

CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE  
DE GRAVELBOURG  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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#### OUR MISSION:

TO FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE GRAVELBOURG AND AREA BUSINESSES CAN PROSPER

#### OUR VISION:

TO BE THE VOICE OF GRAVELBOURG AND AREA BUSINESSES

**“Business success isn’t something that just happens – success is learned, success is practiced and then it is shared”**

## MAKING GRAVELBOURG A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND INVEST

### MESSAGE FROM CHAMBER PRESIDENT, FRED HUNDERSMARCK

The Chamber is the voice of businesses in Gravelbourg and surrounding area. It is a strong advocate for business initiatives and policies in the community. Chamber membership means business. Enjoy exclusive rates and expert advice through our merchant service partners. Here is an example.

#### M-COMMERCE: MOBILITY MEANS MONEY

Mobile Credit Card terminals and Mobile-based e-commerce are becoming some of the hottest growing trends among retail outlets. A mobile point of sale helps consumers complete in-store transactions more easily and m-commerce allows them to purchase products at any time of the day from anywhere with an internet connection.

As a result, Canadian and American credit card spending is dramatically increased in the area of mobile device payments. Business insiders recently detailed that online retail spending was up to 14 per cent in the US during 2013. The report also noted that mobile’s share of overall e-commerce spending was growing significantly faster than that of PCs.

Keep in mind Mobilesyrup.com. They recently reported the findings of a Canadian Consumer Report, which detailed how often Canadians were using their smartphones for shopping. The report found that 17 per cent of Canadians had used their phone to make shopping lists via a branded application, which 26 per cent had found a local store location via mobile based internet browser, and that 17 per cent had checked product availability on their phone before traveling to that store. Mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets have changed the shopping attitude, the e-commerce field and created m-commerce.

Merchants need to consider how to integrate one or both options into their payment stream. Businesses that aren’t able to properly integrate the use of mobile phones into their payment processing systems will not be able to tap into this lucrative opportunity.

The Gravelbourg Chamber of Commerce has the expert advice and the right service partners to connect your business at exclusive Chamber membership rates.

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GRAVELBOURG  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESSVIEW

VOLUME 6

SEPTEMBER 2014

### COMMUNITY AND GROWTH

Economic Development Office:

Community is always in a state of growth. The growth of a community depends on the growth of each of its members.

Communities need tensions if they are to grow and deepen. There are a thousand reasons for tension, and each of them brings a whole community, as well as each individual member, face to face with its own issues: its inability to cope, its weariness, aggression, apathy and despair.

There is nothing more prejudicial to community life than to mask tensions and pretend they do not exist, or to hide from them behind a polite façade and flee from reality and dialogue. People are not necessarily helped to overcome their limitations, egoism, jealousy and inability to enter into dialogue simply by being made conscious of them. In fact, this can sometimes shut people off in an even greater state of despair or hopelessness.

People generally become conscious of their limitations, if at the same time, they are given the strength to overcome these by being helped to discover their own capacities for love, goodness and positive action and to regain confidence in themselves.

The process of becoming a community happens when the majority of its members make the transition from ‘the community for myself’ to ‘myself for the community.’

### SASKATCHEWAN'S LATEST ECONOMIC TRENDS

- Record-level capital investment of \$21 billion in 2012
- Record-breaking population growth in 2012
- \$50 billion in capital projects expected in the mining sector alone
- Rated second in Canada for investment climate
- Lowest regulatory costs in Canada
- Produces a third of the world's Potash
- Supplies a fifth of the world's uranium
- Fifth largest oil producer in North America
- World's largest exporter of mustard, flaxseed, lentils & dried peas
- Home to one-third of Canada's agricultural biotechnology sector

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**WHAT THE KIDS ARE SAYING**

**When you have completed your post-secondary education, do you plan on returning to Gravelbourg?**

*"No, based on my career choice I will not be able to live in Gravelbourg."* (19yr. old & former graduate)

*"No, I plan to leave to finish my education and to seek jobs in my field."* (Grade 10 student)

*"I'd like to stay but because of my career choice, I will need to leave Gravelbourg."* (Grade 11 student)

*"I'd stay. All my family is here."* (Grade 7 student)

*"I would like to stay because I like small town life."* (Grade 6 student)

**Have you ever thought about running for Municipal Government?**

*"No, lack of interest."* (19yr. old & former graduate)

*"Actually, I have thought about it. I like Law."* (Grade 11 student)

*"Never! I've been to a council meeting before and I found it boring."* (Grade 10 student)

*"No way."* (Grade 7 student)

*"No, I never thought about it because I have no interest in it."* (Grade 11 student)

*"No. I don't want to be in charge like that."* (Grade 6 student)

**Is there anything in the sports, culture or recreation area that you feel is missing in Gravelbourg?**

*"No, Gravelbourg is very well rounded. I think the problem is not being aware of everything there is to do here (pool, theatre, sport clubs, etc.)"*(19yr. old & former graduate)

*"There is a lot to do in Gravelbourg. We just need to encourage people to use facilities. The ball diamonds is a good example. Nice diamonds but there are no players. The pool is another example. Not too many people use it."* (Grade 11 student)

*"A skateboard park would be nice."* (19 yr. old former graduate)

*"Things are good here for a small town."* (Grade 10 student)

*"Mini golf course, soccer club, football club."* (Grade 7 student)

*"A waterslide would be awesome!"* (Grade 6 student)

**DID YOU KNOW....?**

- Elm Trees can only be trimmed after September 1st?
- The Town will be doing its annual tree trimming in the back alleys and streets after September 1st?
- BRE Taskforce Team implemented a Consumer Survey and the results will be shared with the community by the end of September?
- Gravelbourg offers 16 different recreation and/or leisure activities?
- Before you build, you need to check with the Town to see if a building permit is required?
- Bylaw enforcement will focus on: abandonment of trailers on Town streets or boulevards, parking on grassed boulevards, untidy and unsightly properties, animal control and current zoning bylaws? (Make sure to check our website for details on bylaws or call the town office.)

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**CANADIAN HOUSING & RENEWAL ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES NEW REPORT**

CHRA launches 'Housing For All: Sustaining and Renewing Social Housing for Low-Income Households', a report calling for federal reinvestment as operating agreements expire

The CHRA releases a significant new report, the cornerstone of the "Housing For All: Social housing for people in need" campaign. The Report initiates a call on the federal government to reinvest in social housing to ensure it is available, protected and eventually expanded for the low-income individuals and families in communities across Canada who cannot afford other housing options.

As long-term operating agreements begin to expire, federal funding is expiring with it and the government has stated they have no plans to reinvest. The Report, titled "Housing For All: Sustaining and Renewing Social Housing for Low-Income Households" takes an in-depth look at the issue of expiring operating agreements and its impact on social housing – on those who live there and those who provide it. The Report provides a plan to move forward; three broad recommendations for a renewed federal partnership in the areas of capital renewal, affordability and sector transformation. It demonstrates that

without reinvestment, especially with mounting repair needs, up to 365,000 of Canada's most vulnerable may face housing instability or, at the extreme, economic eviction or homelessness.

The Report has been published on the new [housing4all.ca](http://housing4all.ca) website, an advocacy hub with information and resources to support housing practitioners and the public in calling on the federal government to reinvest in social housing. Visit [housing4all.ca](http://housing4all.ca), learn about the issue, and add your voice!

**GRAVELBOURG BUSINESS NEWS: CHANGES IN THE LAST 5 YEARS CONT...**

Here are more examples from June's Newsletter on our community's 'natural succession' within the local businesses:

- Studio Six Hundred Photography Jennifer & Chris Anderson purchased their building from Guy Dauphinais
- Whyte's Feed Store purchased from Jim's Tire
- Dentist, Dr. Cameron Croll purchased space from R & R Flooring (Ron & Roger Loiselle)
- Les Shoemaker purchased former Bishop's Palace from André Chevrier and Grant McLellan
- Home Building Centre purchased Armand Crobeil's storage business for use as a lumber yard
- HB Junction Gas Inc. purchased former Hamon's service station from Elaine Hamon. **Congratulations on HB's grand opening on August 15th!**
- Gravelbourg Inn has changed hands/owners twice since past owners Cees and Carlien Brouwer

**ABOUT SASKATCHEWAN: QUICK FACTS**

- Population of 1.1 million
- Area: 651,036 km<sup>2</sup> - twice as large as Japan, almost the size of Texas
- Abundant fresh water - 81,631 km<sup>2</sup> - enough to cover Austria
- More than 40% of Canada's farm land
- 100,000 lakes - 11% of Canada's water
- 12 million hectares of commercial forest - the same as Germany
- Two main cities: Regina, population 210,556 & Saskatoon, 260,600; account for 43% of the total population
- Home of Rider Nation (rated the best sporting fans in Canada)

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