June to seek input on how the upcoming Fall Civic election would be handled. This included accessibility during COVID, the number of polling locations and voting by mail-in ballots.

Council allocated \$2,384,953 of special provincial funding from the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program (MEEP) to asphalt overlay on roads, water main replacement and signage and beautification of the Broadway and Highway 9 intersection, a main entry point to the city.

The old Public Works Building on York road was demolished in June, to make way for the new City Operations Centre, which will combine the operations of both Public Works and Parks into one location.

Council approved digging a new water production well for the City, which will bring the total number of wells supplying water to the City to 14. The wells are located within six different aquifers surrounding the city.

Council decided to move to one polling station at the Gallagher Centre, from the normal three, for the fall municipal election. This followed results of a voter's survey conducted in June and concerns that providing protection to voters during the COVID 19 pandemic would be easier using only location. Sixty four percent of respondents supported using the mail-in ballot system. Four advance polls were approved, rather than the normal two, and for the first time two drive-through polls will be held at the Agriculture Pavilion adjacent to the Gallagher Centre. These new features were all designed to make voting easier and increase voter's safety during the pandemic.

Council approved a new comprehensive General Election Bylaw, combining several existing bylaws relating to elections into one. A Candidates Disclosure of Campaign Interests was a section added to the new bylaw to ensure a fair, transparent campaign is run by all candidates.

Yorkton Public Library continued to offer kids programming throughout the summer, both virtually and outside in parks and greenspaces.

The Parks Department hired a specialized contractor to conduct a Dutch Elm Disease Survey throughout the summer. They will identify all publically and privately owned elm trees in the community which show signs of the disease, and infected trees will be removed to limit the spread of the disease to healthy trees.

The Gallagher Centre hosted several Drive-In movies in the parking lot over the summer, sponsored by the City and the Legacy CO-OP.

The city approved free parking in city owned downtown parking lots over the summer to help draw customers to downtown businesses during COVID.

The RCMP across Saskatchewan and in Yorkton resumed limited front counter service August 4 for taking complaints, criminal record checks and collision reports. The service had been completely curtailed due to COVID-19 in March.

The Gallagher Centre reopened September 1 with COVID Compliant operations in both the waterpark and convention facilities.

Passing lanes on Highway 10 from Melville to Yorkton were completed in the summer and passing lanes from Yorkton to Canora got underway in August.

Long time Councillor and two term Mayor Bob Maloney announced in early September that he would not seek re-election. He was first elected as a Councillor in 2003.

The eighth Habitat For Humanity home in Yorkton was completed in September. The city has been involved in providing in-fill lots for many of the builds.

Councillor Aaron Kienle announced he will be running for Mayor in the fall election.

RE/MAX took over the naming rights for the sports lounge at the Gallagher Centre in September, it will now be called the RE/MAX Sports Lounge.

Advertising to solicit candidates and to promote applications for mail-in ballots for the Municipal election started in September, and a Candidate Information night was held at the Gallagher Centre September 17th.

Gloria Hayden Centre reopened under COVID Compliant conditions September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Masks were made mandatory for those entering the Kinsmen arena September 25th and using City Transit effective October 1st.

\$2.3 million in funding from the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program (MEEP) was announced by Mayor Bob Maloney and Yorkton MLA Greg Ottenbreit in September. The funding will go towards roadway rehabilitation (\$1.5 million), water main replacement (\$500,000) and the Broadway St. East Revitalization Project (\$348,000).

The Province announced \$19 million in funding for heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades at the Yorkton Regional High School in late September.

Yorkton RCMP detachment was closed temporarily to the public September 27 due to a local member testing positive for COVID 19. Fourteen officers and six civilian employees went under mandatory isolation for two weeks, with services being maintained with assistance from other detachments.

COVID infections started to occur throughout the city including Yorkton Regional High School, Yorkton Regional Health Centre and various businesses.

Councillor Mitch Hipsley announced a run for the Mayor's office in late September.

The City launched a new website in the fall, including a new election microsite for the November municipal election.

Council agreed to a 50-50 cost sharing agreement with the Yorkton Exhibition Association to upgrade the Grandstand at the Fairgrounds. The maximum budget for the project was expected to be \$600,000. Mayor Bob Maloney continued to give live COVID Updates to residents on Face book throughout the fall. He emphasized the need to follow provincial regulations and highlighting significant issues specific to Yorkton and to the operation of city facilities during COVID.

The Yorkton Flour Mill Society marked a milestone in October with the unveiling of a series of large interpretive signs at the mill site, showcasing both the Mill's and Yorkton's history.

In October, the City began the process to establish the Yorkton Public Library as a stand-alone municipal library, departing from the Parkland Regional Library system.

City Council agreed to provide \$300,000 in matching funds to support the Yorkton Flour Mill multi-function interpretive centre project in late October.

Fifteen Candidates have registered to run for Council seats in November. The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce hosted an all candidates forum October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Gallagher Centre.

A drive through COVID testing facility opened in Yorkton in November in the old SGI building on Myrtle Ave. This was only the third drive through location in the province, after Regina and Saskatoon.

Yorkton Legion kicked off their first year of the Honour Our Veterans Banner Project in November, with banners depicting local veterans on light standards along Broadway Avenue and on Darlington Street, surrounding the cenotaph. The banners, sponsored by family members or organizations, will be put up each year leading up to Remembrance Day.

Mitch Hipsley was elected Mayor November 9<sup>th</sup>, with Dustin Brears and Chris Wyatt joining incumbents Randy Goulden, Key Chyz, Quinn Haider and Darcy Zaharia on the new City Council. Only 26.5 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots in the election.

Council unanimously approved a new Business Improvement Incentive Policy at the first meeting of the new Council in November. The purpose is to encourage all commercial property owners in the city to enhance the appearance of their buildings/properties and to provide incentives for the creation and expansion of locally owned businesses.

The Yorkton Business Improvement District held a unique and very successful ‘reverse’ Santa Claus Parade, due to COVID restrictions, where floats remained stationary and cars drove by to look at them.

The City, in collaboration with the Yorkton Business Improvement District and Yorkton Chamber of Commerce, organized a “Let Yorkton Shine” holiday contest for best decorated homes for Christmas. Prizes donated from local businesses were awarded to winning entrants.

2020 recipients of Yorkton’s Civic Recognition Awards were announced at the December 14th, meeting of Council. The recipients are Jason Boyda in the adult category, Katelyn Anderson in the youth category and Farming for Health in the group category.

The Yorkton RCMP, Yorkton Chamber of Commerce and the Yorkton Business Improvement District joined forces to launch a gift card fraud prevention program with local businesses in mid-December.

Council approved free parking in all city-owned downtown parking lots from December 15 – 28 to encourage shopping at local businesses.

## Corporate Logo



**Community Logo**



**City of Yorkton Logo**

Yorkton's logo grew out of a recommendation by a Good Spirit REDA sub-committee in the fall of 2003, which proposed that Yorkton develop and adopt a community brand or logo that can be widely used by businesses and organizations promoting Yorkton or identifying with Yorkton.

The REDA approached City Council for endorsement of the project, which was granted. On Feb. 11, 2004, a public forum was held at the Agriplex to get the community's thoughts on how we see our community and on how others see us. The main finding, which everyone agreed on, was that Yorkton is a place where people meet (the emphasis is on people). They meet in Yorkton for health, education, social events, retail services and sports and cultural purposes.

The second stage was to develop a logo and tagline, and numerous focus group meetings were held at the end of June for this purpose. Various proposals were reviewed, and a sub-committee short-listed the results. A logo and associated tagline was selected, and in August of 2004 the recommendation to adopt the new logo was approved by City Council.

The new community logo was officially unveiled on Sep. 27, 2004.

The logo is a simple, dynamic glyph, which represents positive movement (growth), community and it's central position in one of the largest agricultural sectors in the country. The geometrical shapes, which represent wheat, community and growth, are common in many of the ethnic cultural pattern designs found in the area. The type is modified with an uneven baseline to also give it a sense of movement and playfulness. "Where good things happen" makes reference to the area known as "Good Spirit" and the wonderful people who help make this a thriving community. The message is positive and inviting for people thinking about choosing Yorkton as a destination both for business or pleasure. The logo is upbeat and positive which has great commercial appeal to help local residents use it to promote their city from within in the form of shirts, banners, stickers and countless other items. It is very easy to reproduce in many formats including print, vinyl, silkscreen and hand painted signage. There are no colour restrictions on the logo, which makes it extremely flexible to be included in a variety of promotional materials no matter what colours are used.

## City of Yorkton Flag

A new city flag was displayed by Mayor John Wytrykush and the flag's designer, Dean Printz at City Hall in early January, 1982. The City held a competition and former Yorkton resident, now living in Melville, Dean Printz won and earned himself the \$125.00 prize. The flag is in two shades of gold and features a stylized maple leaf and the city crest in the corner. Mayor Wytrykush presented a flag to all the schools in the city.

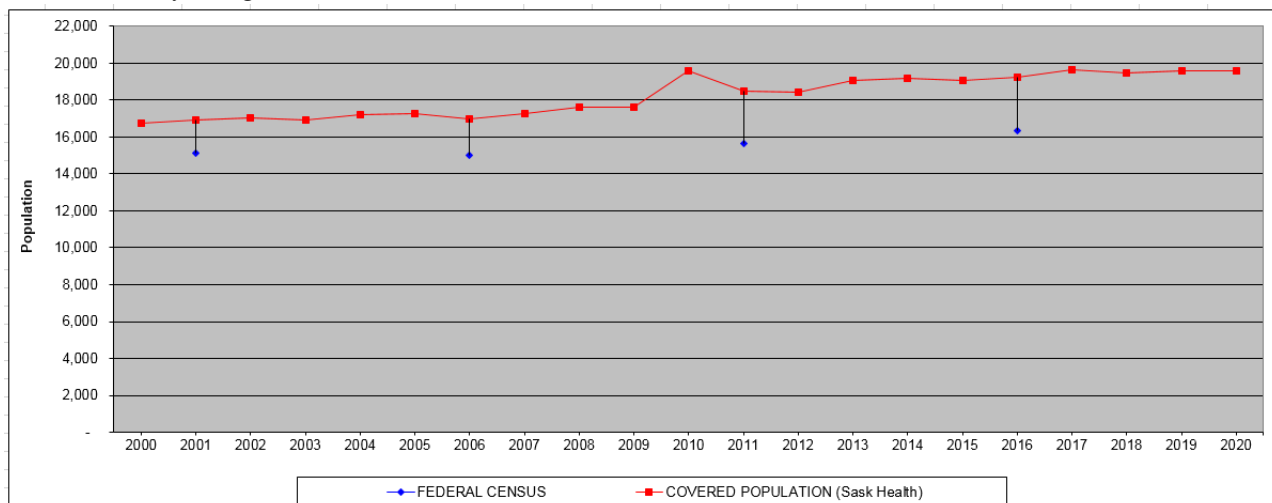




## POPULATION

YEAR	FEDERAL CENSUS	COVERED POPULATION (Sask Health)	YEAR	FEDERAL CENSUS	COVERED POPULATION (Sask Health)
1901	700		1996	15,154	16,473
1911	2,309		1997		16,280
1921	5,151		1998		16,783
1931	5,027		1999		17,113
1941	5,577		2000		16,747
1951	7,074		2001	15,107	16,898
1956	8,256		2002		17,032
1961	9,995		2003		16,916
1966 <sup>1</sup>	12,645 <sup>1</sup>		2004		17,186
1971	13,430		2005		17,261
1976	14,119		2006	15,038	17,006
1981	15,339	15,742	2007		17,260
1982		15,862	2008		17,603
1983		15,529	2009		17,608
1984		15,895	2010		19,588
1985		16,055	2011	15,669	18,471
1986	15,574	16,480	2012		18,427
1987		16,121	2013		19,038
1988		16,121	2014		19,194
1989		16,000	2015		19,042
1990		16,573	2016	16,343	19,249
1991	15,315	16,086	2017		19,636
1992		16,014	2018		19,489
1993		16,162	2019		19,607
1994	16,082		2020		19,568
1995		16,230			

<sup>1</sup> Boundary changes were made in 1966.



## **Mission Statement**

Working with our community, our committed and skilled Staff make Yorkton the friendliest, safest and most desirable city in which to live and grow.

## **Vision**

The City of Yorkton is a growing, dynamic, regional centre, where good things happen.

## **Core Values**

### **Equality and Respect:**

We treat each other the way we want to be treated by:

- valuing and recognizing each individual and team, their contributions, views and differences; and
- ensuring the equitable and fair treatment of all as a foundation principle of our policies and practices.

### **Openness:**

We inform people and are informed by them in a timely, open and transparent way by:

- creating a safe and risk-free environment for them to hear and be heard; and
- using personal and other means of communicating to ensure they have the information they need to help themselves and others, to understand the work of the City, and to contribute to the practices, plans and policies of the City.

### **Integrity:**

We demonstrate our commitment to honesty, openness, trust, respect for others, loyalty, consistency, accountability, and sincerity in our treatment of each other, our customers and our citizens.

### **Teamwork:**

We recognize our mutual interdependence and realize that we can best achieve our team goals and common Vision by:

- working together;
- co-operating and supporting each other in flexible and innovative ways; and
- providing camaraderie and humour along the way.

### **Quality:**

We support our Staff to excel and provide quality service by:

- providing them with the tools which encourage their best effort;
- encouraging and supporting innovation and openness to change;
- recognizing and rewarding their accomplishments and innovations; and
- supporting training and development opportunities for their personal and career growth.



# Yorkton 2020 Strategic Plan

The **Yorkton 2020 Strategic Plan** was adopted by City Council on February 14, 2011 and includes the following Strategic Goals and Objectives:

**1. Healthy Community:**

- Promote and build a healthy community encouraging healthy lifestyles, personal wellness with quality health care.

**2. Infrastructure**

- A community with a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable infrastructure plan and programs that meet current and future needs.

**3. Economic Development**

- A City that is open for business, providing an economic environment that embraces innovation and growth.

**4. Community Development**

- Foster a safe community that embraces cultural and social diversity by providing social, recreational and educational opportunities for all community members.

**5. Environment**

- A community that promotes environmental awareness, rethinks, recycles, reuses and uses green space and energy efficiently.

**6. Technology**

- Position technology as a means for community communication, create operational efficiencies, promote and facilitate economic activity.

**7. Education**

- Foster strategic partnerships, to offer responsive, quality education for all citizens.

**8. Governance & Communication**

- The governance model is accountable, transparent, engages residents' participation and involvement in policy development and goal setting.

## City Council

City Council consists of a Mayor and six Councillors, elected for a term of four years.

The Province of Saskatchewan, through *The Cities Act* and, to a lesser extent, *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* sets out the powers of municipal governments.

The Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer of the City.

The City Manager is the Chief Administrative Officer of the City and is in day-to-day charge of City operations and employees.

City Council meetings are held every three weeks on Mondays at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall.

## Yorkton City Council -- 2020

Name	Phone No.	Email
Mayor Bob Maloney January 1 to November 9	306-621-8426 (cell) 306-786-1701 (work) 306-786-6880 (fax)	<a href="mailto:mayor@yorkton.ca">mayor@yorkton.ca</a> <a href="mailto:rmaloney@sasktel.net">rmaloney@sasktel.net</a>
Mayor Mitch Hippsley Effective November 9 Councillor January 1 to November 9	306-621-2513 (cell) 306-782-4911 (work)	<a href="mailto:mayor@yorkton.ca">mayor@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Dustin Brears Effective November 9	306-621-7161 (cell)	<a href="mailto:dbrears@yorkton.ca">dbrears@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Ken Chyz	306-621-5687 (cell)	<a href="mailto:kchyz@yorkton.ca">kchyz@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Randy Goulden	306-621-3056 (cell) 306-783-8707 (work) 306-786-6978 (fax)	<a href="mailto:rgoulden@yorkton.ca">rgoulden@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Quinn Haider	306-641-5334 (cell)	<a href="mailto:qhaider@yorkton.ca">qhaider@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Aaron Kienle January 1 to November 9	306-621-9349 (cell) 306-782-4747 (work)	<a href="mailto:akienle@yorkton.ca">akienle@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Chris Wyatt Effective November 9	306-516-7729 (cell)	<a href="mailto:cwyatt@yorkton.ca">cwyatt@yorkton.ca</a>
Councillor Darcy Zaharia	306-621-9660 (cell) 306-782-1903 (home)	<a href="mailto:dzaharia@yorkton.ca">dzaharia@yorkton.ca</a>

**Yorkton City Council – 2020**  
Effective November 9<sup>th</sup> following Civic Election



Mayor Mitch Hipsley



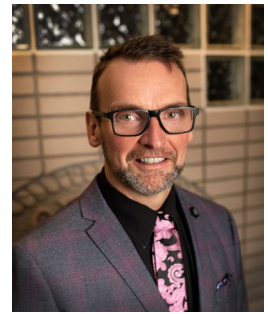
Councillor  
Dustin Brears



Councillor  
Ken Chyz



Councillor  
Randy Goulden



Councillor  
Quinn Haider



Councillor  
Chris Wyatt



Councillor  
Darcy Zaharia

**Outgoing City Council – 2020**  
Effective November 9<sup>th</sup> following Civic Election

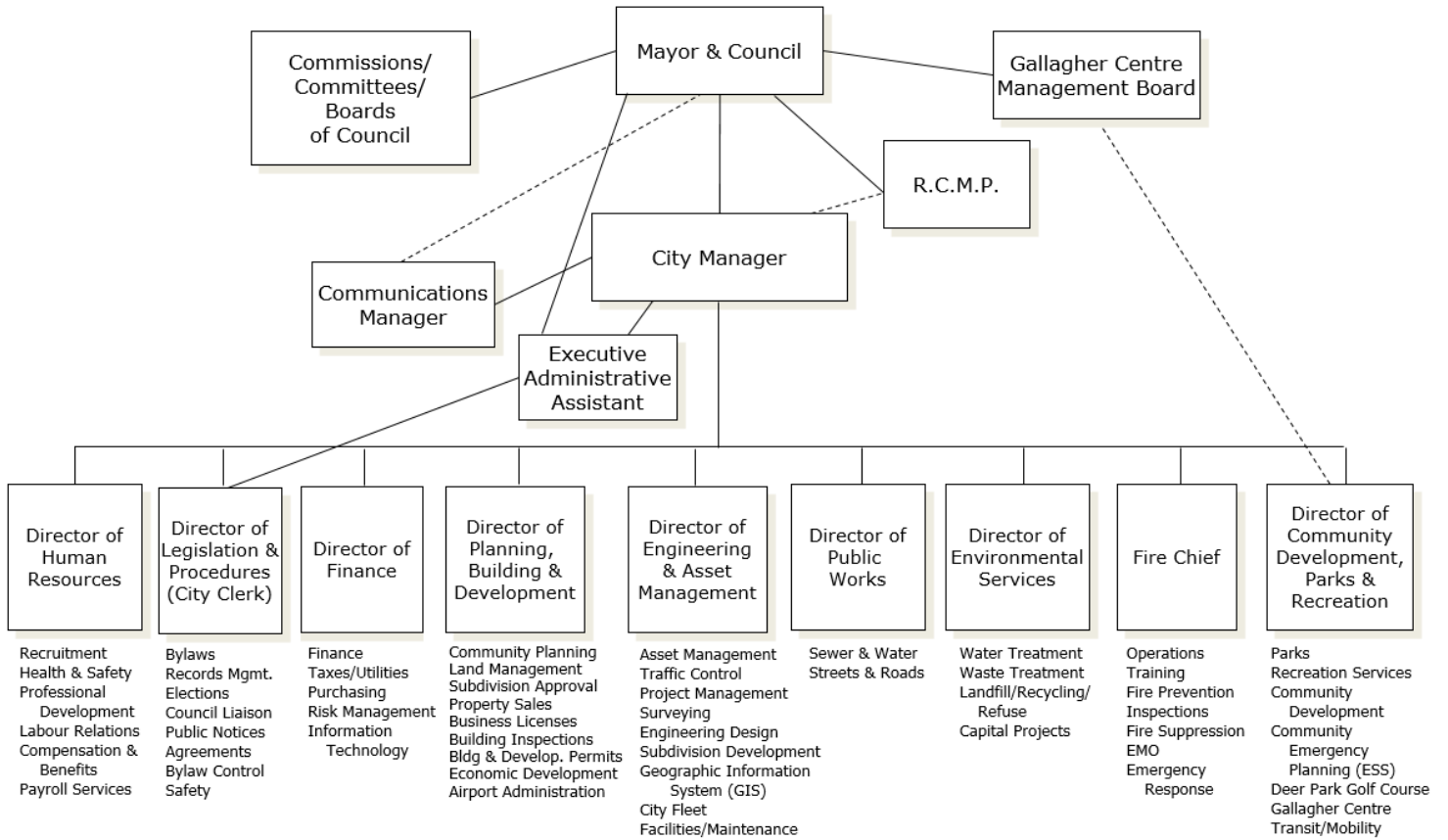


Mayor Bob Maloney

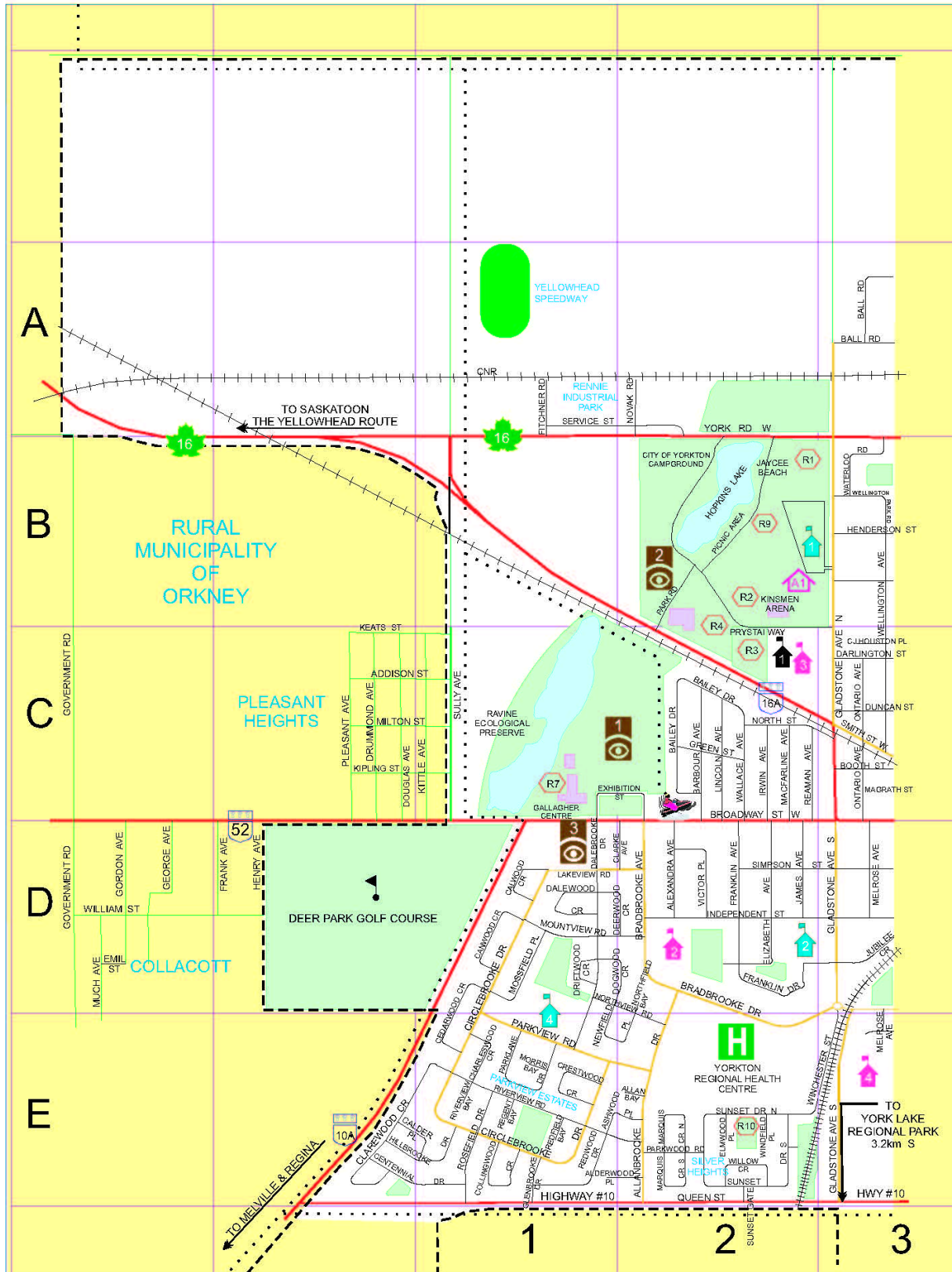


Councillor  
Councillor Aaron Kienle

# City of Yorkton Organizational Structure



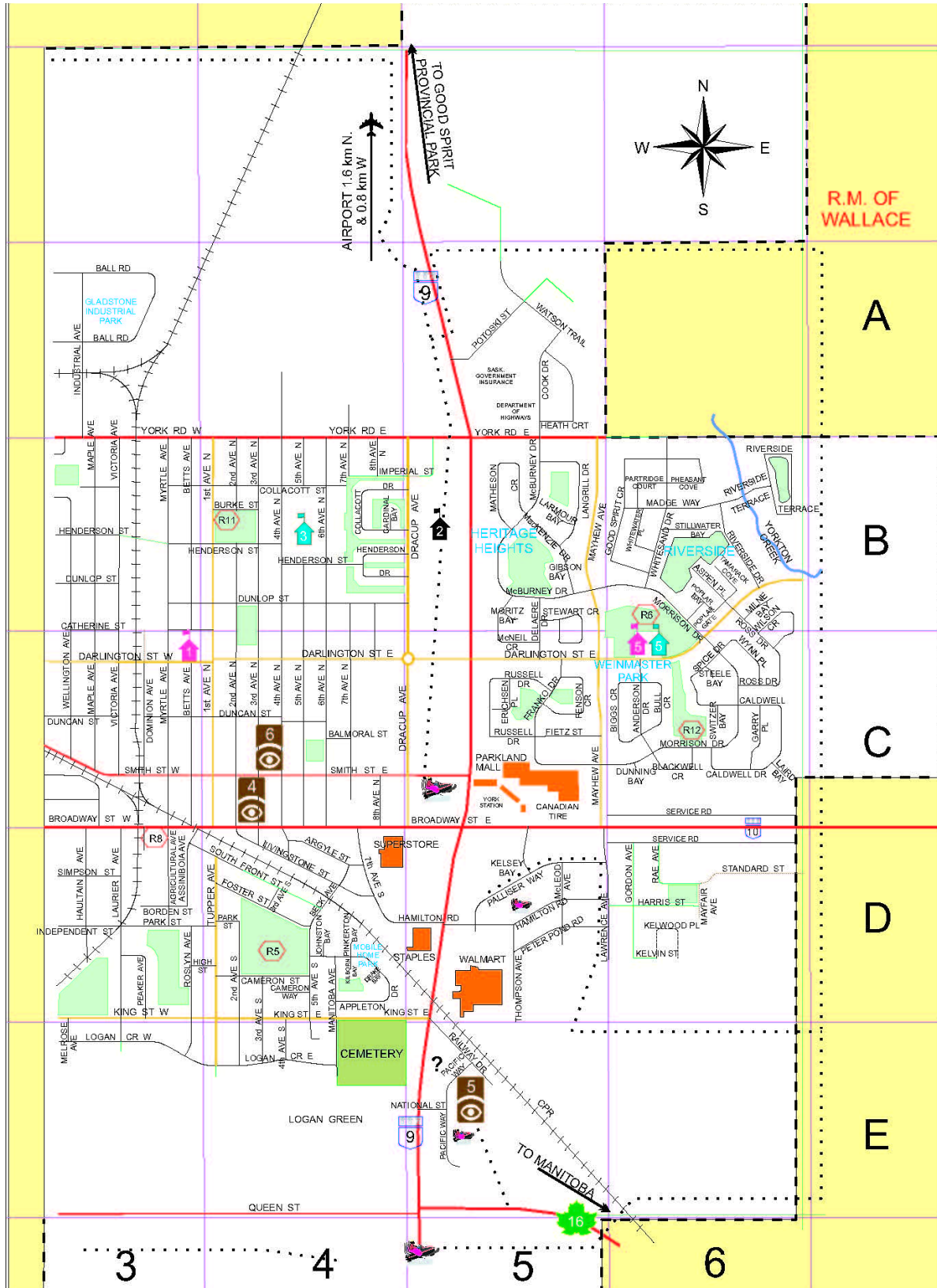
# Yorkton City Map



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# Yorkton City Map




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# Legend

HOSPITAL  
AMBULANCE  
FIRE HALL



SNOWMOBILE UNLOADING  
AREA & FUEL



SHOPPING CENTRE



BUILDING



GOLF COURSES



SNOWMOBILE  
ROUTE



FREEWAY / EXPRESSWAY



ARTERIAL



COLLECTOR



LOCAL



GRAVEL \ GRID



## YORKTON

PLACES OF INTEREST




- EXHIBITION GROUNDS  
GALLAGHER CENTRE ..... C-1,2
- WESTERN DEVELOPMENT  
MUSEUM ..... B-2
- PAINTED HAND CASINO..... D-1
- CITY HALL ..... C-4
- TOURISM YORKTON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ..... E-5
- GODFREY DEAN  
ART GALLERY ..... C-4

GOLDEN  
SHEAF AWARDS

YORKTON FILM FESTIVAL


ANNUALLY - LAST WEEK OF MAY

YORKTON PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS




- DR. BRASS ELEM. .... C-3
- COLUMBIA ELEM. .... D-2
- REGIONAL HIGH ..... C-2
- YORKDALE CENTRAL SCHOOL.. E-3
- M.C. KNOLL ELEM. .... C-6

YORKTON SEPARATE  
SCHOOLS



- SACRED HEART HIGH ..... B-2
- ST. MARY'S ELEM. .... D-2
- ST. ALPHONSUS ELEM. .... B-4
- ST. PAUL'S ELEM. .... D-1, E-1
- ST. MICHAEL'S ELEM. .... C-6

OTHER  
SCHOOLS



- PARKLAND COLLEGE ..... C-2
- PARKLAND COLLEGE TRADES &  
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE. .... B-5

ARENAS AND RINKS



A1. KINSMEN ARENA ..... B-2

RECREATION



- J.C. BALL PARK ..... B-2
- LIONS BALL PARK ..... B-2
- CENTURY FIELD ..... C-2
- TENNIS COURT ..... B-2
- JUBILEE BALL PARK ..... D-4
- GLORIA HAYDEN CENTRE  
& INDOOR WALKING TRACK ... B-6
- GALLAGHER CENTRE  
AQUATIC CENTRE ..... C-1
- SKATE PARK ..... D-3
- WIGGLY FIELD OFF LEASH  
DOG PARK ..... B-2
- SILVER HEIGHTS SPRAY  
PARK ..... E-2
- DRAKE FIELD SPRAY  
PARK ..... B-4
- WEINMASTER SPRAY  
PARK ..... C-6

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

R.C.M.P. .... 911

HOSPITAL ..... 306-782-2401

AMBULANCE ..... 911

FIRE HALL - EMERGENCY ..... 911

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ..... 306-783-4368

CITY OF YORKTON ..... 306-786-1700

TOURISM YORKTON ..... 306-783-8707

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# Civic Government

## Mayors of Yorkton

1894 - 1895 Cosmo J. MacFarline (aka MacFarline) (Overseer)

1896 - 1899 W.L. Kilborn (Overseer)

1900 - 1902	William P. Hopkins	1939 - 1947	Charles A. Peaker
1903 - 1904	Thomas H. Collacott	1948 - 1954	Clarence G. Langrill
1905 - 1907	William D. Dunlop	1955 - 1956	Dr. Michael C. Novak
1908 - 1909	John Alexander Macdonald Patrick	1957 - 1968	William E. Fichtner
1910	Joseph M. Clark	1968 - 1976	William Allan Bailey
1911 - 1912	Levi Beck	1976 - 1985	John Wytrykush
1913	Charles D. Livingstone	1985 - 1988	Brian Fromm
1914 - 1915	John Alexander Macdonald Patrick	1988 - 1991	Edward P. Magis
1916	Charles Beck	1991 - 2000	Ben Weber
1917 - 1919	James E. Peaker	2000 - 2006	Phil De Vos
1920 - 1924	James B. Gibson	2006 - 2009	Chris Wyatt
1925 - 1926	Edwin Pinkerton	2009 - 2012	James Wilson
1927 - 1929	A. Carl Stewart	2012 - 2020	Bob Maloney
1930 - 1932	Robert Barbour	2020 -	Mitch Hipsley
1933 - 1934	Edwin Pinkerton		
1935 - 1938	Robert Barbour		

## Councillors (Aldermen) of Yorkton

\* denotes also served as Mayor

Appleton, M.B.	1909 - 1910, 1933 - 1936	Erickson, C.T.	1910 - 1911, 1914 - 1915
Arnelien, Les	2001 - 2016	Farrell, Barry	1992 - 1997
*Bailey, William Allan	1965 - 1968	Fehrenback, Howie	1992 - 1997
Baker, Milton	1968 - 1969	Ferman, H.	1954 - 1955
Ball, D.R.	1941 - 1945	*Fichtner, W.E.	1954 - 1955
Ball, L.L.	1956	Fietz, O.	1957 - 1966, 1967 - 1973
Baptist, J.M.	1927 - 1928	Fisher, Ross	2009 - 2016
*Barbour, Robert	1926 - 1929	Flett, William	1983 - 1985
*Beck, Charles	1914 - 1915	*Fromm, Brian	2 mos. of 1989, 1990 - 1991, 1995 - 2002
Betker, Kenneth Edward	1968 - 1971	Gallagher, George G.	1961 - 1962
Betts, George	1900 - 1903	Gibney, Tim	1992 - 1994
Border, Amos A.	1946 - 1951	*Gibson, J.B.	1905
Bradbrooke, G.H.	1906 - 1910, 1913 - 1914	Gillies, A.R.	7 mos. of 1972, 1973
Brears, Dustin	2020 -	Goulden, Randy	1998 - 2009, 2012 -
Breen, N.J.	1926	Greenhorn, Lynne G.	1986 - 1991
Bucsis, Dave	6 mos. of 1992, 1993 - 1994	Haider, Quinn	2016 -
Bulitz, Jerry Bernard	1977 - 1979	Hamilton, J.R.	1926 - 1928
Bull, F.W.	1912 - 1913	Harris, Donald Clair	1968 - 1971
Bull, George	1903	Henry, Dr. C.M.	1908 - 1909
Caldwell, J.	1919 - 1924	Hill, Janet	1998 - 2000, 2002 - 2006
Chapman, A.A.	1930 - 1932	*Hippesley, Mitch	2016 - 2020
Chyz, Ken	2016 -	Hodgson, J.B. (Barrie)	1980 - 1982
*Clark, Joseph M.	1907 - 1909	Hopkins, E.	1905 - 1906
Collacott, F.S.	1913 - 1914	*Hopkins, W.P.	1903
*Collacott, T.H.	1902, 1906	Johnston, T.H.	1941 - 1946
Dellow, William Arliss	1971 - 1973	Johnston, Wm. J.	1948 - 1953, 1957 - 1967
DeRyk, Dick	7 mos. of 1987, 1988, 2 mos. of 1990, 1991, 1998 - 2003, 2006 - 2009	Kensick, Walter John	1974 - 1976
*De Vos, Phil	1988 - 2000	Kienle, Aaron	2016 - 2020
Dicker, F.	1931 - 1932	Konkin, Irene A.	1976 (8 mos.), 1977 - 1979
Dowie, John	1974 - 1976, 1986 - 1988	Konkin, Peter John	1968 - 1969
Drake, C.J.	1955 - 1956	Kowall, Ben	1980 - 1982
Duncan, J.A.	1909 - 1910	Kryworuchka, Ivan E.	6 mos. of 1971, 1972 - 1979
Duncan, W.J.	1905 - 1906	Kuziak, Alex G.	1970 - 1973
*Dunlop, W.D.	1903	Kyba, Stanley	1983 - 1985, 1989 - 1994
Enves, G.	1915 - 1916	Laird, Dr. A.F.	1929 - 1930
		Lange, Madeleine	1989 - 1991

*Langrill, C.G.	1946 - 1947	Pearen, Larry	2006 - 2016
Larmour, D.S.	1917 - 1918, 1933 - 1941	*Pinkerton, E.	1919 - 1922
Lawton, F.A.	1917 - 1918	Potoski, Dr. S.	1955 - 1956
Lee, Robert J.	1989 - 1991	Prystai, W.	1958 - 1964, 1966 - 1967, 1969 - 1973
*Livingstone, C.D.	1911 - 1912	Purvis, J.	1904
Logan, D.P.	1956 - 1964, 1966 - 1967	Rindernecht, J.	1904
Logan, James P.	1916 - 1919, 1922 - 1945	Roebuck, Norman	1977 - 1982
Macdonald, G.A.	1925 - 1926	Rothwell, R.	1917 - 1918
MacMillan, D.A.	1955 - 1956	Sapara, M.R.	1957 - 1960
*Magis, Edward P.	1974 - 1988	Schick, R.	1956 - 1957
Magrath, J.L.	1900 - 1901, 1911 - 1912	Schmidt, Deb	2003 - 2006
*Maloney, Bob	2003 - 2012	Serby, Clay	1986 - 1991
Matheson, D.W.	1923 - 1924	Sheperd, T.	1929 - 1933
Matheson, Donald F.	1963 - 1966, 1967 - 1970	Simpson, W.	1900 - 1901, 1904 - 1907
McBurney, A.L.	1946 - 1964	Smith, J.J.	1900 - 1902
McFarline, R.	1905	Spice, J.T.	1911 - 1914
McKenzie, H.	1941 - 1954	Spice, R.C.	1922 - 1925, 1934 - 1944
McNeill, D.	1929 - 1933, 1937 - 1942	Steele, F.	1938 - 1940, 1947 - 1954
Mickelson, Roy M.	1980 - 1982, 1986 - 1988	*Stewart, A.C.	1925 - 1926
Milne, W.	1927 - 1928	Switzer, T.	1908 - 1909
Moritz, F.J.	1908, 1914 - 1915 1919 - 1921	Taylor, Kenneth	1986 - 1988
Morrison, W.H.	1952 - 1953	Vahala, Karel V.J.	1974 - 1976
Muir, Leslie Gordon	1971 - 1973	Vaughan, H.W.	1943 - 1948
Nortsten, J.A.	1910 - 1913	*Weber, Ben	1989 - 1991
*Novak, Dr. M.C.	1949 - 1954	Wegner, Lawrence	1992 - 2003
Okrainec, Richard	2009 - 2012	Wentzell, Marvin D.	1971 - 1985
O'Regan, W.B.	1920 - 1925	Westerhaug, Clarence	1995 - 1997
Ovens, H.	1915 - 1916	Wilson, E.S.	1916
Overhage, J.G.	1910 - 1911, 1915 - 1919	*Wilson, James	2006 - 2009, 2012 - 2016
Pachal, Vern	1983 - 1985	Wood, Kenneth	1983 - 1985
Pachal, W.J.	1934 - 1937, 1939 - 1940	*Wyatt, Chris	2001 - 2006, 2009 - 2016, 2020 -
Patrick, R.A.	1907 - 1908	Wynn, S.	1916 - 1921, 1944 - 1945
Pawlett, F.	1912 - 1913	*Wytrykush, John	1976 (8 mos.), 1992 - 1997
*Peaker, Charles A.	1920 - 1938	Zaharia, Darcy	2016 -
Peaker, J.E.	1902, 1904 - 1905		

## Elections Held

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>1960</b> <b>(Nov 4)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - William E. Fichtner for Mayor by Acclamation - 3 Alderman elected - 2 Collegiate Institute Trustees by Acclamation - 3 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation - 2 Public School Trustees elected	2,590     2,054	25.9%     
	<b>Vote on Public School Money Bylaw:</b> “Should the City of Yorkton expend \$130,000.00 for the purpose of paying the cost of erecting and furnishing a new Public School in the City of Yorkton?” For: Against: No. of Rejected Ballots Total Voters = 1,284	887 329 68	    13.0%
<b>1962</b> <b>(Nov 2)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - William E. Fichtner for Mayor by Acclamation - 3 Aldermen elected - 2 Collegiate Institute Trustees elected - 2 Public School Trustees elected - 3 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation	1,733 1,741 1,475	16.5%
<b>1963</b> <b>(Nov 8)</b>	<b>Vote on Fluoridation:</b> For: Against: No. of Rejected Ballots Total Voters = 2,908	1,008 1,827 73	   26.4%
<b>1964</b> <b>(Nov 6)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - W.E. Fichtner for Mayor by Acclamation for 1965 & 1966 - 4 Aldermen elected for 1965 & 1966 - 2 Collegiate Institute Trustees elected for 1965 & 1966 - 3 Public School Trustees elected for 1965 & 1966 - 3 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation for 1965 & 1966	3,145 3,145 2,583	27.4%

\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>1965 (July 21)</b>	<b>Regional Comprehensive Secondary School:</b>		
	For:	1,204	
	Against:	343	
	No. of Rejected Ballots	24	
	Total Voters = 1,571		13.1%
<b>1965 (July 21)</b>	<b>Bus Transportation:</b>		
	For:	1,232	
	Against:	316	
	No. of Rejected Ballots	23	
	Total Voters = 1,571		13.1%
<b>1965 (Nov 5)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b>		
	- 3 Aldermen by Acclamation for 1966 & 1967		
	- 4 Separate School Trustees elected for 1966 & 1967	478	
	- 5 Public School Trustees elected for 1966 & 1967	743	
	- 3 Collegiate Institute Trustees by Acclamation for 1966 & 1967		
<b>1966 (Nov 4)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b>		
	- W.E. Fichtner elected for Mayor for 1967 & 1968		
	- 3 Aldermen elected for 1967 & 1968		
	- 4 Public School Trustees elected for 1967 & 1968		
	- 2 Collegiate Institute Trustees elected for 1967 & 1968		
	- 3 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation for 1967 & 1968		
<b>1967 (Nov 3)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b>		
	- 3 Aldermen elected 1968 & 1969	2,790	22.3%
	- 3 Collegiate Board Trustees by Acclamation for 1968 & 1969		
	- 4 Public School Trustees by Acclamation for 1968 & 1969		
	- 4 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation for 1968 & 1969		
<b>1968 (Nov 6)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b>		
	- W.A. Bailey elected for Mayor for 1969 & 1970	} 4,747	36.8%
	- 4 Aldermen elected for 1969 & 1970		
	- 4 Public School Trustees (2 elected for 1969 & 1970 and 2 by Acclamation for 69/70)	3,581	
	- 2 Collegiate Institute Trustees by Acclamation for 1969 & 1970		
	- 3 S.S. Trustees elected for 1969 & 1970		

\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>1968</b> <b>(Nov 6)</b>	<b>Vote on City of Yorkton “Money Bylaw”</b> “Should the City of Yorkton expend \$280,000.00 for the purpose of paying part of the cost of constructing a new elementary school in the southwest area of the city?” For the Bylaw Against the Bylaw No. of Ballots Rejected Total Voters = 2,604	1,109 1,383 112	20.2%
<b>1969</b> <b>(Nov 7)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - 3 Aldermen elected for 1970 & 1971 - 4 Public School Trustees by Acclamation for 1970/71 - 3 Collegiate Institute Trustees by Acclamation for 1970 & 1971 - 5 S.S. Trustees elected for 1970 & 1971	2,920   900	22.1%
<b>1970</b> <b>(Dec 4)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - W.A. Bailey for Mayor by Acclamation for 1971, 1972 & 1973 - 6 Aldermen elected for 1971, 1972 & 1973 - 4 Public School Trustees elected for 1971/72 - 2 Collegiate Board Trustees by Acclamation for 1971 & 1972 - 3 S.S. Trustees by Acclamation for 1971 & 1971	3,806 2,815	28.4%
	<b>Vote on Fluoridation</b> For: Against: No. of Ballots Rejected Total Voters = 3,801	1,276 2,442 83	28.4%
<b>1971</b> <b>(Jun 2)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 1 Aldermen elected to complete 1971-73 term - 1 Public School Trustee elected to complete 1971-73 term	2,490 1,808	18.6%
<b>1972</b> <b>(May 17)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 1 Alderman elected for 1972 and 1973	1,643	11.9%
<b>1972</b> <b>(Dec 6)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 1 Collegiate Board Trustee elected for 1972-73	517	

\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)



YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>1973</b> <b>(Oct 24)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - W.A. Bailey elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees by Acclamation - 5 Collegiate Board Trustees by Acclamation - 7 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation	} 3,545	25.3%
<b>1976</b> <b>(Mar 31)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 2 Aldermen elected for balance of 1976 term	5,282	36.4%
	<b>Vote on Money Bylaw (for purpose of building sports &amp; agricultural complex)</b> For: 2,441 Against: 2,291 No. of Ballots Rejected 56 Total Voters = 4,788		33.0%
<b>1976</b> <b>(Oct 27)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - John Wytrykush elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees by Acclamation - 5 Collegiate Board Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 4,673  4,673 1,296	32.2%
<b>1979</b> <b>(Oct 24)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - John Wytrykush for Mayor by Acclamation - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	2,649 1,645 825	17.7%
<b>1982</b> <b>(Oct 27)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - John Wytrykush elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 5,253  3,632 1,545	34.1%
<b>1985</b> <b>(Oct 23)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Brian Fromm elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 5,070  3,134 1,608	32.7%

\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>1985</b> <b>(Oct 23)</b>	<b>Vote on Railway Relocation</b> “Should the City of Yorkton expend a sum of money not in excess of 3.5 Million Dollars on the Relocation of the C.P.R. tracks?” For: Against: No. of Ballots Rejected Total Voters = 5,045	1,152 3,844 49	32.6%
<b>1987</b> <b>(May 27)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 3 candidates for Aldermen (D. DeRyk elected)	2,062	13.2%
<b>1988</b> <b>(Oct 26)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Ed Magis elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees by Acclamation - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	5,426 5,410 1,667	34.8% 34.7%
	<b>Vote on Store Hours</b> “Do you favor stores in the City of Yorkton being allowed to open for business seven days a week, including Sunday?” For: Against: No. of Ballots Rejected Total Voters = 5,410	1,690 3,674 22	34.7%
<b>1989</b> <b>(Nov 29)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 5 candidates for Aldermen (B. Fromm elected)	2,566	16.5%
<b>1990</b> <b>(Oct 17)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 5 candidates for Aldermen (D. DeRyk elected)	1,708	11.0%
<b>1991</b> <b>(Oct 23)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Ben Weber elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 3,915 2,530 1,290	25.6%

\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>1992</b> <b>(Jun 17)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 3 Candidates for Aldermen (D. Bucsis elected)	1,098	7.2%
<b>1994</b> <b>(Oct 26)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Ben Weber elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 4,715 2,817 1,597	31.0%
<b>1997</b> <b>(Jan 8)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - S.S. Trustee: Brenda Kondra by Acclamation		
<b>1997</b> <b>(Oct 22)</b>	<b>Municipal Election<sup>1</sup>:</b> - Ben Weber elected for Mayor - 6 Aldermen elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 4,372 2,802 1,377	28.9%
<b>2000</b> <b>(Oct 25)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Phil De Vos elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected - 7 Public School Trustees elected - 7 Separate School Trustees elected	} 4,242 2,968 1,594	28.0%
<b>2002</b> <b>(Sept 25)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 2 Candidates for Public School Trustee (R. Sass elected)	87	
<b>2002</b> <b>(Oct 23)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 6 Candidates for Councillor (J. Hill elected)	1,809	12.0%

\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)

<sup>1</sup> Note: Electronic vote counting was used beginning with the 1997 Municipal Election.

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>2003 (Feb 26)</b>	<b>Vote on Health Levy</b> “Are you in favour of a Health Levy of \$105 per year per household as part of the property taxes for the next four (4) years to fund the City’s \$2.88 million dollar community commitment for equipment and a new multi-purpose Health Care Facility in the City of Yorkton. For: Against: No. of Ballots Rejected Total Voters = 2,490	1,313 1,170 7	16.5%
<b>2003 (Oct 22)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Phil De Vos elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected - 7 Separate School Trustees by Acclamation - 7 Public School Trustees: • 4 Trustees (City at Large) by Acclamation • 1 Trustee (Sub-Division No.1) by Acclamation • 1 Trustee (Sub-Division No. 2) elected • 1 Trustee (Sub-Division No. 3) elected	5,070 165 477	33.6%
<b>2004 (Feb 19)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 3 Candidates for Separate School Trustee (J. Velestuk elected)	205	
<b>2006 (Oct 25)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Chris Wyatt elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected	5,748	38.2%
<b>2007 (Jan 31)</b>	<b>By-Election:</b> - 1 Candidate for Separate School Board Member (Kevin Lubiniecki elected)	240	

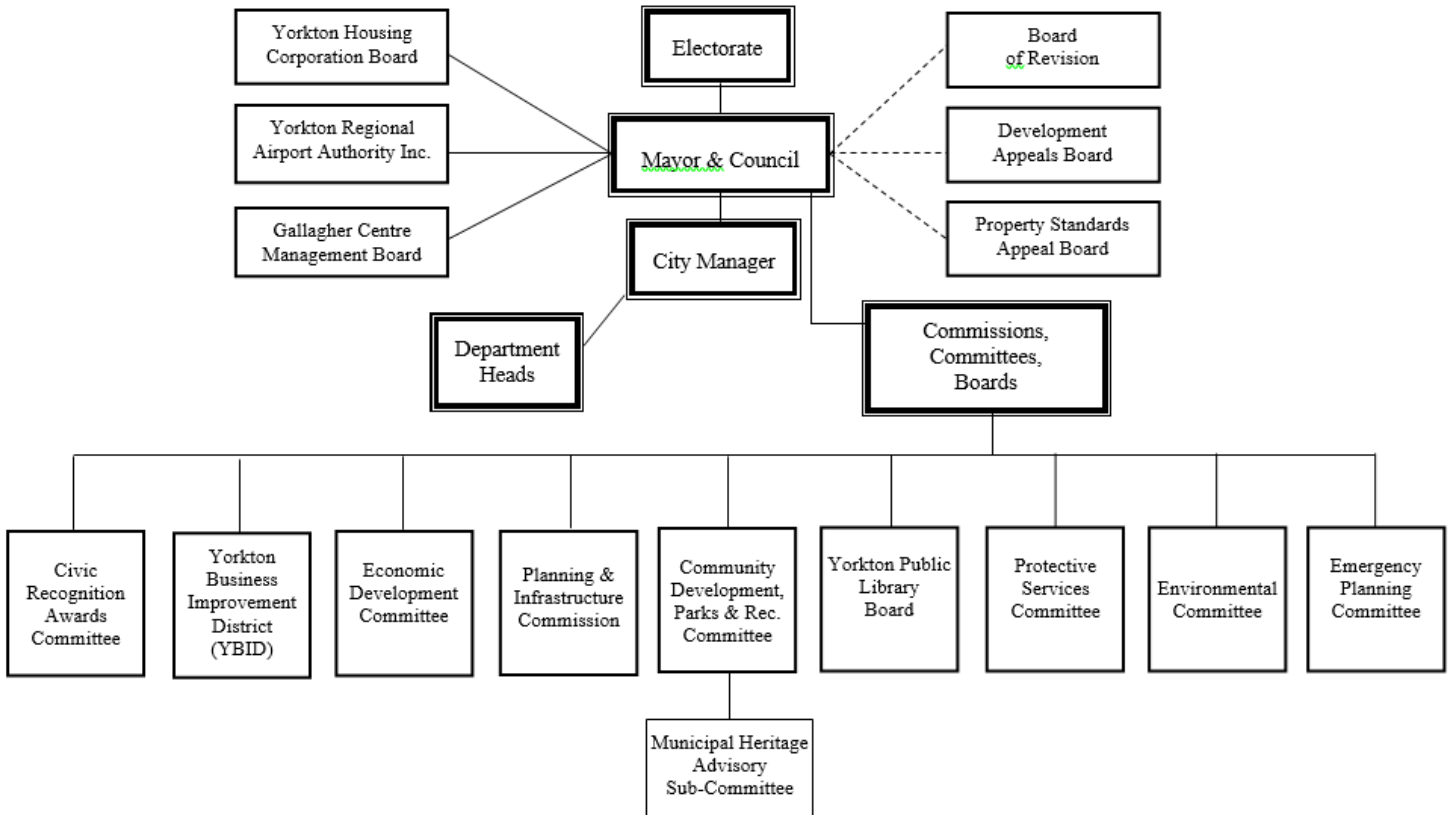
\* Total Population figure (Source: Statistics Canada)

YEAR	NUMBER/NAMES/PARTICULARS	NUMBER VOTED	PERCENTAGE (approx.) *
<b>2009</b> <b>(Oct 28)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - James Wilson elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected - 4 Separate School Trustees elected - 3 Public School Trustees elected	} 4,144	30.9%
<b>2012</b> <b>(Oct 24)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Bob Maloney elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected - 4 Separate School Trustees acclaimed - 3 Public School Trustees elected	} 3,862	26.7%
<b>2016</b> <b>(Oct 26)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Bob Maloney elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected - 4 Separate School Board Members elected - 3 Public School Board Members elected	} 4,819	33.0%
<b>2020</b> <b>(Nov 9)</b>	<b>Municipal Election:</b> - Mitch Hipsley elected for Mayor - 6 Councillors elected - 3 Separate School Board Members acclaimed - 3 Public School Board Members acclaimed	} 3,976	26.5%

\* Percentage based on the number of eligible voters using the Saskatchewan Health Covered Population figure.  
Note: Percentage of voters reported in previous elections is based on Statistics Canada Total Population figure.

# City of Yorkton Council Boards/Commissions/Committees

## Organizational Structure



## **Council Boards/Commissions/Committees**

### **Board of Revision**

**Authority:** Section 203 of *The Cities Act*

**Purpose:** To deal with appeals arising from assessment procedures. The Board of Revision consists of an externally retained firm, including a Board of Revision secretary appointed by Council.

### **Civic Recognition Awards Committee**

**Authority:** City Council Approval of Policy No. 10.440

**Purpose:** The Civic Recognition Awards Committee is to annually recommend Yorkton Civic Recognition Award recipients to Council.

Three awards are to be presented annually as follows:

- i. Adult Civic Recognition – Presented to a citizen to recognize the selfless support the individual has made towards the betterment of the City of Yorkton
- ii. Youth Civic Recognition – Presented to a citizen, under the age of eighteen (18) years old prior to December 31 of the current year, to recognize contributions made by the individual towards the betterment of the City of Yorkton.
- iii. Group Civic Recognition – Presented to two (2) or more individuals belonging/involved in an organized group that contributes towards the betterment of the City of Yorkton.

### **Community Development, Parks & Recreation Committee**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 6/2011 – Community Development, Parks & Recreation Committee Bylaw

**Purpose:**

- 1.1 The Community Development, Parks & Recreation Committee's purpose is to guide administration and recommend to City Council ways to improve community, parks and recreation services in the City of Yorkton.
  - 1.1.1 The objective is to focus on volunteerism, youth engagement, leadership development and building a sense of community by supporting volunteer capacity; leadership development of youth; building partnerships between organizations; and information sharing.
  - 1.1.2 The Committee will discuss outcomes that result in a physically and socially healthy community that educates, and communicates with the community through a transparent governance process.
  - 1.1.3 This Committee is not responsible for the Gallagher Centre.

- 1.2 Without limited the generality of the foregoing, the Committee will:
  - 1.2.1 Recommend new policies or amendments to existing policies for approval;
  - 1.2.2 Recommend new measures required to improve community, parks and recreation service in the City.
- 1.3 Promote equal access to community, parks and recreation services.
- 1.4 Encourage resident involvement in the community.
- 1.5 Hold public meetings and present public information to engage the community in determining solutions to matters affecting community, parks and recreation service delivery.
- 1.6 Investigate community needs and recommend the implementation and development of new programs, facilities and services that would enhance the quality of life for the community and submit reports and recommendations to Council.
- 1.7 Identify the social and economic implications of its recommendations.
- 1.8 Work co-operatively with other Committees of Council, associations and organizations that have an interest in the delivery of community, parks and recreation services.
- 1.9 The Committee may establish and appoint members to Advisory Sub-Committees which assist the Committee including, but not limited to:
  - 1.9.1 The Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant Program Review Committee
  - 1.9.2 Municipal Heritage Advisory Sub-Committee
- 1.10 All Sub-Committees established by this Committee follow the procedures as established herein and report all proceedings and recommendations to the Community Development, Parks & Recreation Committee for their review and recommendation to City Council.

### **Development Appeals Board**

**Authority:** Bylaw 2/2010

**Purpose:** To adjudicate planning and development appeals pursuant to Section 3.16.1 of Zoning Bylaw No. 14/2003 and as provided for under Section 26, and Sections 213 to 227, inclusive, of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, and subsequent amendments thereto.

### **District Planning Commission**

**Authority:** Sections 97 & 98 of *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*, and agreement dated November 10, 1993, between the Rural Municipality of Wallace, No. 243, the Rural Municipality of Orkney, No. 244, and the City of Yorkton.



- Purpose:** The District Planning Commission shall:
- (a) Hold public meetings and publish information for the purpose of obtaining the participation and co-operation of the residents of the planning district and any adjacent area in determining the solution to problems or matters affecting the development of any part of the planning district;
  - (b) Assist the council of any municipality that is located in whole or in part in the planning district in the preparation of a zoning bylaw or any other bylaw authorized by this Act;
  - (c) Review any existing zoning bylaw or bylaw adopted or passed under this Act and submit, to the council, suitable amendments thereto with a recommendation that they be adopted or passed;
  - (d) Suggest to any council ways and means of financing works to be carried out by public authorities over a specified period;
  - (e) Investigate and study proposed subdivisions or developments within and adjacent to the planning district and submit to the appropriate council reports and recommendations in that respect;
  - (f) Identify the social and economic implications of the commission's recommendations;
  - (g) Prepare and submit to the affiliated municipalities an operating budget for the next ensuing fiscal year. 1983-84, C.P. - 13.1, s. 125. (Section 104 of the *Planning and Development Act, 2007*)

## **Economic Development Committee**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 7/2011 - Economic Development Committee Bylaw

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Committee is to provide strategic direction with its recommendations to Council and centralize the efforts of different stakeholders in order to foster the process of sustainable economic development in the City of Yorkton and area.

The Committee will work towards accomplishing the wide range objectives as follows:

- 1.1 To identify issues and opportunities in order to work actively with all tiers of government, private sector and other relevant stakeholders in enhancing the diverse economic base of the City and capitalizing on local competitive strategic advantages and niche markets.
- 1.2 To investigate and evaluate the needs of the City, and then recommend the implementation and development of new programs and initiatives that would enhance the marketability of the City to attract new business/investment and retain/expand existing businesses.
- 1.3 To identify the social, economic and environmental implications of its programs and initiatives.
- 1.4 To build a capacity within the community in order to manage existing and future economic growth.
- 1.4.1 To work with all other Committees of Council, associations and organizations having an interest in the delivery of economic development services, in particular but not limited to the Saskatchewan East Enterprise Region.

- 1.5 To liaise and consult various community groups for the implementation of programs. Hold public meetings and publish information for the purpose of obtaining the participation and input of the residents of the municipality in determining the solution to problems or matters affecting the delivery of economic development services in the municipality.

### **Emergency Planning Committee**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 7/98 - To establish a Municipal Emergency Measures Disaster Services Agency

**Purpose:** The Emergency Planning Committee shall:

- a) Review the Municipal Emergency Plan and all related plans and programs on a regular basis; and
- b) Advise Council, duly assembled, on the status of the Municipal Emergency Plan and programs at least annually.

### **Environmental Committee**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 9/2011 – Environmental Committee Bylaw

**Purpose:** 1.1 The purpose of the Environmental Committee is to advise and assist the Council with respect to all matters pertaining to water treatment, wastewater treatment and solid waste management within the City of Yorkton.

- 1.2 The objective is to be environmentally responsible and provide sustainable stewardship of our water, wastewater and solid waste in order to protect the environment. This includes, but is not limited to, reviewing solid waste management practices within the City of Yorkton and making recommendations to Council that will enable the City of Yorkton to achieve a Zero solid waste discharge to the landfill by 2026.

### **Gallagher Centre Management Board**

**Authority:** Yorkton Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition Association & City of Yorkton Agreement dated April 19, 2002

The Gallagher Centre Management Board is 9-member Board composed of 5 members of Yorkton City Council and 4 members from the Yorkton Exhibition Association. The Board exists to provide direction to administration related to policy development on matters affecting the Gallagher Centre. This includes but may not be limited to:

1. The grounds and buildings located on the grounds.
2. Fees and charges.
3. Promoting equitable access to services provided at the Gallagher Centre.

## **Planning & Infrastructure Commission**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 5/2011 - Planning & Infrastructure Commission Bylaw (and amending Bylaw No. 19/2011)

- Purpose:**
- 1.1 The Commission will investigate and study land use related activities, demographic trends, municipal infrastructure related to the planning and development of the community including related capital projects, and/or any other matter inside or outside the municipality, that, in the opinion of the Commission, is related to the physical, social or economic circumstances of the municipality and affects or may affect development of the municipality.
  - 1.2 The Commission may appoint advisory Committees or establish Sub-Committees consisting of members who are qualified to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties and functions.
  - 1.3 Review any Development Plan, Redevelopment Plan, Special Area Study, Basic Planning Statements, Zoning Bylaw or other Bylaw adopted under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* and recommend suitable amendments to Council.
  - 1.4 Recommend the implementation of any feature of any Development Plan, Basic Planning Statement or Bylaw under *The Planning and Development Act, 2007* to Council.
  - 1.5 Investigate and study proposed subdivision development within and adjacent to the municipality and submit reports and recommendations in that respect to Council.
  - 1.6 The Commission shall perform any other duties of a planning nature that the Council may refer to it and may do any other things that it considers necessary in connection with the planning and orderly development of the City.
  - 1.7 Identify the social and economic implications of its recommendations.
  - 1.8 Hold public meetings and publish information for the purpose of obtaining the participation and cooperation of the residents of the municipality and any adjacent area in determining the solution to problems or matters affecting the development of any part of the municipality.

## **Property Standards Appeal Board**

**Authority:** Bylaw 18/2017

**Purpose:** To hear and determine appeals as per Bylaw No. 18/2017 and as provided for under Section 329 of *The Cities Act*.

## **Protective Services Committee**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 8/2011 - Protective Services Committee Bylaw

- Purpose:**
- 1.1 To advise and assist City Council with respect to all matters pertaining to the safety and protection of people and property within the municipality; specifically those services provided by Police, Fire Services, Emergency Measures, Bylaw Enforcement, Ambulance, and 911 within the City of Yorkton.
  - 1.2 To promote and build a healthy community encouraging healthy lifestyles, personal wellness with quality health care.
  - 1.3 To foster strategic partnerships, to offer responsive, quality education for all citizens.
  - 1.4 To foster a safe community that embraces cultural and social diversity by providing social, recreational and educational opportunities for all community members.
  - 1.5 To review and recommend policies and bylaws and submit suitable amendments to Council.
  - 1.6 Recommend an Emergency Measures Organization Plan and/or Bylaw under the direction of the EMO Coordinator.
  - 1.7 To identify the social and economic implications of its recommendations.
  - 1.8 To review any matters of a protective services nature that Council may refer to it.
  - 1.9 To hold public meetings and publish information for the purpose of obtaining the participation and cooperation of the residents of the municipality in determining the solution to problems or matters affecting protective services of the municipality.

## **Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID)**

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 10/2012

- Purpose:** The primary goals of the District include, but are not limited to:
- a. increasing the value of businesses and properties via streetscaping, decorative lighting, brickwork, landscaping, new construction, and reinvestment in vacant properties;
  - b. enhancing the appearance of the area through downtown beautification efforts, supporting community events, and partnering with local groups; and
  - c. increasing business activity via business attraction and retention, marketing initiatives, and property development strategies.

## **Yorkton Regional Airport Authority Inc.**

**Authority:** Non-Profit Corporations Act

- Purpose:** The objectives of the Corporation are:
- (a) To develop, maintain and operate the Airport;
  - (b) To apply for and hold any license, permit or operating authority which may be required to carry out or further the objectives of the Corporation.

## Yorkton Housing Corporation Board

**Authority:** Bylaw No. 46/2008 - Appointment of the Yorkton Housing Corporation Board

**Purpose:** The Board shall maintain and operate self-contained housing units for the accommodation of low income seniors on a not for profit basis as efficiently as possible to best meet the needs of the residents of the City of Yorkton.

## Yorkton Public Library Board

**Source:** *Public Libraries Act, 1996*  
Bylaw No. 13/2015

**Responsibilities:** The purpose of the Yorkton Public Library Board is to provide advice and guidance to Yorkton City Council, the Board and Director of the Parkland Regional Library as well as the Chief Librarian for the Yorkton Public Library on maintaining and enhancing library services in the City of Yorkton. This includes but may not be limited to the following:

- a) to interpret and implement the Parkland Regional Library Board policy in the Yorkton Public Library;
- b) to formulate policy respecting the development and operation of the Yorkton Public Library in cooperation with the Parkland Regional Library Board;
- c) to advise Yorkton City Council concerning the provision and maintenance of adequate accommodation for the Yorkton Public Library;
- d) to provide planning and training for the Yorkton Public Library Board;
- e) to undertake Yorkton Public Library promotion and public relations campaigns in the community;
- f) to take responsibility for special library programming;
- g) in conjunction with the Parkland Regional Library Board, provide recommendations for the establishment and maintenance of standards for hours of service and types of local service;
- h) to recommend to the Parkland Regional Library Board and Director, programs and materials relevant to the interests and requirements of the community;
- i) to consult with and report on a regular basis to Yorkton City Council;
- j) to advise the Parkland Regional Library Board respecting the appointment and terms of employment of the staff for the Yorkton Public Library;
- k) to hold an annual meeting prior to the annual meeting of the Parkland Regional Library Board;
- l) to perform those other duties delegated by the Parkland Regional Library Board; and
- m) to perform those other functions in accordance with *The Public Libraries Act, 1996*; and *The Public Libraries Regulations, 1996*, for the provision of adequate library services at the local level.

Note: Four of the Yorkton Public Library Board members sit on the Parkland Regional Library Board, and two of those four members sit on the Parkland Regional Library Executive Committee.

## Retirements - 2020

One employee retired from the City of Yorkton in 2020. The City would like to take this opportunity to recognize this employee and thank him for his service to the City.

### Gary Kowalyshen – 26 Years of Service



Gary Kowalyshen started working for the City's Public Works Department in 1994. Initially he worked with the Roads and Streets crew, and then moved to the Water and Sewer crew the following year.

In 1996 Gary was promoted to the position of Stores Parts Person and Mechanic's Assistant. Since then Gary worked hard to upgrade to a Journeyman parts person designation.

In this position, Gary was responsible for things such as maintaining inventory of all stock, parts purchasing and supply for equipment repairs and maintaining accuracy of all fleet related purchase orders and invoices.

Gary is also very mechanically inclined and enjoys helping anyone without a moment's notice. Gary will be enjoying his newly found free time with his children, grandchildren and of course his dog.

The City of Yorkton thanks Gary for 26 years of dedicated service!

## Senior Management – 2020



**City Manager**  
Lonnie Kaal  
Telephone: 306-786-1717



**Director of Legislation & Procedures (City Clerk)**  
Jessica Matsalla  
Telephone: 306-786-1717



**Director of Human Resources**  
Gord Kennedy  
Telephone: 306-786-1708



**Director of Finance**  
Ashley Stradeski  
Telephone: 306-786-1721



**Fire Chief**  
Trevor Morrissey  
Telephone: 306-786-1795



**Director of Community Development,  
Parks & Recreation**  
Darcy McLeod  
Telephone: 306-786-1750



**Director of Planning, Building & Economic Develop.**  
Michael Eger  
Telephone: 306-786-1710



**Director of Engineering & Asset Management**  
Rene Richard  
Telephone: 306-786-1710

## Senior Management – 2020



**Director of Public Works**  
Trent Mandzuk  
Telephone: 306-828-2461



**Director of Environmental Services**  
Michael Buchholzer  
Telephone: 306-828-2470



**RCMP Staff Sergeant**  
Jeff Simpson  
Telephone: 306-786-2400





## City Manager's Office

City Manager

- Lonnie Kaal

### **Commissioner or Manager** <excerpt from the *Cities Act*>

- (1) Every council shall establish a position of administrative head of the city that may be called City Commissioner or City Manager.
- (2) The commissioner or manager shall perform the duties and may exercise the powers and functions that are assigned to a commissioner or manager:
  - (a) by this and other Acts; or
  - (b) by council.
- (3) A commissioner or manager may delegate any of his or her powers, duties or functions to any employee of the city.

**\*\*The following sections are an excerpt from City of Yorkton Bylaw No. 17/2017\*\***

### **Powers, Duties and Functions of City Manager**

Without limiting the generality of Section 5, the City Manager shall:

- (a) ensure that the policies and programs of the City are implemented;
- (b) advise and inform Council on the operations and affairs of the City;
- (c) supervise all operations of the City and, in particular, direct, supervise and review the performance of all departments of the City, subject to the *Act*;
- (d) restructure civic departments and, with the approval of Council, create, merge or eliminate civic departments;
- (e) have the authority to appoint and dismiss all civic staff except as provided in the *Act* and this bylaw;
- (f) be responsible in conjunction with the Director of Finance, for the preparation and submission of budget estimates for the operating and capital budgets annually, or as required by Council;
- (g) monitor and control civic spending within the program budgets established by Council;
- (h) transfer funds between program budgets with the approval of Council;
- (i) advise Council and make recommendations concerning the financial condition of the City;
- (j) advise Council and make recommendations concerning policies or programs which may be necessary to carry out the powers, duties and functions of the City;
- (k) attend meetings of Council and such other meetings as Council may direct;
- (l) prepare and submit such reports and recommendations to Council as Council or a Committee of Council may require;
- (m) provide approval to the City Clerk's Office and the Mayor's office for the execution of contracts and agreements identified in Sections 23 and 24;
- (n) be responsible for the labour relations in conjunction with the Director of Human Resources of the City within the mandate established by Council and submit collective bargaining agreements to Council for approval;
- (o) appoint an Acting City Manager in the absence of the City Manager.
- (p) exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as required by Council.

- (q) be authorized to negotiate the settlement of all records of the Director of Finance's Accounts Receivable which are disputed or of doubtful value and to authorize the writing off of all such accounts receivable in an amount not exceeding \$7,500.00 which are considered non-collectable, and report such actions annually to the Council detailing the accounts dealt with under this power.

### **Claims and Lawsuits**

(1) The City Manager shall have the authority to:

- (a) instruct the City Solicitor to commence, defend or conduct any action or proceeding in any court or before any board or tribunal; and to
- (b) settle any claims, grievances or lawsuits.

(2) The settlement of claims, grievances or lawsuits must be reported to City Council for their information.

### **Award of Contracts**

The City Manager shall have the authority to:

- (a) call for tenders and arrange for contracts for the supply to the City of goods, services and work as authorized by the budget;
- (b) notwithstanding Section 1, 24 and 25, in the case of public tenders and request for proposals/quotations when the City is purchasing goods, services or work, award contracts where:
  - (i) the contract has been provided for in the approved project budget;
  - (ii) the amount of the contract does not exceed the City Manager spending limits and project budget;
  - (iii) the contract is being awarded to the bidder providing best value;
- (c) call for tenders and arrange for contracts for the purchase from the City of goods, services and work of any kind.

### **Land Transactions**

The City Manager shall have the authority to:

- (a) conduct negotiations on behalf of the City for the purchase, sale or exchange of land;
- (b) secure options and purchase land under the direction of Council; and
- (c) approve agreements for use of surplus space at city-owned and operated facilities.

### **Routine Expenditures**

The City Manager shall have the authority to make routine expenditures as required for the City to operate on a daily basis, until the operating budget is adopted by Council each year.

### **Delegation**

The City Manager is authorized to delegate, and to authorize the further delegation, of any authority, function or responsibility granted under this Bylaw or any other bylaw to any City employee.

### **Dismissal**

The City Manager may only be dismissed by an affirmative vote of a majority of all Members of Council.

## **Yorkton Emergency Measures Organization (EMO)**

Emergency Measures Coordinator  
- Fire Chief Trevor Morrissey

It is the responsibility of governments at all levels to ensure the safety and well being of their citizens. At the municipal level, these protective services encompass Police, Fire, Ambulance and many other agencies including EMO.

EMO is responsible for the planning, training and coordination necessary to ensure a unified and a timely response for extraordinary incidents that are natural or manmade which could include large chemical spills, tornadoes, severe storms, floods, etc.

It is the regular duty of EMO to develop and coordinate emergency plans with service chiefs and to provide training in emergency site management so that a multiple agency response can be efficiently managed.

The coordinating of a focused response occurs as a result of an operational process that gathers the service chiefs together into one room during a crisis...the EOC or the Emergency Operations Center.

EMO provides and maintains the facilities required to house the EOC for these extraordinary incidents. The EOC is equipped with a variety of communications equipment, map displays, a conference room setting and media release center.

Yorkton's EOC center is located within the Fire Hall – 9 Smith Street E.

### **City Auditor**

The City of Yorkton engages the services of *Baker Tilly SK LLP* to conduct all of its Audits.

### **City Solicitor**

The City of Yorkton engages the services of *Rusnak Balacko Kachur Rusnak* as it's legal counsel.

## City Clerk's Office

Director of Legislation & Procedures (City Clerk)  
- Jessica Matsalla

**\*\*The following sections are an excerpt from City of Yorkton Bylaw No. 17/2017\*\***

### **Duties – *The Cities Act***

- (1) The City Clerk shall be responsible for carrying out the duties required by the *Act*.
- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the City Clerk shall:
  - (a) attend all meetings of Council and truly record in the minutes all resolutions and proceedings of Council;
  - (b) take charge of and safely keep all books, documents and records of the City committed to the charge of the City Clerk;
  - (c) summon all meetings of Council, prepare and distribute agendas as appropriate, communicate the resolutions and instructions of Council to the appropriate parties and conduct the official correspondence of Council;
  - (d) maintain an index register containing certified copies of all bylaws of the city;
  - (e) have custody of the seal of the City;
  - (f) ensure that Council is advised in writing of its legislative responsibilities pursuant to the *Act* or any other Act;
  - (g) ensure that public notice is given by the *Act* or any other Act;
  - (h) provide the Minister with any statements reports or other information that the Minister may require pursuant to the *Act*; and
  - (i) appoint an Acting City Clerk in the absence of the City Clerk.
- (3) The City Clerk shall ensure that the duties described in subsections (1) and (2) are provided to any Council Committee that is carrying out powers, duties or functions delegated to them by Council.

### **Duties – *The Local Government Elections Act***

The City Clerk shall be responsible for carrying out the duties required by *The Local Government Elections Act (LGEA)*, and any amendments thereto, including acting as Returning Officer for all elections, unless Council chooses otherwise as per the *LGEA*.

### **Other Duties**

The City Clerk shall:

- (a) provide administrative support services to Councillors;
- (b) perform such other duties as required by statute, bylaw or otherwise assigned by Council;
- (c) provide research, information and advice on procedural matters, bylaws and resolutions to the City Manager and civic administration and for such purpose shall report to and be accountable to the City Manager.
- (d) carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the City Manager, and for such purposes, shall report to and be accountable to the City Manager.

### Duties – Boards and Agencies

The City Clerk shall provide administrative support to such boards, agencies and other organizations as Council may approve, and for such purposes, shall report to the board, agency or organization.

### Reporting and Accountability

Except where otherwise specified in this Bylaw, the City Clerk shall report to and be accountable to Council.

### Dismissal

The City Clerk may only be dismissed by an affirmative vote of a majority of all Council Members.

### Leasing of Land and Property Holdings (Residential & Agricultural)

Inventory of all residential and agricultural land and property holdings available for lease by the City of Yorkton is compiled and catalogued. Leasing of city owned land is subject to City of Yorkton Policy 10.230 - Leasing of City Owned Lands.

### City Archives

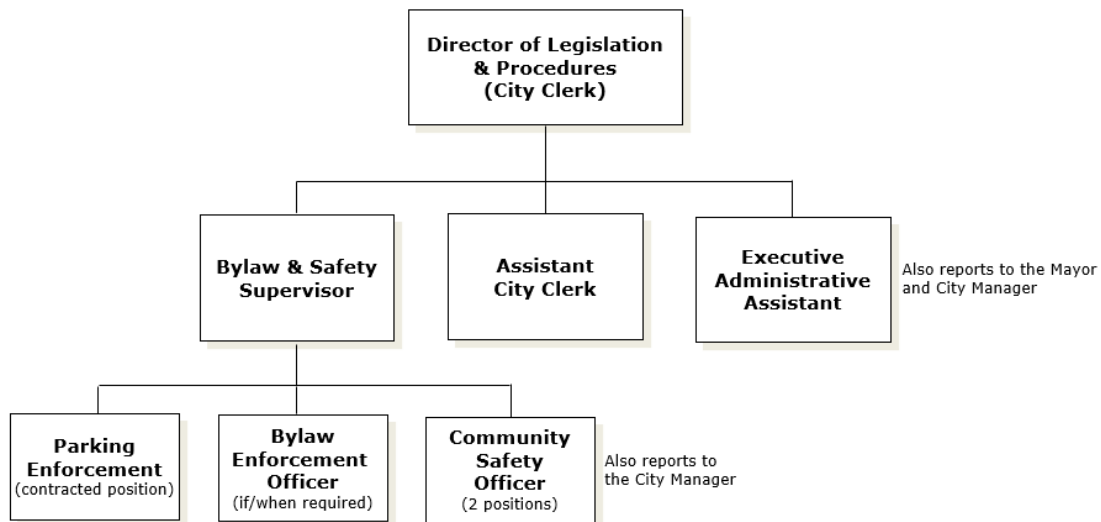
The City Clerk is responsible for preserving and providing access to City records that are deemed to have enduring historical and administrative value. Records contained in the Archives include bylaws, correspondence, committee minutes, Council minutes, reports, statistics, tax assessment rolls, maps, photographs, and other materials.

### Bylaw Services Division:

The Bylaw & Safety Supervisor is responsible for reviewing and updating all Bylaws, and provides a Bylaw Enforcement supervision process to ensure consistency, to deal with the public by interpreting the bylaws, educating the public on the need for Bylaws and addressing the concerns raised.

The Community Safety Officer & Bylaw Enforcement Officer investigate complaints of bylaw infractions, various provincial statutes, monitor properties for compliance with the Bylaws, issue tickets and attend appeal hearings and court hearings to defend the City’s actions as legislated within the City of Yorkton jurisdiction.

## Director of Legislation & Procedures (City Clerk) Organizational Chart



## Finance Department

Director of Finance

- Ashley Stradeski

**\*\*The following sections are an excerpt from City of Yorkton Bylaw No. 17/2017\*\***

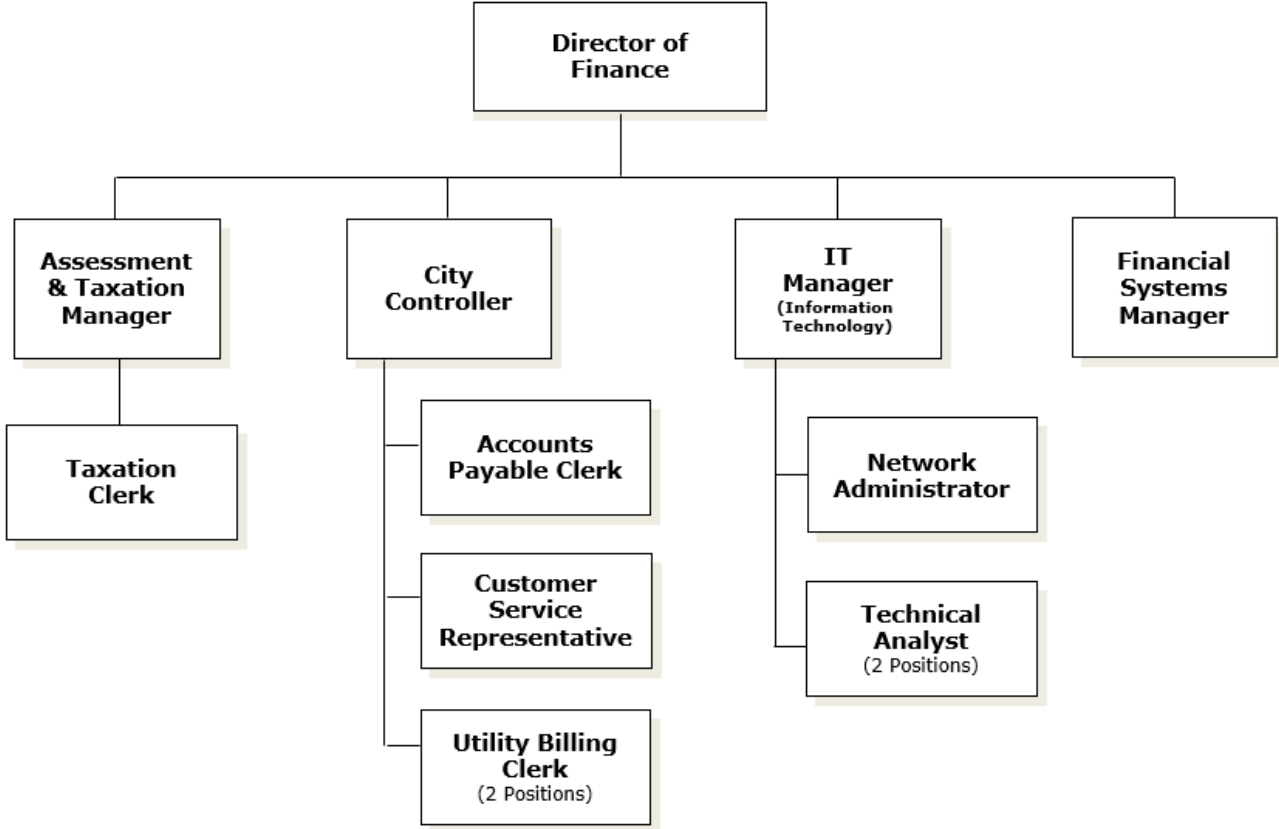
### Duties

- (1) The Director of Finance shall be responsible for carrying out the duties assigned by the City Manager.
- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the Director of Finance shall:
  - (a) control city funds, investments, collections, and disbursements, as well as cash forecasting and long range financial planning;
  - (b) approve cheque requisitions and payment vouchers;
  - (c) supervise all accounting functions: Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, payroll, General Ledger, Utilities, taxes, parking tickets, business and dog licenses, inventory and work orders;
  - (d) prepares financial statements for all funds;
  - (e) provides assigned Auditors all information required to allow Auditors to perform annual audit duties
  - (f) prepares financial analysis on various cost centres and provides pertinent information on current issues;
  - (g) prepares and compiles the annual budget estimates in conjunction with the Department Heads and City Manager;
  - (h) responsible for information systems, internal controls, data integrity, as well as overseeing hardware purchases and software development in co-operation with the City Clerk/Director of Human Resources;
  - (i) verifies and is responsible for the Assessment/Tax collection department and balancing the Assessment Roll;
  - (j) provides information to the public on various financial issues;
  - (k) ensures department is customer service orientated. Handles customer complaints, ensures appropriate action is taken and decisions are made within City policy.

### Bank Accounts

The Director of Finance is authorized by Council to open or close the accounts that hold the money of the City.

# Finance Organizational Chart

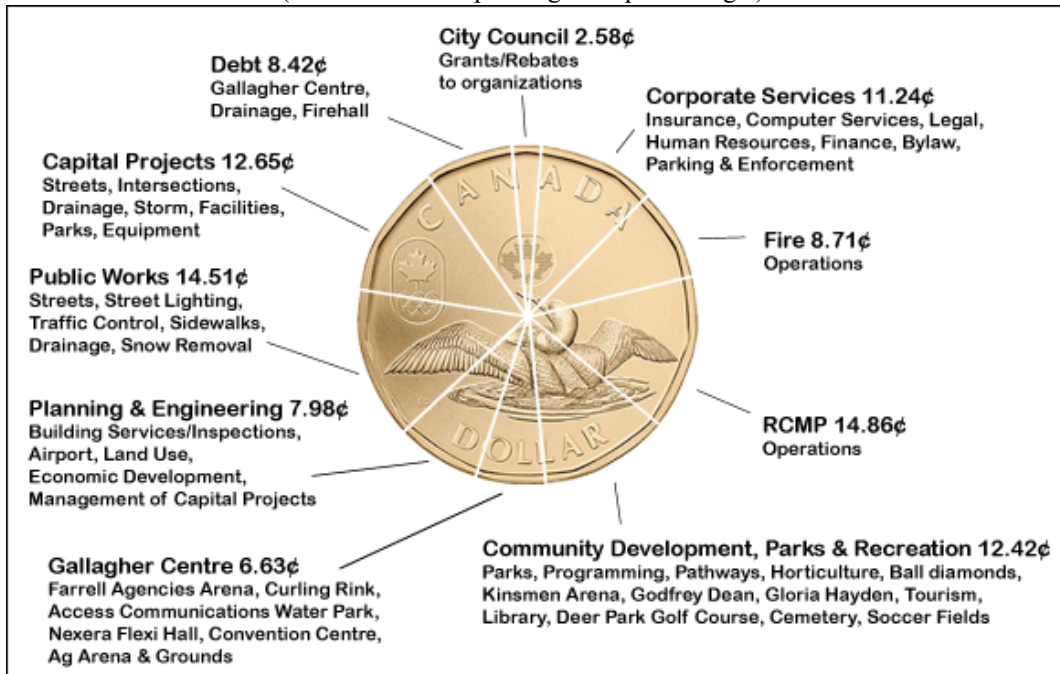


## City of Yorkton – Financial Statistics

	2020	2019	2018	2017
<b>Net Operating Cost:</b>				
Fire	\$ 2,554,405	\$ 2,692,598	\$ 2,557,891	\$ 2,414,400
RCMP	\$ 4,403,610	\$ 4,247,612	\$ 4,205,653	\$ 4,091,283
Council & Grants	\$ 790,621	\$ 743,354	\$ 709,066	\$ 695,752
Administration/Bylaw Control	\$ 3,320,507	\$ 3,237,635	\$ 3,110,741	\$ 3,193,894
Library	\$ 571,393	\$ 584,116	\$ 600,944	\$ 585,445
Community Development, Parks & Rec.	\$ 2,483,483	\$ 2,371,391	\$ 2,178,892	\$ 2,058,157
Gallagher Centre & Water Park	\$ 2,109,720	\$ 2,422,813	\$ 2,160,494	\$ 1,903,429
Deer Park Golf Course	\$ 205,864	\$ 299,665	\$ 250,599	\$ 230,280
Planning/Eng/Building/Economic	\$ 2,105,807	\$ 2,255,746	\$ 2,040,181	\$ 2,198,043
Public Works	\$ 4,129,535	\$ 4,017,807	\$ 3,918,278	\$ 3,648,350
Transit/Airport	\$ 410,685	\$ 451,903	\$ 415,312	\$ 414,633
Water Utility Surplus		\$ -	\$ (100,000)	\$ (100,000)
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 23,085,630</b>	<b>\$ 23,324,640</b>	<b>\$ 22,048,051</b>	<b>\$ 21,333,666</b>
<b>Debt – Gallagher Centre &amp; Fire Hall</b>	<b>\$ 2,485,751</b>	<b>\$ 2,483,780</b>	<b>\$ 2,478,093</b>	<b>\$ 1,783,635</b>
<b>Net Capital</b>	<b>\$ 5,125,168</b>	<b>\$ 4,568,856</b>	<b>\$ 4,913,644</b>	<b>\$ 5,020,002</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 30,696,549</b>	<b>\$ 30,377,276</b>	<b>\$ 29,439,788</b>	<b>\$ 28,137,303</b>
<b>Budgeted Tax Increase:</b>	<b>2.90%</b>	<b>2.90%</b>	<b>4.55%</b>	<b>6.50%</b>

### 2020 City Budget Where do tax dollars go?

(Based on 2020 Operating & Capital Budget)





**2020 Mill Rates**  
 <Approved by City Bylaw No. 4/2020>

<b>Class</b>	<b>Sub-Class</b>	<b>Mill Rate Factor</b>	<b>Effective Mill Rate</b>	<b>Fire &amp; Police Base Tax</b>	<b>Gallagher Centre Upgrade Base Tax</b>
<b>Agricultural</b>					
	Agricultural	0.57904	8.28		
	Non-arable land	0.57904	8.28		
<b>Residential</b>					
	Residential	0.40036	5.73	\$795.00	\$100.00
	Vacant Land	2.94626	42.13		
	Multi-Unit/Condominium	0.40036	5.73	\$795.00	\$100.00
	High Density Multi Unit	0.36036	5.15	\$715.50	\$ 90.00
	High Density Vacant Land	2.20973	31.60		
<b>Commercial/Industrial</b>					
	Commercial/BID	1.47313	21.07		
	Vacant Land	2.20973	31.60		
	Industrial	1.25214	17.91		
	Large Commercial and Industrial	1.69377	24.22		
	Halls	1.10486	15.80		
	Mall	2.46016	35.18		
	Warehouse	1.10486	15.80		
	Railway R of Way	1.47313	21.07		
	Elevators	1.47313	21.07		

The following City of Yorkton bylaw pertains to **Property Tax Discounts and Penalties**:

City of Yorkton  
Saskatchewan

**Bylaw No. 23/2012**

**A Bylaw of the City of Yorkton in the Province of Saskatchewan to provide for the prompt payment of taxes and the application of discounts and penalties thereto.**

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WHEREAS the Council of the City of Yorkton in Council assembled hereby enacts as follows:

1. In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression:
  - (a) "Taxes" shall mean taxes imposed on property, business, or special franchises subject to assessment, or the taxes imposed thereon for municipal, school or any other purposes, all service taxes or rental taxes and includes local improvement rates and taxes.
2.
  - (1) The Treasurer of the City of Yorkton is hereby authorized to receive, in any year, payments on account of taxes and to issue prepayment receipts, notwithstanding that the taxes for such year have not been levied or that the Assessment Roll has not been adopted by the Council.
  - (2) All prepayments received shall be applied firstly to arrears of taxes and any penalties due thereon and the balance over and above the amount paid for arrears and any penalties thereon shall be applied on the current year's taxes.
  - (3) No refund shall be made on any prepayment unless requested by the taxpayer and any amount prepaid in excess of the levy for the current year's taxes shall be applied to payment of the taxes levied in the next following year and shall be treated as a prepayment on the said taxes levied in the next following year.
3. All taxes shall be paid on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year in which taxes are levied.
4.
  - (1) An additional percentage charge shall be paid by way of penalty for default in payment on any portion of taxes remaining unpaid after the 1st day of July, in the year in which the taxes are imposed, such charges to be based on a sliding scale corresponding with the length of time default is made, as follows:
    - (a) A charge of One Half Percent (.50%) on any taxes remaining unpaid on the 1st day of July, and;

- (b) An additional charge of One Half Percent (.50%) on the 1st day of each of the succeeding months of August, September, October, November and December, of the year in which the taxes are imposed on any taxes remaining unpaid thereon.
- (2) The penalties provided in Subsection 3(1) hereof shall be added to and form part of the taxes remaining unpaid after the 31st day of December, in the year in which they are imposed.
- (3) If the whole or any portion of the combined amount of arrears of taxes and penalty remains unpaid after December 31st of any year in which the taxes are imposed, a penalty of Twelve Percent (12%) per annum (1% per month), shall be added to and thereby form part of the arrears of taxes and penalty on the 1st day of each month thereafter.
- (4) The provisions of Subsection 3(1) hereof shall not apply to any taxes levied pursuant to the supplemental Tax Roll.
- 5. Bylaw No. 46/96 passed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 1996 and any revisions thereto is hereby repealed effective the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 2012.
- 6. This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

Introduced and read a first time this 14th day of May A.D. 2012.

Read a second time this 14th day of May A.D. 2012.

Read a third time and adopted this 14th day of May A.D. 2012.

## **Fire Protective Services**

Fire Chief

- Trevor Morrissey

Yorkton Fire Protective Services

9 Smith Street East

Yorkton, Saskatchewan

S3N 0H2

Telephone: 306-786-1795

Fax: 306-786-6588

Yorkton Fire Protective Services responds to and mitigates incidents involving fire, rescue and dangerous goods. Prevention services include fire safety education for the general public, inspection services, plan review for new construction, and emergency plan consultation.

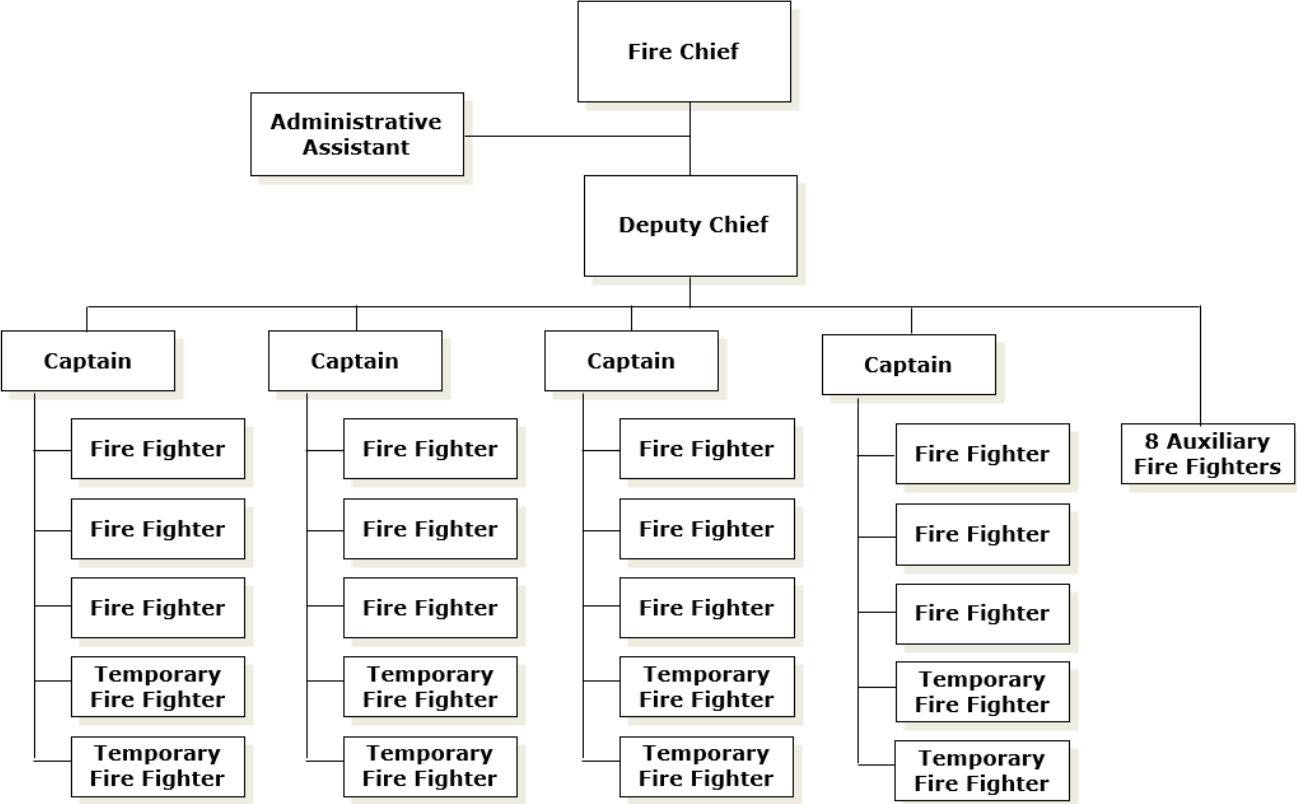
Yorkton Fire Protective Services is composed of 16 full-time unionized fire fighters, 8 temporary fire fighters, 8 auxiliary fire fighters, 2 Chief Officers, and 1 support staff. It operates out of one centrally located fire station that provides immediate response to all locations within a radius of 5 miles of the fire station. The department provides fire and rescue services beyond the 5-mile radius into the RMs of Orkney and Wallace on a fee for service basis.

The Department currently has an inventory consisting of:

- 2 Engines
- 1 Heavy Rescue
- 1 Aerial Platform (100')
- 1 Tanker
- 2 Utility Vehicles
- 3 Command Units
- 1 Mobile Emergency Operations Unit

Yorkton Fire Protective Services is dispatched by the Provincial Dispatch Center located in the City of Prince Albert. Yorkton Fire Protective Services provides the City of Yorkton with non-emergency concern/complaint phone service, providing City residents with 24-hour access to the Corporation's services.

# Fire Protective Services Organizational Chart



## Human Resources

Director of Human Resources  
- Gord Kennedy

The Director of Human Resources provides leadership for all aspects of the human resource function for the organization, and is supported by the Human Resources Advisor, two Payroll & Benefits Co-ordinators, and a Human Resources Administrator who provides support to Human Resources and to the City Clerk's Office. The structure of the Department is outlined in the organizational chart below.

The department directly aligns its role and activities to support the mission, vision, values and strategic plan of the organization. The City of Yorkton's mission statement is:

*Working with our community, our committed and skilled Staff  
make Yorkton the friendliest, safest and most desirable city in which to live and grow.*

Our committed and skilled staff are the foundation for the City of Yorkton's mission statement, our people are our key competitive advantage. To provide ongoing support, the City requires a forward looking proactive approach to managing its human resources.

As strategic partners in the organization, Human Resources works with employees, supervisors, managers, directors and our unions to ensure that the City of Yorkton is a healthy and productive work environment.

The key services provided by the Department include:

### **Organizational and Employee Development**

This service area provides direction and support to organizational development initiatives including assisting departments to be effective and efficient through support in implementing change initiatives, performance management, training and development, coaching, team building, leadership development, career development and succession planning.

An essential measure for the City is continual assessment and monitoring of internal and external business trends, opportunities and threats. To remain competitive in the ever-changing economy, these trends and forecasts must be monitored to ensure proactive alignment of the City to move forward.

### **Total Compensation and Benefits**

Within this service area, the Department is responsible for the timely provision of benefits administration including benefits orientation, employee consultations and maintenance of accurate information through the internal Human Resources and Payroll Systems (Vadim). Conducting of regular salary and benefits reviews and monitoring the external environment for trends will allow the City to remain as an employer of choice within the Yorkton region.

### **Employee and Labour Relations**

Within the organizational structure of the City, there are two unionized bargaining groups and one non-unionized employee group. The Human Resources Department negotiates, interprets and administers both the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) collective agreements. As well, the Department is responsible for managing the terms and conditions of employment for the out-of-scope employee group. Providing employee and management consultation and ensuring compliance through education with current legislation and practices is a key responsibility for the Department.

### **Recruitment and Retention**

The Human Resources Department works in collaboration with all City Departments in workforce planning and recruits the right people at the right time. From recruitment to selection, the Department supports the entire cycle through orientation, retention, engagement, and employee recognition.

### **Payroll**

The Human Resource Department administers and oversees the timely deposit of bi-weekly pay to all City employees. Payroll staff ensure that legislative requirements are met and that collective agreements are followed and adhered to.

### **Occupational Health & Safety**

Safe work environments and safe work practices are key aspects of the City's Safety Management Program. The City has a high commitment to safety, not only for its own employees, but also for contractors and visitors. In 2011, in consultation with the Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association (SCSA), the City began working towards the nationally accredited Certificate of Recognition (COR) certification. Leading the City's responsibility for Health and Safety, the Department strives for ongoing compliance with the *Saskatchewan Employment Act* and Occupational Health & Safety Regulations.

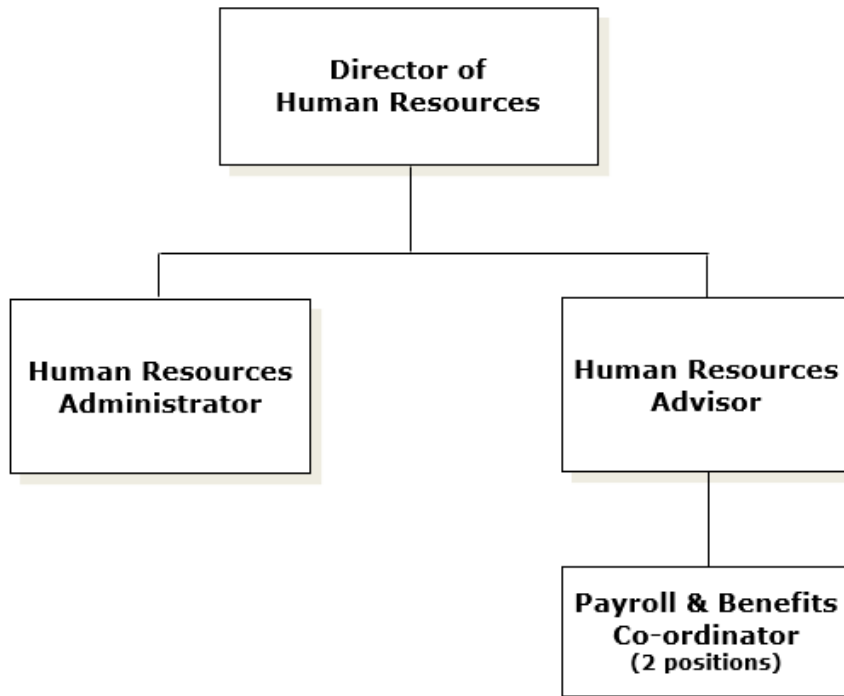
### **Policy and Procedure**

To provide a consistent and fair approach to City practices, the Human Resources Department provides a complete set of policies and procedures to guide the organization. The Department researches and develops policy based best practices and organizational culture; including conducting reviews, policy maintenance and providing organizational communication and consulting.

### **Human Resources Strategy**

To ensure the Departments forward looking plans are aligned with the organizations strategic direction, the Department must play a leading role in the development of the organizations human resources. Developing the departmental strategies and business plan to fully integrate with the overall strategic plan and aligning with the mission, vision and values will enable the City to achieve its objectives. Finally, the annual budget for the Human Resources Department will be developed and aligned with the departmental business plan.

## Human Resources Organizational Chart





## Community Development, Parks & Recreation

Director of Community Development, Parks & Recreation – Darcy McLeod

### Values...

In addition to the values of the City of Yorkton, The Community Development, Parks & Recreation Department further values...

- **Trust** – earned and honored by all staff
- **Diversity and Inclusion** – we welcome and include everyone
- **Responsibility and Accountability** – we are efficient and effective with the resources with which we have been provided.

### Mission...

Investing in our community is crucial to realizing the City’s mission of making Yorkton the friendliest, safest and most desirable city in which to live and grow...

The Community Development, Parks & Recreation Department is committed to building individual, organizational and community capacity that will enhance the overall well-being of individuals and families and contribute to the positive growth and development of our community, therefore;

### The Community Development, Parks & Recreation Department will...

- Support the development and sustainability of community based organizations.
- Engage and support individuals and organizations to provide support for community based organizations.
- Mobilize individuals, families and community organizations to promote a vibrant sense of community.
- Engage and empower youth to become leaders.
- Connect people to resources and information.
- Encourage the development of, and provide support for, partnerships and co-operative relationships.
- Ensure people have access to a broad range of affordable and accessible sport, culture, parks, recreation and active living opportunities.
- Ensure people have opportunities to make healthy lifestyle choices.
- Protect parks, open spaces and the natural environment to ensure that they remain accessible for public enjoyment and learning.
- Ensure the development and ongoing maintenance of a community emergency preparedness plan.

## **Director**

As part of the Senior Management team, and reporting to the City Manager, the Director of Community Development, Parks & Recreation is directly responsible for the overall operation of the Department. This includes administration, planning, organizing, co-ordination, control and evaluation of City parks, facilities, programs, staff and administrative services for the Department. All of the above is implemented in accordance with approved policies of City Council.

## **Administrative Co-ordinator**

The Administrative Co-ordinator is responsible for ensuring efficient office operation, accurate records and day-to-day reception of public inquiries and requests. This includes processing all correspondence, reports, minutes, memorandums, and related activities for supervisory staff in the department including the Director of Community Development, Parks & Recreation, Parks Manager, Community Development Manager, Recreation Services Manager, and the Golf Course Superintendent. This further includes processing daily cash reports from facilities and programs, acting as the Department front line representation for the City Cemetery, and preparing payroll for all Department staff.

## **Marketing Assistant**

The Marketing Assistant is responsible for providing support in any Cemetery relations and handling all marketing initiatives. This includes developing all of the creative content for Department wide advertising, brochures, newsletters, posters, leisure guides, as well as signage, banners and educational materials provided to promote Department activities, programs and services.

## **Division Mandates**

### **Community Development Division**

The underlying objective behind the Community Development Division is to provide the supportive environment and capacity that empowers members of the community to do for themselves. Community Development is defined as a process in which people of a community organize themselves for planning and action. It is a process for changing communities toward desired goals and emphasizes a concern for active participation and involvement by citizens through a coordinated effort. A visible and resource effective application of this model is the provision of parks and recreation services at the community level.

The Community Development Division provides leadership development, organizational development, and volunteer support services. This Division will support, advise on, organize or participate in public initiatives conducted for the purpose of: supporting volunteer capacity; leadership development of diverse and under-represented populations; building partnerships between organizations; and information sharing. It celebrates the heritage and maintains the local history of the community. The Division creates a welcoming, safe and inclusive community that encourages social inclusion, community interaction, vibrancy and cohesion. Grant programs whose purpose is to assist volunteer, community-based organizations to deliver sport, culture, recreation, and park programs are administered through this Division. These services are available to non-profit, volunteer, community-based organizations that deliver sport, culture, parks and recreation programs within the city.

### **Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant Program**

The Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant Program helps volunteer-operated, non-profit community organizations develop sport, culture and recreation programs. Applications are online at <https://www.yorkton.ca/dept/leisure/grants.asp>

The deadlines to apply are March 1 and October 1 of each year. Grant year is from April 1 to March 31.

### **Dream Broker Program**

Children and youth in Saskatchewan face various social and economic challenges that may adversely affect their quality of life. A large proportion of children and youth attending schools in some neighborhoods are less likely to be physically active than their counterparts. These children are restricted from accessing sport, culture and recreational activities due to barriers such as: economic circumstance, awareness, cultural insensitivity and access to transportation. Caregivers in these neighborhoods need more support to provide greater opportunities that contribute to developing children and youth who are healthy, active, and successful members of their community.

The Dream Broker program is offered to children and youth attending Dr. Brass, St. Mary, and St. Alphonsus and Columbia elementary schools. The program works in close partnership with the community and the school staff to connect children, youth and their families to positive programming and other opportunities in the community. This program is made possible through a partnership with Parkland Valley Sport, Culture and Recreation District, with funding from SaskSport.

### **Emergency Preparedness Planning**

Should an emergency situation arise in our city, be it severe weather or another community disaster, a range of community organizations must pull together to provide a coordinated response. The Department of Community Development, Parks & Recreation works with those agencies to ensure Yorkton is ready to respond in the event of a major emergency or disaster.

It is also very important that businesses and households develop their own emergency plans. The Department of Community Development, Parks & Recreation supports the development of community resources to assist businesses and residents with their own emergency plans.

### **Heritage Researcher**

This permanent, part time position manages information, communication and administration of the city archives, history publications and promotes Yorkton's heritage.

### **Public Transit**

The City's transit service, also known as the Yorkton Transit operates on a fixed route and schedule. The City contracted SaskAbilities in 2011 to operate the transit system. The City provides, and maintains the equipment and vehicles.

## **Recreation Services Division**

The mandate of the Recreation Services Division is to get city residents to participate in recreation activities of their choice. The Division works within the community to ensure that a broad range of sport, culture, parks, and recreation opportunities are available and affordable to a broad spectrum of our residents and visitors.

The Recreation Services Division is responsible for the design and delivery of sport, culture and recreation programs and services. To encourage repeat customers and attract new clientele, staff spends time getting to know their customer in order to offer choices that meet their needs (package, place, product, and price). Informed and responsive staff provides reception, registration, and booking services for Department operated facilities. This division also oversees parade and block party applications, park rental requests, meeting room and facility rentals, and other special occasion applications that occur year round throughout the City.

The Recreation Services Division manages recreation facilities (*Gloria Hayden Community Centre, Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre, Yorkton Public Library as well as the Tourism/Chamber of Commerce Building*) to support those activities delivered by the City, non-profit groups and other community recreation service providers. Provision of safe, well-maintained, attractive and accessible program venues is key to the success of meeting the needs of recreation and community service providers who operate programs at the Department operated facilities.

### **Gloria Hayden Community Centre**

Located at 279 Morrison Drive, the centre has become a favorite recreation spot for Yorkton citizens. The Kinsmen Walking Track is a 140m rubberized indoor track that is convenient and removed from the elements for walkers and joggers. The centre also features two racquet courts that can be converted for racquetball, squash, handball, wallyball and aerobics. The Gymnasium at the centre is home to several leisure programs and community user groups throughout the winter months. With Pickleball increasing in popularity with older adults, Pickleball programming, tournaments and clinics were increased. With more programming becoming the focus, Fitness Boot Camp and Yoga Programs have been hosted in the Gloria Hayden Community Centre and in City outdoor park spaces. The Gloria Hayden Community Centre is also the rental location for discs for the Patrick Park and Rodney Ridge Disc Golf Courses, and for pickleball equipment for the outdoor courts located at Heritage Heights Park and Knights of Columbus Park.

However, with the COVID-19 pandemic making its way to Saskatchewan, the Gloria Hayden Community Centre was forced to close on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and did not reopen to the public until September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020; with restrictions and guidelines in place that met the standards put in place by Public Health.

### **Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre**

Located at 49 Smith Street East, the Godfrey Dean houses the Godfrey Dean Art Galleries, the offices for the Yorkton Arts Council and the Yorkton Film Festival. There is also meeting and seminar space for up to 50 people available for rent. The adjacent Land Titles Building is a rental space for meetings, workshops, presentations, and other small events, with a capacity of up to 150 people. With more programming becoming the focus, Yoga programs started being offered at the Godfrey Dean Cultural Centre.

## **Yorkton Public Library**

Located at 93 Broadway Street West, the Yorkton Public Library contains two rental rooms perfect for meetings, workshops, bridal/baby shower, and parties and get-togethers. With ample parking and the separate North entrance, rental groups can access these spaces outside of the library's normal operating hours, without having to go through the library proper.

## **Programs**

The City works with Yorkton's non-profit sport, culture and recreation organizations to ensure public spaces are available for their programs and services. In addition, the City offers programs in its facilities and parks to maximize use and provide recreation opportunities otherwise not provided by the community. The following are examples of some programs offered by the City:

- ***S-CAPE***

S-CAPE stands for **S**ummer **C**ulture, **A**rts and **P**hysically active **E**xperiences. Participants take part in a variety of sport, culture and recreational activities both indoors and outdoors. The program is located at the Gloria Hayden Community Centre. The program is for participants ages 6 – 12.

It was decided that S-CAPE was not going to be offered in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions and the ever evolving guidelines. Staff and participant safety was the lead reason for the cancelation of the popular program. The City still wanted to provide a summer programming service, so the Park Ambassador program was developed. The Park Ambassador program provided the opportunities for families to gather ideas of activities that can be conducted safely at home and to learn about outdoor facilities that can be used and activities that are outside their door.

With guidelines and restrictions not being as fluid as it was in 2020, the intentions to run the S-CAPE program in 2021 are optimistic.

- ***Yorkton In Bloom Competition***

On an annual basis, Community Development, Parks & Recreation and the Yorkton & District Horticultural Society have coordinated and promoted the Yorkton In Bloom Competition. This is an exciting program that focuses on beautification of the city. This initiative was designed to involve the citizens of Yorkton in the challenge of improving the visual appeal of our city, and to compete for local awards. Some of the categories include Best Home Grounds (Front & Back Yard) and Best Vegetable Garden. Citizens over the age of 75 years are able to compete in the Golden Bloom Competition.

Over the last few years, the Yorkton In Bloom Competition has been cancelled due to lack of interest and low registration numbers; in the case of 2020, the Yorkton In Bloom Competition was not held due to COVID-19.

- ***Drop In Sports***

Programs provided for adults to enjoy recreational sports. Choose from badminton, basketball, volleyball, pickleball and more. For more information call 306-786-1750.

Drop In Sports was modified on a regular basis as new guidelines and restrictions drop in sports were permitted. Drop In Sports were running on a regular basis and were well

attended. Restriction came into place on November 27, 2020 that forced the shutdown of drop in sports until further notice.

- ***Block Parties***

A Block Party Application Package has been developed, providing residents with an easy to follow process for them to host a block party. A games and ideas package is also available, with activities and resources that residents can use to engage and socialize with their neighbours. However, with gatherings extremely discouraged for a majority of the year, Block Parties were suspended due to the outdoor gathering restrictions put in place by Public Health.

- ***Learn to Play***

A few learn to play programs were held, including demonstrations on racquetball, and pickleball. With the rapid growth of Pickleball in the Yorkton area, it was intended to host more clinics than what was initially planned. However, COVID-19 forced a drastic reduction in the amount of Learn to Play offerings that could have been held.

### **Special Events**

- ***Canada Day***

The Community Development, Parks and Recreation department partners with the Western Development Museum to provide Canada Day celebrations. Due to COVID-19, many large events (including Canada Day) was either suspended or modified to meet Public Health requirements. For Yorkton's Canada Day, events were cancelled for 2020.

- ***City Wide Registration Night***

In March almost 20 sport, culture and recreation groups promote their activities and take registration for their spring and summer season.

Every September, over 40 sport, culture and recreation groups will be in attendance promoting their activities and taking registrations for the upcoming year.

In 2020, the opportunity to host City Wide Registration Nights was not an option due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions. As the pandemic evolves and Public Health Orders are adapted, decisions will be made as to whether or not City Wide Registration Nights will be held in 2021.

### **Leisure Activity Guides**

All community groups may submit information to be placed in the guides at no charge to them (distributed in the Spring and Fall of each year). Leisure Guides are mailed to households in Yorkton by *Yorkton This Week*, and are available online at [www.yorkton.ca](http://www.yorkton.ca) and at various facilities throughout the City.

### **Deer Park Municipal Golf Course**

Located just minutes west of the city on Highway #52 you will find a golfers delight. Deer Park is considered to be one of the top ranking 18 hole golf courses in the province. Water, sand and multiple tee areas compliment the already challenging terrain. To help you enjoy your golf experience, also available are: driving range, electric power carts, rental equipment and a fully stocked pro shop with CPGA Professionals. A full service lounge and restaurant are open mid-April to mid-October. Visit [www.golfdeerpark.com](http://www.golfdeerpark.com) for more information.

The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in a delayed opening of the Golf course by 2 weeks. Other restrictions placed on the course included increased time between tee offs as well as restrictions on food and beverage service and the number of people allowed in the clubhouse and pro shop at any given time. Twelve minute tee times were received favourable throughout the summer months.

The Deer Park Men's Club provided funding to develop a new green on hole #7, and the City provided funding for the development of a new #8 hole. Both of these projects were completed in 2019, however they did not open until the summer of 2020.

### **Parks Division**

The Parks Division is responsible for the maintenance and preservation of the City of Yorkton parks and open spaces. This is accomplished by utilizing horticultural maintenance standards, maintenance contracts and policy development.

#### **Passive Parks**

The City of Yorkton has a number of passive parks throughout the community. These park spaces do not have any playground or sport equipment and are designed to enhance the community through the beauty of green space. Some of the highlights at our passive parks include walking paths at **Logan Green**, **Shaw Park** and **Franko Park**, an Arboretum/Dulmage Farmstead Heritage Site at the Ravine Ecological Preserve, and the Botanical Garden located at **Logan Green**.

In 2011, stationary fitness equipment was added to **Erichsen Park**. Shaw Park is home to the sculpture "Doorways to Opportunity" by Lionel Auburn Peyachew which was a Saskatchewan Centennial 2005 Commission Project. If you're looking for a location for a quiet relaxing escape, then any of our passive parks are the place for you.

#### **Active Parks**

- *Knights of Columbus Park* - Located on Circlebrooke Drive, this park has lighting throughout, permanent benches and walking paths, an activity hill and tennis courts that are lit until 10:30 p.m. throughout the summer, playground structure equipment, 2 outdoor rinks - 1 full size and 1 smaller, and a ball diamond with a backstop. Basketball nets are located in the large outdoor arena.
- *BMX Park* - This is a BMX bike course located east of Columbia School.
- *Silver Heights Park* - Located on Sunset Drive North, this active space is home to a newly installed Crockicurl Rink in December of 2019 and an improved outdoor rink, with permanent boards and lights until 10:30 p.m. during respective seasons, playground equipment, an asphalt pad for basketball and assorted games, spray park and walking pathways with benches. Spray park months of operation (weather permitting) are May long weekend through September long weekend. Renovations were completed to the spray park in 2017.

- *Patrick Park* - Located on King Street, this park has an 18-hole disc golf course in addition to permanent game and picnic tables.
- *Weinmaster Park* - This large park space is located on Morrison Drive in Yorkton and provides a fully accessible playground structure, a spray park (typically operating May long weekend to September long weekend from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.), an asphalt pad for basketball and assorted games, walking pathways, an activity hill, outdoor rink and picnic tables and benches.
- *Heritage Heights Park* - Located on McBurney Drive, this park has a newly installed Crokicurl Rink in December of 2019. This park also includes 2 tennis courts, which can also be used for pickleball courts and an outdoor rink with lighting until 10:30 p.m. during respective seasons, a ball diamond with backstop, playground equipment, a soccer/lacrosse field, and walking pathways. Basketball nets are located in the outdoor arena.
- *Jackson Park* - This park space offers playground equipment (ages 2 to 5), walking pathways and a sun shelter. It is located between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North.
- *Jaycee Beach* - This large recreational area is located on York Road and is home to 4 softball/baseball diamonds, an off leash dog park, seasonal concession area, bathroom facilities and a picnic area.
- *Waterloo Park* - Located on Collacott Street East, this open park space includes walking pathways, playground equipment (ages 2 to 5 years), and picnic tables.
- *Ukrainian Pioneer Park* – A new spray park constructed in 2018 will see an increase in usage at this park space. An outdoor rink, complete with rink boards, lighting and basketball courts will provide low cost to no cost outdoor recreation opportunities for families in the north central part of Yorkton. UPP can be found between 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues North.
- *Logan Green* - This natural park setting is home to the Hearts in Motion Pathway and a portion of the Trans Canada Trail, 6 km of marked trail that is accessible year round for wildlife watching, hiking, cycling, and cross country skiing.
- *Ravine Ecological Preserve* - Experience the beauty of nature by hiking the 2.8 km of natural trail at this location on Broadway Street West. Be sure to take in the walk and experience the many animals and the natural beauty of the entire area.
- *Rodney Ridge* - Located on Roslyn Avenue, this park has a bowl type landscape and lighting from dusk until 10:30 pm which is perfect for tobogganing at all hours of the day! In 2020, a 9-hole disc golf course was added to the park to make it a year-round park space.
- *Skate Park* - A concrete skate park is located just off Broadway Street on Brodie Avenue. The skate park has seasonal lighting from dusk until 10:30 pm.



- *City Centre Park* – Located on Broadway Street West in downtown Yorkton is the Centre Park. The Park features benches and a stage for entertainment for small community gatherings. The mural located on the east end of the park was designed and painted by Grant McLaughlin. The Park is available to book by calling 306-786-1780.
- *Crossthwaite Fields* – four pitches suitable for soccer, lacrosse and football can be played at this park on Mountview Road.
- *Tupper Park* - New playground equipment was installed in 2019 to add to this mature American elm Stand. Tupper Park can be found at the corner of Park Street and Tupper Ave.

### **Sports Fields**

All Sports Fields are to be booked through Community Development, Parks & Recreation at 306-786-1780.

- *Jaycee Beach Diamonds* - Four regulation size softball/baseball diamonds each with a shale infield are located between Jaycee Beach Park and Gladstone Ave North. Access to the park is on York Road.
- *Jubilee Park* - The city's premier baseball park located on Foster Street which is home to 4 diamonds including 2 senior (one with grass infield & lights), 1 bantam and 1 pee wee diamond. There is water and electricity available at these sites.
- *Lions Ball Park* - Located west of the Kinsmen Arena at 227 Prystai Way, this is a competition level softball/baseball field with shale infield and lights.
- *Logan Green Soccer Pitches* – Located off of Gladstone South, East of Yorkdale School, there are 4 regulation soccer pitches. All 4 pitches are irrigated and can be used for all soccer age groups.

### **Tennis Courts**

Four competition level tennis courts are open for use at no cost to participants located west of Kinsmen Century Field and east of the Western Development Museum. Other recreational tennis courts are available at Heritage Heights Park on McBurney Drive as well as Knights of Columbus Park on Circlebrooke Drive. Tennis courts at Western Development Museum were resurfaced in 2016 and Knights of Columbus were resurfaced in 2020.

### **Winter Activities**

- *Outdoor Rinks* - Outdoor rinks located in the city at the following locations: Knights of Columbus Park, Heritage Heights Park, Weinmaster Park, Silver Heights Park, and Ukrainian Pioneer Park. All rinks include permanent rink boards and lighting until 10:30 p.m. December 2020 an Outdoor Ice surface was placed at Appleton Greenspace.
- *Croki curl Rinks* – have been added to Silver Heights and Heritage Heights Parks in December of 2019.

- *Toboggan Hills* - toboggan hills are located within the following parks in the City - Deer Park Municipal Golf Course; Knights of Columbus Park; Rodney Ridge (formerly known as Roslyn Hill); Weinmaster Park
- *Cross Country Ski Trails* - The City of Yorkton, in cooperation with the Yorkton Cross Country Ski Club, have developed an extensive cross country ski trail system. Situated at Deer Park Municipal Golf Course on Highway #52 west, the trail system takes advantage of the natural beauty of the location.

### **Design**

The Parks Division is involved in the planning, design and development of public lands for use as parks, buffers, landscaping for civic buildings, road rights-of-ways, etc. Responsibilities include planning, estimating and administration of the capital budgets, concepts and design, project management; public and interdepartmental consultation and the development and implementation of landscape construction standards.

### **Grounds Maintenance**

The Grounds Maintenance Programs, which includes irrigation systems, is responsible for the maintenance of both irrigated and non-irrigated turf, sports fields, shrub beds, litter control and pathways.

### **Urban Forestry**

The Urban Forestry Program is responsible for the management of a tree inventory including trees within parks. This includes tree planting and pruning, disease control monitoring and prevention (i.e. Dutch Elm Disease and Emerald Ash Borer), and maintaining a tree nursery, which is utilized for the forestation of city parks, boulevards, buffer strips, medians, streetscapes and other civic open spaces. This program is also responsible for enforcing the Provincial Dutch Elm Disease Regulations by monitoring trees throughout the city for elm bark beetles and physically inspecting for improperly stored elm firewood and suspect elm trees.

### **Pest Management**

The Pest Management Program is responsible for mosquito control monitoring and implementing a larviciding program. Other pests managed through this program include gophers, canker worms, dandelions and other weed control throughout the city.

### **City Cemetery**

The City Cemetery, established in 1896, is owned and operated by the City of Yorkton, and falls under the responsibility of the Parks Division. It is located at the corner of Highway 9 and Queen Street, and is comprised of numerous trees. It is operated on a self-sufficient basis.

### **Kinsmen Arena**

The Parks Division is responsible for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of the Kinsmen Arena. This includes all training, operator certification and equipment safety courses. With final construction completed in October of 1974 at a cost of just over \$200,000, this facility is home to minor hockey users as well as adult recreational hockey users. In 1984, the Kinsmen Arena saw more improvements by way of expanded dressing rooms with washroom and shower facilities, storage and an office for Minor Sports, a larger concession, outdoor-access washrooms, a referee's and first aid room and a larger lobby. The Kinsmen Arena hosts free public skating programs during the winter season. These include general public skating on Sunday evenings as well as a Parent and Tot skating program on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. School breaks will see various shinny times available at no charge as well. Due to COVID 19 the free public skating programs usually ran at the Kinsmen Arena were cancelled for the 2020-2021 season.

### **Campground**

The City of Yorkton Campground and Recreation Area is nestled in an aspen bluff off Yellowhead Highway 16A on the west end of the city. Open from May 15 to September 30, the Campground offers the following services and attractions: on-site manager, 15 and 30 amp service sites, non-electrical sites, fresh water at each site, barbeques and picnic tables, pull through sites, minutes from downtown, attractive daily rates, shower and washroom facilities, sewer dump station, firewood available on site, reservations accepted, Visa and Mastercard accepted.

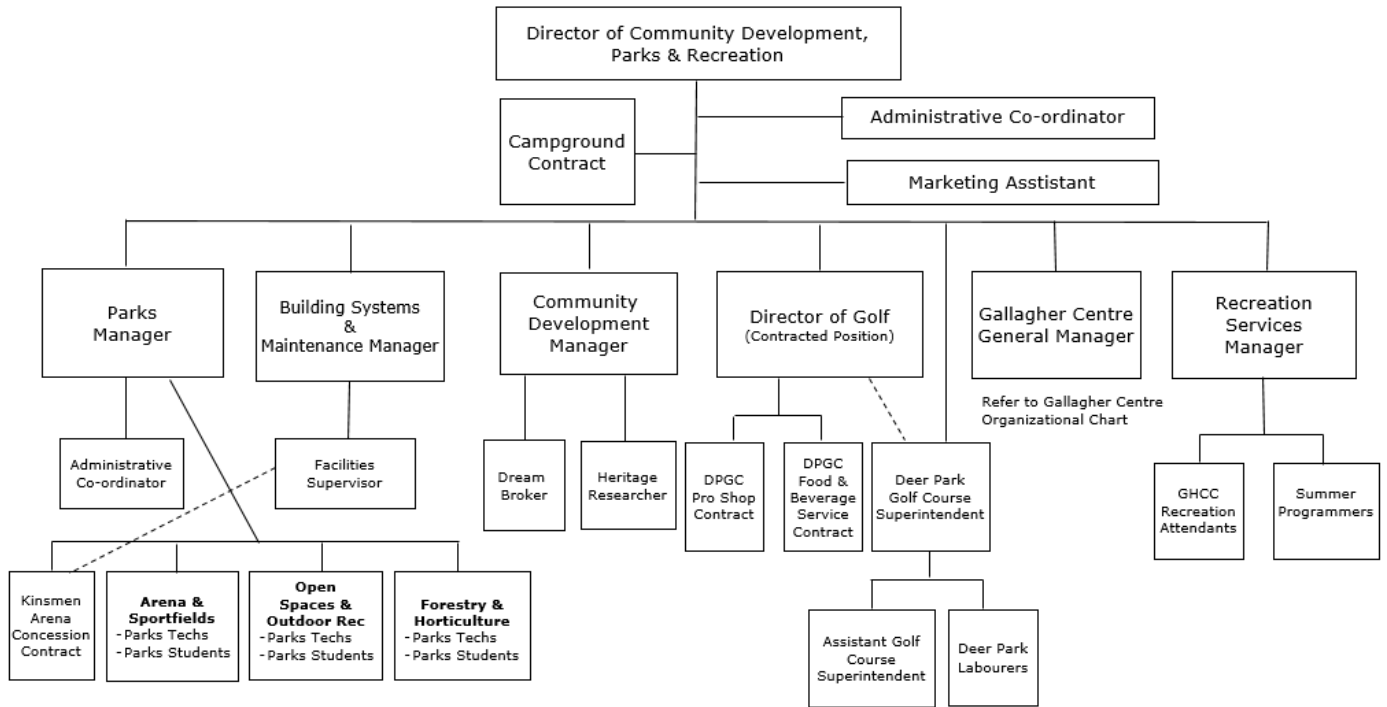
### **Garden Plots**

Located at Logan Green and Jubilee Park, a total of 32 plots are available each year. Six additional garden plots have been prepared along Dominion Avenue.

### **Pathways**

The City's pathways include both asphalt and aggregate surfaces. Asphalt surfaces can accommodate wheeled transportation including pushing baby strollers and provides an opportunity for parents to become, or stay active even though they have small children. Examples of other uses accommodated by a hard surface include cycling, rollerblading, skateboarding, walking and jogging.

# Community Development, Parks & Recreation Organizational Chart



## **Planning, Building & Development**

Director of Planning, Building and Development - Michael Eger

The Department is generally responsible for fostering and regulating growth and development within the City. The Department consists of three Divisions: Building Services, Planning Services and Economic Development, primarily serving external clients and residents.

### **Building Services:**

Saskatchewan's *Uniform Building & Accessibility Standards (UBAS) Act* requires that all municipalities appoint a licensed Building Official to apply and enforce requirements of the *National Building Code*.

The primary functions of the Division are to:

- Administer the City's Building Bylaw and other building-related regulations;
- Review/Issue/Inspect Building Permits;
- Enforce building-related contraventions;
- Liaise with other approving authorities for compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations;
- Administer Municipal Plumbing Permit Program on behalf of Provincial Public Health Authority;
- Administer the Business License Bylaw; and
- Review/Issue Business Licenses.

### **Economic Development:**

The role of the Economic Development Office is to generally support economic activities in the City by helping to retain, grow and attract business.

The primary functions of the Division are to:

- Improve communication with the business sector;
- Research and report on economic and demographic statistics;
- Promote the City as an attractive place to work and live;
- Identify housing needs;
- Broker the sale of City-owned commercial, industrial, residential and agricultural land;
- Broker the purchase of lands required for City operations;
- Provide secretarial support for and report to the Economic Development Committee; and
- Manage the Yorkton Regional Airport, which requires the Division to:
  - Ensure compliance with Federal airport regulations which requires implementation of an Emergency Response Plan, Airport Safety Program, Airport Operations Manual, and Movement Area Access and Control Procedures;
  - Establish and maintain agreements and contracts with leasehold tenants;
  - Coordinate contracted services;
  - Maintain airfield surfaces, lighting, electrical systems, facilities and mobile equipment; and
  - Provide secretarial support for and report to the Yorkton Airport Authority.

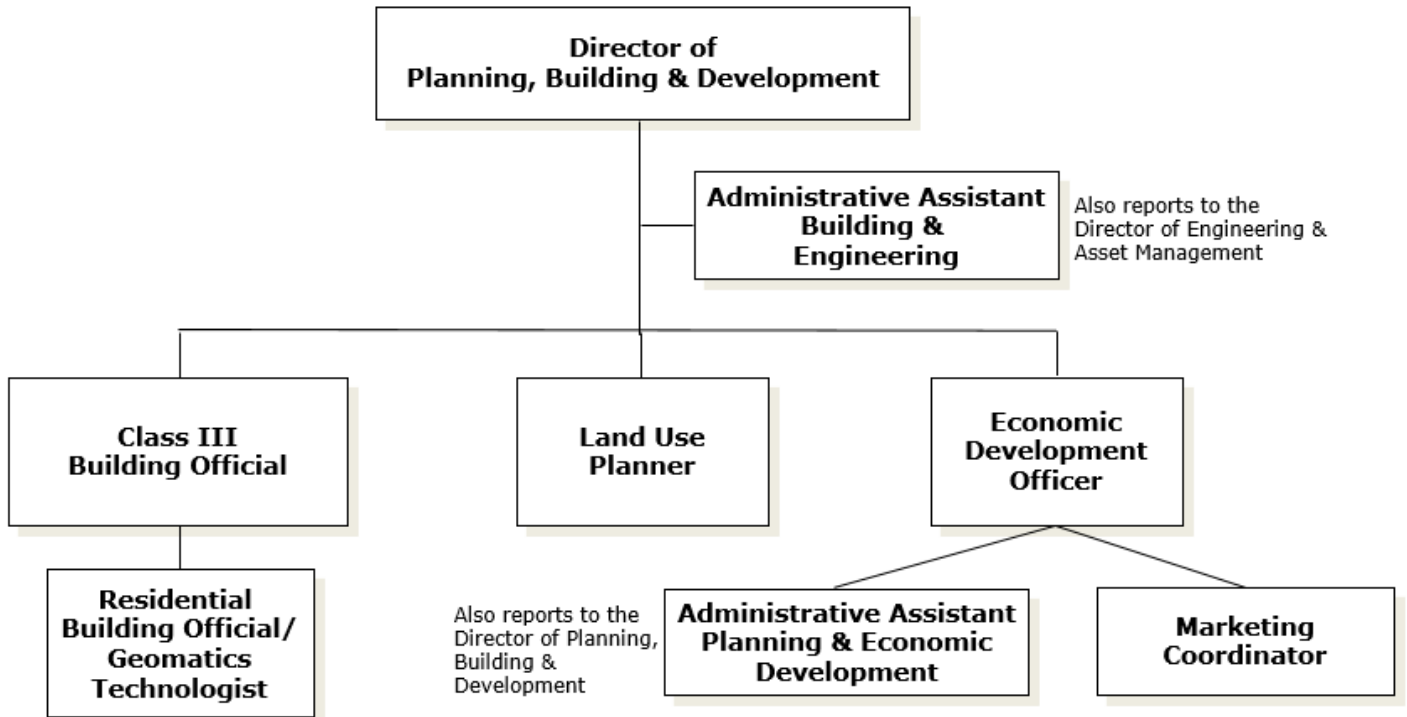
**Planning Services:**

Planning Services is largely responsible for guiding Council on future land use initiatives, and for ensuring that private development complies with applicable regulations.

The primary functions of the Division are to:

- Administer the Official Community Plan, Zoning Bylaw, Development Charges (Levies) Bylaw, and Sign Bylaw;
- Review/Issue Development Permits;
- Report to Council for Discretionary Use, Zoning Amendment and (select) Subdivision applications;
- Enforce land use regulations;
- Provide secretarial support for and report to the Planning and Infrastructure Commission; and
- Report to the Development Appeals Board.

**Planning, Building & Development  
Organizational Chart**



## **Engineering & Asset Management**

Director of Engineering & Asset Management - René Richard

The Department of Engineering and Asset Management is responsible for construction of new City infrastructure and subdivisions as well as helping plan for City infrastructure renewal. This includes site plan review, construction and maintenance of streets and roads (including street signage and intersection improvements), transportation, and associated capital projects in accordance with good engineering practices.

The Department administers outside consultants and contractors to prepare engineering studies related to infrastructure management and community development.

This Department is involved in the design and construction of new residential, commercial and industrial subdivisions on City-owned lands.

### **Regulating the Built Environment:**

The long-term objective is to manage the growth and design of the City pursuant to the policies of *Our City: Our Future*, the City's long-term growth plan. Engineering Services Division regulates the design and operation of subdivisions through good engineering practices.

### **Mapping and Geographical Information Systems (GIS):**

The GIS Division establishes and maintains all mapping in the City related to land use and zoning, infrastructure and housing. The division also supports the coordination and development of a Geographical Information System for the City.

### **Asset Management:**

The GIS Division is responsible to develop and maintain a working database for asset inventories. In addition, with the assistance of the Engineering Services Division, they are responsible to develop infrastructure repair and betterment strategies based on estimated useful lives and criticality of assets.

### **Geomatics:**

Engineering Services Division provides design drafting for capital and operational construction projects for the expansion and maintenance of municipal infrastructure. This includes record or as-built drafting information required by the City to be able to make the necessary decisions for infrastructure maintenance.

Engineering Services Division also provides preliminary and construction surveying capabilities that facilitate the design and installation of underground and surface infrastructure. This work includes sanitary sewer, water, storm water, streets, roads and subdivision development.

### **Capital Works Projects:**

Engineering Services Division is involved in multiple capital works projects both on an annual (regular) basis and larger multi-million dollar projects:

- Asphalt Program – Construction of both new streets and reconstruction of existing streets.
- Pathway Program – Construction of new paved, multiuse pathways as well as surface paving for existing gravel pathways throughout the City.
- Provision of improvements to the existing storm water collection system to eliminate flooding during the spring and high precipitation storm events.
- Bridge construction and major repairs
- Building construction
- Intersection upgrades (traffic lights)

Capital works projects involve the co-ordination and expertise of staff throughout the department and organization.

### **Fleet Maintenance and Operations Division:**

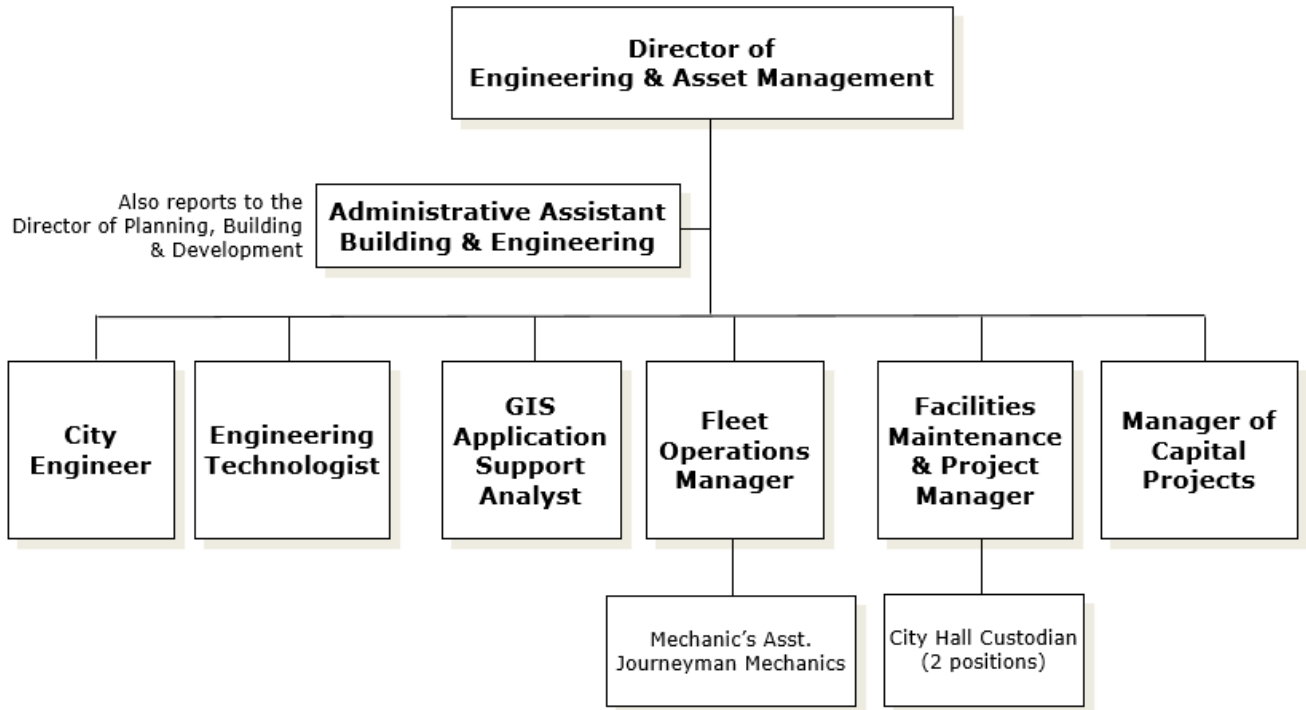
The primary responsibility of this division is the procurement and maintenance of all equipment required by the Public Works Department and many other City departments. Ongoing preventative maintenance programs ensure City equipment is thoroughly inspected, washed, and greased at designated intervals. Equipment is serviced regularly and oil sampling is performed on all diesel engines and transmissions in order to eliminate costly repairs and downtime. As part of the preventative maintenance program, any equipment problems identified are immediately scheduled and repairs are completed as soon as possible. This division is also responsible for fleet management, determining both equipment life-cycle analysis and new equipment requirements for all City operations. Equipment tendering and purchasing is the responsibility of this division.

### **Facilities Division:**

The City of Yorkton currently owns and operates approximately 40 facilities with a total replacement value of \$110 million as per 2009 assessment. The Facilities Division is responsible for the valuation and condition assessment of the City's facility complement. This division is involved in decision making in regards to strategic infrastructure and replacement. It is the City's mandate to manage the facility complement in the most fiscally responsible, risk adverse and balanced manner possible moving forward. Facilities division is also involved in the daily maintenance of a significant portion of City-owned facilities, including City Hall.



# Engineering & Asset Management Organizational Chart



## **Public Works**

Director of Public Works - Trent Mandzuk

The Public Works Department is one of the largest in the City with about 8% of the total budget being allocated towards its operations. Operating with a staff of approximately 30 employees, the Department responsibilities fall under three key areas:

### **1. Water and Sewer Division**

The primary responsibilities of the Water and Sewer Division fall in the areas of distribution of potable water, and collection of wastewater. The staff undertakes scheduled programs such as water main replacement, sanitary sewer main replacement, hydrant repair and replacement, valve repair and replacement, sanitary sewer video inspections, annual water main flushing, meter changes and programmed flushing of sanitary sewer lines. They are also called upon to perform emergency repairs to the distribution and collection system when it may be required. When time permits, staff conducts repair and replacement of residential water and sewer services.

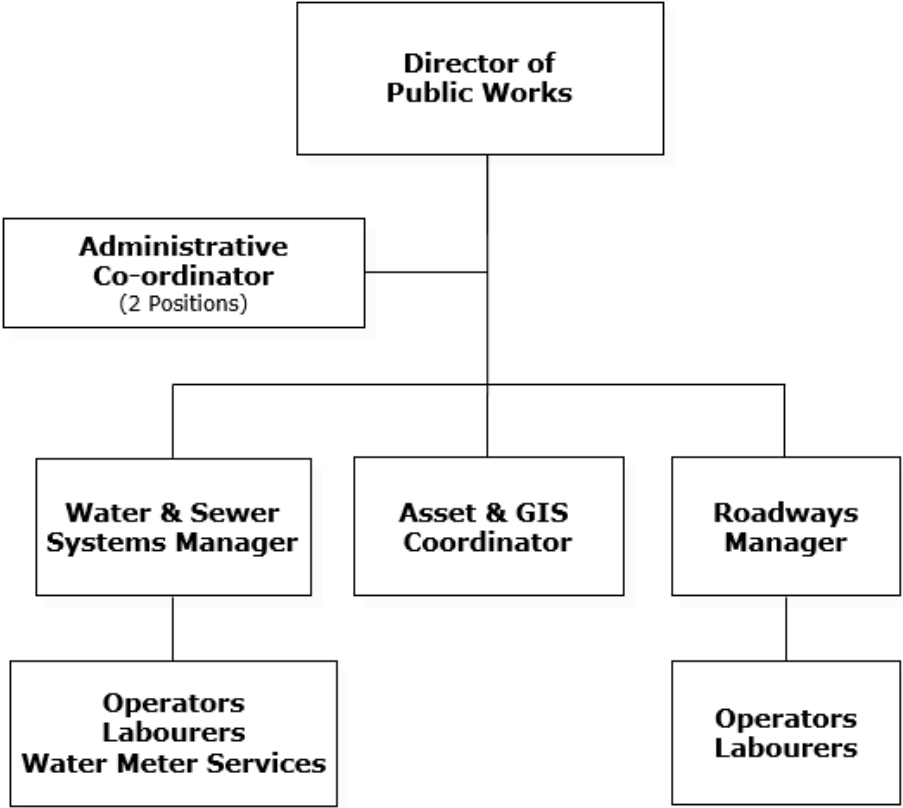
Geographical Information Systems have recently been developed for this division's systems to accurately determine infrastructure condition, replacement lifecycles, present levels of service and replacement costs of water distribution and wastewater collection networks. Current replacement values for water distribution and wastewater collection network exceed \$112 M (2012). Future efforts will continue to focus on infrastructure lifecycles and on incorporating evolving technologies to improve infrastructure maintenance.

### **2. Roads and Streets Division**

The Roads and Streets Division is responsible for the maintenance and repair of paved and gravel streets, roads, and lanes within the City of Yorkton. This includes maintenance programs such as street and lane gravelling, pavement overlays, crack sealing, and curb and sidewalk repairs. Also the division is responsible for the ongoing maintenance and replacement of traffic control and street name signing, traffic signals, line striping and bus stops and shelters. The division is involved in larger Capital projects such as major street upgrades and installation of curb, sidewalks, and pavement in new City developments.

In the winter months, the division is responsible for snowplowing, snow removal and road sanding to provide the best possible driving conditions. The division is also responsible for the storm sewer network and overall drainage. This involves annual flushing, spot repairs and preparation for spring runoff. Catch basins are repaired/replaced as needed.

**Public Works  
Organizational Chart**



## Environmental Services

Director of Environmental Services  
- Michael Buchholzer

Most of the services provided by the Department typically fall under the category of “essential services”. These essential services include; raw water collection and treatment ready for distribution, the treatment of waste water, plus garbage collection, recycling services, large-scale composting and landfill operations. The department works with contractors and consultants who are hired by the City relating to capital construction projects such as water and wastewater treatment plants, new water well development, and reconstruction projects of linear assets including water and sewer pipe replacement. These areas are broken down in more detail below.

### 1. Water Treatment

The City of Yorkton is the largest urban centre in Saskatchewan that relies solely on ground water. It obtains this through five (5) aquifers and 13 wells surrounding the City. Raw water is pumped to the Queen Street Water Treatment Plant which makes use of the following treatment processes:

- aeration;
- detention for iron oxidation;
- chemical oxidation, using both chlorine and potassium permanganate for manganese oxidation;
- flocculation to agglomerate oxidized iron and manganese;
- detention to allow further reaction between manganese and oxidation chemicals;
- upflow roughing filtration to remove larger floc and reduce gravity filter loading;
- filtration with anthracite and manganese greensand;
- storage in a reservoir with a capacity of 18,000 cubic meters; and
- four pumps which supply treated water from the reservoir to the distribution system.

The Queen Street Water Treatment Plant is unique, as it incorporates a number of “green” elements regarding the treatment of backwash water generated by the regular flushing of the system filters. It is one of the first backwash wastewater processes in Canada to use settlement ponds and wetlands to treat and polish the process wastewater from the water treatment plant. Process backwash water high in suspended solids and process chemicals is sent to wetland retention ponds for treatment. Once the water polishing process is complete, much of the water from the ponds infiltrate back into the aquifer, helping to recharge the groundwater and maintain the wetland.

The process is simple, environmentally friendly and provides the community with a space full of native plants, wildlife and fish. The community is left with an attractive space, complete with walking paths, and naturally treated process wastewater.

An extension of the water treatment plant is Highway 10 Pumping Station. It consists of a reservoir with a capacity of 6,800 cubic meters with two pumps that supply water to the distribution system. Water is treated at the water treatment plant, pumped over to the reservoir at the pumping station for storage.

A bulk water filling station is part of Highway 10 Pumping Station that allows for 24-hour access to bulk water all year long. The station is located on Highway 10 East. The system provides customers with three payment options: coin operation, prepayment accounts and monthly charge accounts.

## **2. Wastewater Treatment**

The City of Yorkton owns and operates the H. M. Bailey Water Pollution Control Plant, a semi-automated secondary wastewater treatment facility. The plant receives domestic and industrial wastewater and provides a level of treatment to meet Saskatchewan Environment water quality standards.

The main goal of any sewage treatment plant is to remove solid matter from the wastewater, purify the existing water, and reduce the oxygen demand on the receiving waters, in this case, Yorkton Creek. The danger of untreated wastewater is not only a health concern, but also a concern due to the high oxygen demand it places on the environment. As solid matter in wastewater breaks down it uses large amounts of oxygen dissolved in the water. In an environment such as a lake or stream this large oxygen demand destroys the natural balance, and aquatic life suffers. The entire process is monitored, and testing is done on a regular basis.

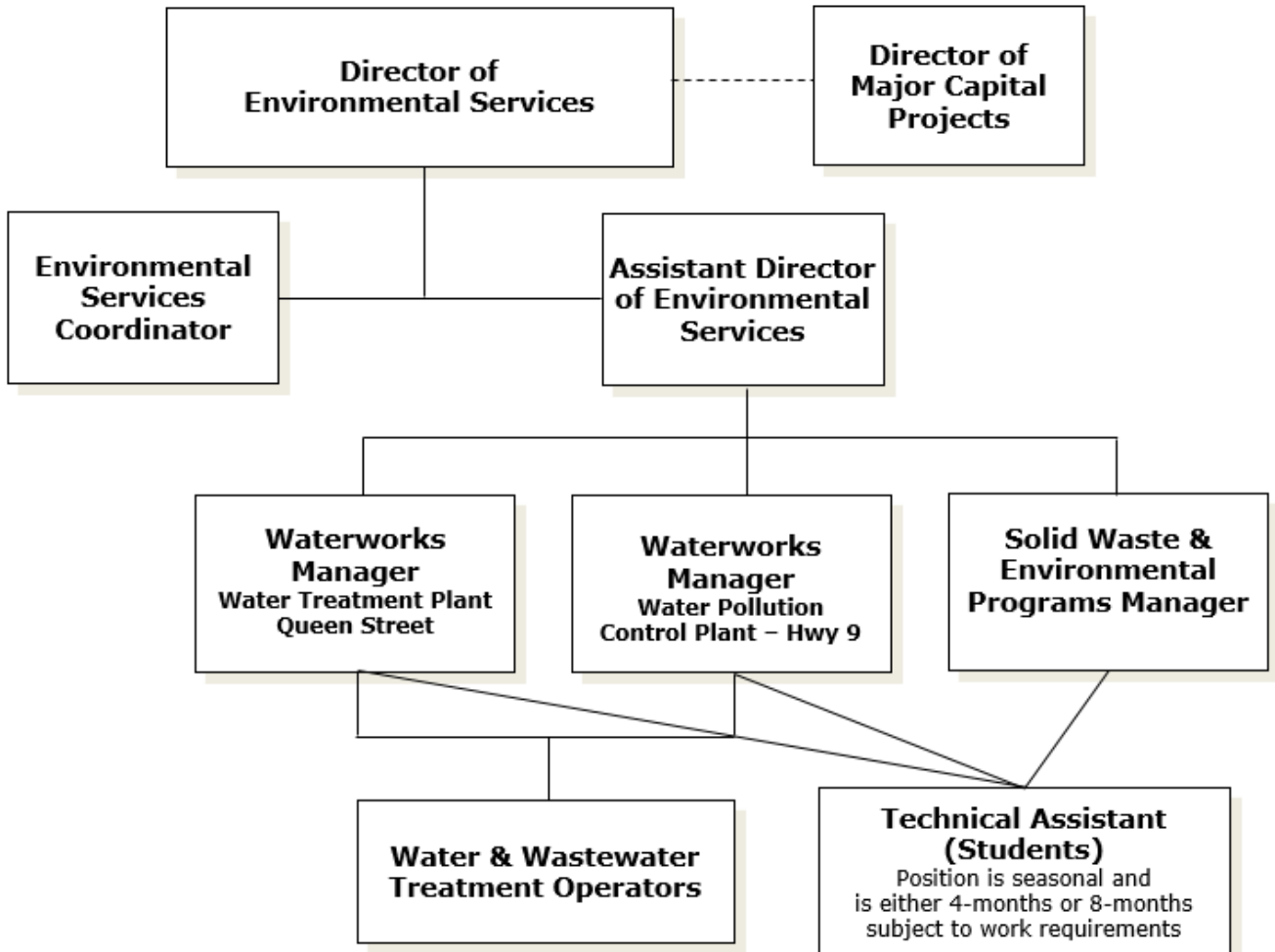
In brief, the entire treatment process can be described as the transformation of wastewater into treated effluent resulting in the protection of public health and water quality. The City of Yorkton H. M. Bailey Water Pollution Control Plant mimics Mother Nature, except that it reduces the natural process by the amount of time it takes to process the sewage, and by the amount of space required to do it.

## **3. Solid Waste Management**

In accordance with Municipal Waste Regulations defined by Saskatchewan Environment, this Department manages the collection and disposal of solid wastes and recycling programs for the City of Yorkton. Many recycling programs have been developed in co-ordination with Sarcan and other provincial and local organizations. Landfill activities are coordinated with a commercial and residential waste collection contractor, a local organization and the landfill operations contractor.

Solid waste collection services are provided on a weekly basis with all waste transported to the Municipal Landfill located approximately two miles northeast of the city near the Water Pollution Control Plant. Landfill operations include site access and fee collection, compost management, pushing and compacting waste and covering the waste to protect the environment. The landfill is operated six days per week with a seasonal schedule to facilitate operations and for safety reasons.

## Environmental Services Organizational Chart



## Gallagher Centre

General Manager – Taylor Morrison

The Gallagher Centre is eastern Saskatchewan's premiere recreation and entertainment complex. The Gallagher Centre is owned and operated by the City of Yorkton and is guided by an independent Management Board with representation from the two founding organizations – the City of Yorkton and the Yorkton Exhibition Association. The Gallagher Centre is operated as a Division of the Department of Community Development, Parks & Recreation. The Gallagher Centre is home to the City of Yorkton Community Development, Parks & Recreation Administrative office, the Yorkton Exhibition Association, Yorkton Terriers; and Function Rehabilitation.

Amenities at the Gallagher Centre include:

### **The Westland Insurance Arena:**

- ▶ Ice surface/cement floor is 200 feet by 85 feet;
- ▶ Primarily used in winter by the Yorkton Terriers, Yorkton Secon Maulers, Yorkton Minor Hockey, Yorkton Figure Skating Club, recreational hockey teams and for public skating;
- ▶ Can seat 1,483 in the stands and an additional 1200 chairs on the floor;
- ▶ Can accommodate approximately 70 display booths size 10 feet x 10 feet;
- ▶ Suitable for concerts, rodeos, circus, curling bonspiels, trade, craft shows, and seminars;
- ▶ Tables, chairs, sound system, and dressing rooms are available.
- ▶ Renamed to Westland Insurance Arena in fall of 2020

### **Flexihall**

- ▶ The Flexihall is 127 feet by 230 feet in size;
- ▶ It has a 4 lane walking track
- ▶ It is available for sporting events, and is particularly suitable for soccer and volleyball;
- ▶ It is also available for trade shows, large displays, meetings, entertainment, and any group event requiring large capacity;
- ▶ It will house approximately 100 trade show booths of 10 feet by 10 feet.

### **Curling Rink**

- ▶ Size is 16,992 square feet (118 feet by 144 feet) – home of the Yorkton Curling Club;
- ▶ Can accommodate approximately 80 display booths size 10 feet x 10 feet (depending on set-up);
- ▶ Used for trade and craft shows, farmers' markets, seminars, special events such as pow-wows, car shows, large banquets that exceed the capacity of the convention centre;
- ▶ Sound system, table and chairs are available.

### **ReMax Sports Lounge**

The Sports Lounge overlooks the curling rink, and is available for meetings, dinners, receptions and social gatherings. It can seat up to 75 people for meal service. New naming rights partnership agreement with ReMax established in 2020.

### **Multiple Break Out / Meeting Rooms**

There are two smaller meeting rooms that are ideal for break out meetings of larger conventions or rooms for small group meetings.

### **Guest Services**

Rebranding of the SecurTek Information Kiosk to SecurTek Guest Services occurred in 2019. This alignment better portrays the duties of our front line staff, who serve both Gallagher Centre and general City of Yorkton customers on a daily basis.

### **National Bank Convention Place**

The National Bank Convention Centre is a large facility suitable for meetings, dinners and social events. It can be divided into three separate areas, either for smaller gatherings, or to be used as break-out rooms for conventions.

Room A and Room B are located at the north end and centre of the hall, while Room C, the larger of the three, is located at the south end. It has a wall of windows, and access to a seasonal deck area.

- ▶ Portable bar area;
- ▶ Ideal for weddings, dances, socials, seminars, trade and craft shows;
- ▶ Sound system, tables and chairs included with rental;
- ▶ Can be set up with round tables seating 8 or 10 each, or rectangular tables seating 8 each;
- ▶ Complete catering service offering coffee breaks, lunch or dinner available on the premises (catering information may be obtained from the Gallagher Centre)

### **Access Communications Water Park**

The Water Park at the Gallagher Centre includes features found in less than a handful of similar facilities on the prairies.

The Water Park includes:

- ▶ Wave pool with zero-depth beach entry
- ▶ 25-metre instructional pool
- ▶ Whirlpool
- ▶ Lazy river
- ▶ Two storey waterslide
- ▶ Party room
- ▶ Change rooms
- ▶ Sauna and steam room



The Lap pool is used by the Yorkton Aquabatics Synchro Club, the Yorkton Storm Speed Swim Club, public swimming programs and special events.

In the summer of 2019 the Gallagher Centre and Access Communications Cooperative entered into a naming rights agreement for the water park. This agreement provided Access Communications wifi to be available to the public, for free, within the Gallagher Centre. Naming and branding of the water park was then changed to the Access Communications Cooperative Water Park.



## **Fair Grounds**

Yorkton's fair grounds moved to their present West Broadway location in the early 1900s, and have been there ever since. Some of the early buildings are still in use along with the grandstand and racetrack. Over the past 20 years, several new buildings have been added, including the Agri-Pavilion and Ag Arena, used for livestock shows and sales, trade shows, and dances along with the Pari-mutuel building near the grandstand. The Pari-mutuel building also houses a new concession used during Grandstand events.

Other facilities on the grounds include horse and livestock barns, food concession booths, and an outdoor show ring.

## **Harvest Grill**

In the Spring of 2019 the Gallagher Centre took over operations of the main floor concession from the Yorkton Exhibition Board. Improvements to the space included painting and general repairs, a new security gate, and updated digital menu boards. The menu itself was also updated, along with a new partnership with Harvest Meats.

### **2020 Events include:**

2020 Grand Slam of Curling Canadian Open. All other events were cancelled due to COVID-19.

### **COVID-19 Pandemic:**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gallagher Centre was closed to the public on March 17, 2020.

## **Water Park**

On March 18<sup>th</sup> preparations began to drain the pool and start on the shutdown maintenance that was scheduled to occur in the fall of 2020. All casual lifeguards and instructors worked their remaining scheduled shifts before being laid off due to the pandemic and related closure. Pool technicians remained on staff to complete shutdown work. 1 FT and 1 PT guard remained on staff to assist Public Health with the testing centre.

The Aquatic Coordinator took a voluntary leave of absence/lay off during the pandemic. In July the Aquatic Coordinator provided notice that they would not be returning and the process to fill the position began with a new Aquatic Coordinator starting on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

All time passed bases were frozen on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Upon reopening clients were provided with the option to keep their pass frozen and pay the daily admission rates, or purchase punch passes. Alternatively if the client was not ready to return to pool programming they could keep their pass frozen.

Refilling the pools began in August with green water. The lap pool presented the biggest challenge as balancing the water chemistry and getting rid of the green discoloration took approximately 6 weeks; typically, this would take 2 weeks during a normal 4 week shutdown. A shutdown of this length had not occurred since the renovation in 2005.

The water park reopened on September 1<sup>st</sup> with aquacize, lane swimming, public swimming and swimming lessons returning. With the announcement of additional restrictions swimming lessons were cancelled in November. The Water Park program schedule was further reduced in December in response to low attendance and provincial capacity numbers for programs.

### **Harvest Grill**

The Harvest Grill was closed on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Concession Attendants were laid off, and the Concession Coordinator remained on staff to do cleaning and equipment maintenance throughout the summer. The Grill reopened September 1<sup>st</sup> before being closed again on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Naming rights partnerships were suspended until the Grill can be reopened.

### **Flexihall**

The Flexihall reopened on September 1<sup>st</sup> with the walking track available daily and new drop in sports programming being offered. Drop in Sports were suspended on November 27<sup>th</sup> as per provincial order.

Soccer returned in September before being reduced on November 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Guest Services**

Guest Services were suspended on March 17<sup>th</sup>, with staff offered temporary voluntary leaves/layoffs. Staff were recalled in late August to prepare for a September 1<sup>st</sup> reopening.

### **Meeting Rooms and Events**

All events during the spring, summer, and fall of 2020 were cancelled or postponed to a later date. With the reopening on September 1<sup>st</sup> rentals were available as permitted through the provincial health order.

### **Westland Arena**

The arena opened for summer ice in August, with teams allowed under the provincial restrictions. Hockey games for Yorkton Minor Hockey, Yorkton Maulers and Yorkton Terriers resumed in late September before being suspended on November 27<sup>th</sup>. 150 spectators were allowed at hockey games, with many COVID protocols in place for all attendees, staff, players, etc.

### **Maintenance Work**

With no events and rentals occurring from March 17 - August 31<sup>st</sup>, a major undertaking of preventative and ongoing maintenance was completed. This included the following:

- All electrical rooms were cleaned
- Flexihall storage rooms cleaned, painting throughout main space
- Westland Arena – all seats were hand washed, all railings were painted, arena change room floor drains were repaired and tiled
- Painting completed throughout the building
- Shelving installed for public skating
- Storage areas under stands organized and itemized
- Lobby beams and bulkheads were washed
- Water bottle fill stations installed throughout the facility
- Ag-Pavillion emergency light upgrades
- Curling rink refrigeration header replacement and boardwalk cleaning
- Curling rink LED lighting upgrade
- Curling rink unit heater replacement
- Refrigeration plant header pit in water room cleaned
- Access waterpark,- fabricate laterals for sand filters and replace...6 sand filters=36 laterals=216 laterals that were rebuilt and reinstalled
- Access waterpark sand filter sand cleaning
- Access waterpark sauna oiling

- Access waterpark regROUT lap pool gutter
- Access waterpark regROUT in wavepool
- Access waterpark window treatment install
- Access waterpark finished LED lighting added 2 more lights to improve lighting around waterslide
- Access waterpark waterslide inspection and repairs, painted waterslide stair and railing structure
- Access waterpark surge tank repairs
- Access waterpark painting
- Access waterpark party room
- Access waterpark staining change room benches
- Access waterpark viewing entry door replacement
- Access waterpark wave pool gutter screen design and install
- Access waterpark change room countertop/sink replacement

The new pylon sign was also erected in the summer months. Renovation to the Guest Services area was completed as a capital project but was completed earlier due to the facility being closed.

The entire alarm system in the facility was upgraded to alarm.com through Gardon Securities.

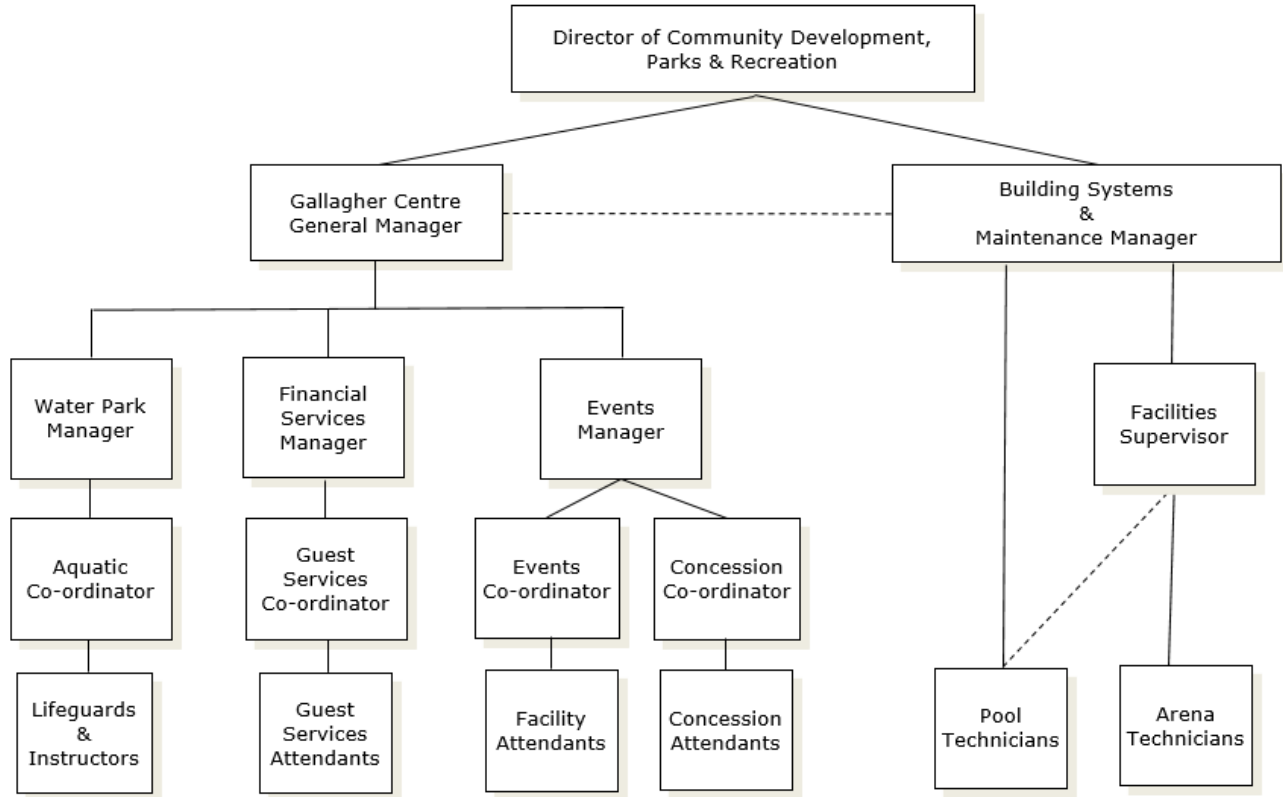
### **COVID Testing and Public Health**

Local Public Health approached the Gallagher Centre to host a COVID-19 testing and assessment centre. Set up began on March 18<sup>th</sup>, with operations beginning on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Public Health operated a drive through testing site on the east side of the Westland Arena, utilized the middle entrance door and adjacent dressing rooms. An administrative area was set up in the east entrance, and an assessment centre was established in the curling rink.

Gallagher Centre staff (water park guards) provided parking and traffic services from March through August. The east entrance and affiliated areas were off limits to all Gallagher Centre staff.

The drive through testing site was adjusted to operate out of the east entrance so August ice could be accommodated. The drive through testing and assessment site was closed at the Gallagher Centre at the end of August to allow the facility to open on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

# Gallagher Centre Organizational Chart



## **Royal Canadian Mounted Police Yorkton Detachment**

37 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North  
Yorkton, SK  
S3N 1C1

(306) 786-2400 (office)  
(306) 786-2415 (fax)  
9-1-1 (Emergency)

Staff Sergeant - Jeff Simpson

The policing services for the City of Yorkton are mandated to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police through a Federal, Provincial and Municipal contractual agreement. In lieu of a formal Police Commission, the City relies on direct contact between the Mayor/City Management and the Detachment Commander to ensure that the policing service is meeting the needs and expectations of the community.

The RCMP has a desire to be the police service of choice for the City of Yorkton for many years to come. In that effort, the detachment pledges to follow its Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Commitment Principles for guidance and direction. Policing priorities are reviewed regularly and are developed in consultation with the community.

**MISSION** - The RCMP is Canada's national police service. Proud of our traditions and confident in meeting future challenges, we commit to preserve the peace, uphold the law and provide quality service in partnership with our communities.

**VISION** - We will:

- be a progressive, proactive and innovative organization
- provide the highest quality service through dynamic leadership, education and technology in partnership with the diverse communities we serve
- be accountable and efficient through shared decision-making
- ensure a healthy work environment that encourages team building, open communication and mutual respect
- promote safe communities
- demonstrate leadership in the pursuit of excellence

### **CORE VALUES OF THE RCMP**

We are guided by:

- integrity
- honesty
- professionalism
- compassion
- respect
- accountability

**COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITIES** - The employees of the RCMP are committed to our communities through:

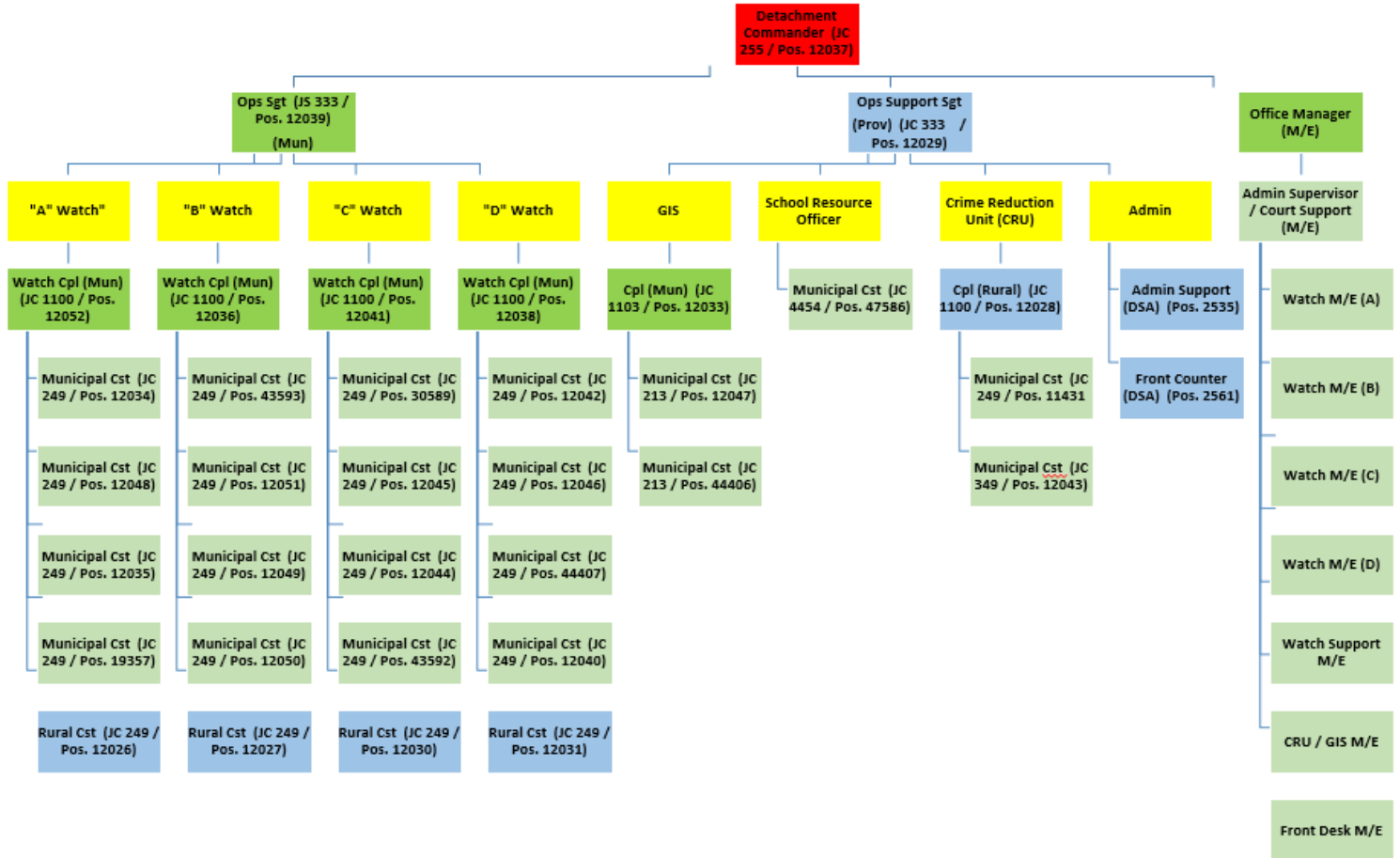
- unbiased and respectful treatment of all people
- accountability
- mutual problem solving
- cultural sensitivity
- enhancement of public safety
- partnerships and consultation
- open and honest communication
- effective and efficient use of resources
- quality and timely service

The Detachment is comprised of 34 sworn police officers, 9 municipal employee support staff and 2 public service support staff. The community and Detachment also benefit from an active **Citizens on Patrol Program** and their many volunteers.

Daily policing duties include taking complaints of crime, conducting follow-up investigations and preventative activities throughout the city and surrounding rural communities on a 24-hour basis. Additionally, the local detachment offers traffic services and further resources such as Forensic Specialists, Police Dog Handler, Emergency Response Team, and Tactical Troop which are available to the community in accordance with the policing agreement.

A Protective Services Committee is in place that acts as an extension of the City Council in regards to policing and other emergency services to the community.

# Yorkton Municipal RCMP Detachment South District Organizational Chart



**Tourism Yorkton  
(Yorkton Visitor and Convention Bureau)**

Junction Highways 9 & 16 South  
PO Box 460  
Yorkton, SK  
S3N 1E4  
Telephone: 306-783-8707  
Website: [www.tourismyorkton.com](http://www.tourismyorkton.com)  
Email: [tourismyorkton@sasktel.net](mailto:tourismyorkton@sasktel.net)

Tourism Yorkton is a membership-based non-profit organization whose mission is to realize economic benefit for the Yorkton area through tourism. Tourism Yorkton provides:

- Visitor services and information distribution and development promoting attractions, services and events
- Marketing services for the city and members
- Business services including assistance with convention planning, bid preparation and group tours
- Assistance with product development, providing relevant and timely trends and statistics
- Liaison to the tourism industry
- Opportunities for related training and education programs

**2020 Tourism Yorkton Board of Directors**

Darlene Stakiw, Avalon Studios (President)  
Robert Ashcroft, Custom Micro Systems  
Taylor Morrison, Gallagher Centre  
Janet Thomas, Home Inn and Suites  
Sam Twumasi, Economic Development Officer  
Charles Ryder, Painted Hand Casino  
Barb Lang, Marlin Travel  
Carla Madsen, Western Development Museum  
Randy Goulden, Executive Director



## Yorkton Chamber of Commerce



[www.yorktonchamber.com](http://www.yorktonchamber.com)

[info@yorktonchamber.com](mailto:info@yorktonchamber.com)

306-783-4368

Box 1051 Yorkton, SK S3N 2X3



A dynamic organization, the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce is committed to representing the business community in Yorkton and district. Currently, the Chamber represents over 450 businesses and is truly the “voice of business”.

Governed by an elected Board of Directors, the Chamber serves as a valuable link between businesses and between business and all orders of government. The Directors are a diverse group of men and women who are leaders in the community. These Directors share ideas, raise issues and awareness, and advance the interests of our membership. They view differences within the community as assets and opportunities, providing a model for respecting and celebrating Yorkton's diversity!

2020 activities included Chamber on Tap, All Candidates’ Forums for both the Provincial and Municipal Elections and the Celebrate Success Business Awards. It also developed the Talking Points 2020 document to encourage discussion prior to the municipal election. With the arrival of the global pandemic, the Chamber was kept busy keeping its members informed about policies, protocols and programs and advocating for its members to all orders of government. In an effort to support the “shop local” movement and to promote its members, the Chamber conducted a number of interviews with a variety of members and posted videos or photos of these “Curbside Chats” on its social media platforms. The Chamber also unveiled its new logo in January.

Founded in 1898, the Yorkton Chamber of Commerce has a rich history of ensuring the well-being of both the business community and the community at large. Today, it continues to build on those achievements to ensure Yorkton offers an attractive climate for businesses to establish and grow and for families to thrive!

The Yorkton Chamber of Commerce is an organization that works for business in a city where “good things happen!”

### **2020 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors:**

President           Mike Stackhouse

Vice President     Kristen Zubko

Directors           Ajay Tadi, Alicia Simoneau, Bob Knox, Cam Mehling, Carol Yaholnitsky, Donna Brothwell, Geoff Propp, Jessica Richards, Joseph Ortynsky, Kimberley Hamilton, Mike Popowich, Mark Hoddenbagh, Marty Sveinbjornson and Sarah Kowalchuk.

Staff                Juanita Polegi, Executive Director  
Sherry MacDonald, Director of Marketing & Administration

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