



REGINA & DISTRICT CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

LEAD | EMPOWER | CONNECT



From the Desk of the CEO Agriculture on the Move!

I certainly am not a meteorologist or anything even close, but this must be the hottest summer we have seen in many years.

Every day seems to be in the plus 30 range and, for the most part, sunny. For many agricultural producers, the hot weather has created some growing challenges that will show up during harvest.

One of the projects we have participated in is trying to secure the Canada Water Agency as well as the Big Water project that would provide more opportunities for irrigated land.

Most of the talk around both of these projects has died down most likely due to the likelihood of a federal election this fall.

Agriculture is one of the big three economic anchors in our province which impacts smaller and larger towns as well as cities including Regina and Saskatoon. In Regina, there are numerous equipment dealerships, parts depots, and a growing number of value-add businesses like the internationally acclaimed AGT Foods.

Moreover, we are home to Brandt Industries which not only has an agricultural division but also other divisions that include forestry, mining, oil and gas.

These two businesses alone are vital for many families within our city and surrounding communities because they are major employers.

Not that long ago all we heard from the agricultural community is that international subsidies were creating an unfair trading market. The response from government was more subsidies to help with the unfair competition.

Fast forward to today and the agricultural industry is in a very different place in large part due to the diversity of crop production, including canola.

Saskatchewan's canola crop faced an uncertain future a couple of years ago with China refusing shipments based on some bogus charge.

Instead of caving to the pressure, the response has been to create crushing plants of which Regina will be the home to one or more in the coming years. This will create a market for a crop that is grown here, reducing our reliance on trade with China and helping to provide a greener energy solution with biofuel.

These are exciting times because of agriculture. Agriculture has defined the people of our province for years and will continue to do so in the future. I, for one, am very proud of Saskatchewan agriculture.

We are the best at dryland farming because we have some of the very best producers in the world.

We also have a business community that is not just talking about the importance of adding value to the

crops we grow, but are investing in Saskatchewan today to ensure a viable future.

Have a wonderful day and a delightful long weekend!

John Hopkins

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"Networking on the Green"

**2021
Annual Golf Tournament**

**Monday, September 20
Wascana Country Club**

**To register your team
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Upcoming Events

Friday, September 10
2021 Paragon Awards

Monday, September 20
Annual Chamber Golf Tournament

Wednesday, September 22
Take a Break Luncheon



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- » **FACT:** The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective.
- » **FACT:** Full protection helps reduce the risk of transmission, and prevents the most severe forms of the COVID-19 illness and death.
- » **MYTH:** The vaccine causes infertility.
- » **MYTH:** The vaccine alters your DNA.
- » **MYTH:** The vaccine makes your arm magnetic.

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