



## Council continues to be productive despite challenging circumstances

The first quarter of 2023 was interesting and challenging for Regina City Council with some contentious happenings creating a sometimes turbulent atmosphere.

Yet despite dealing with what might best be described as outside and inside noise, council has continued to be productive in many areas.

Mayor Sandra Masters believes council has been effective in moving the city agenda forward under some difficult circumstances.

"Things are advancing, regardless of whatever else is happening. Council is getting the city's work done, which will benefit the residents of Regina," said Mayor Masters. "The relationships that we've established over the last couple of years are coming to fruition in terms of funding and partnerships. There is a drive by the majority of council to progress economically, socially, and on the infrastructure front.



"We want to make sure the provincial and federal governments are hearing from us and that we're supporting private business in their establishment and growth."

Masters admitted that processes and decisions of council will never be perfect but she stressed all involved are striving to be better and will continue to do so in the future.

"We have tons of work to do. But if the mantra is 'continue to be better,' then that's the direction we're going, despite the inside and outside noise," said Mayor Masters. "People are investing, local city champions are pushing ahead and doing amazing things. We are going to continue to do that."

Many projects, programs and funding agreements were finalized in the first four months of 2023. Some of these achievements include:

Infrastructure Improvements. Invested \$113 million for infrastructure improvements in transportation, water, wastewater, and drainage.

Federal tourism funding announcement. A total of \$1.14 million was committed to Regina, including \$500,000 for the Globe Theatre, \$343,000 for the Saskatchewan

Science Centre and \$297,000 for the REAL District.

Indigenous Procurement Policy was passed, which aims to grant a minimum of 20 per cent of the City of Regina's procurement budget to Indigenous businesses.

Catalyst Committee recommendations passed, which include a multi-purpose event centre, pathway, aquatic centre and library. Aquatic centre was the No. 1 focus of Q1 of 2023. Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) application (\$128 million) for a new aquatic centre and geothermal facility was submitted to the federal and provincial government.

Transit and Housing Fund. The City of Regina is to receive approximately \$9.5 million in shared federal and provincial funding towards housing and transit-related projects.

Building Safe Communities Fund. Funding totalling \$2.9 million was finalized to support community-based prevention and intervention strategies along with the development of a youth gang prevention initiative.

The creation of a temporary emergency shelter at The Nest Health Centre. In partnership with the provincial government and RT/SIS, The Nest provides housing for 40 vulnerable individuals with on-site wraparound services.

Administration cut \$3.5 million from the proposed 2023 mill rate and to cover the costs of the temporary emergency shelter and warming bus.

Heading into Q2, Mayor Masters is optimistic about the direction the city is heading.

"At the end of the day, unsolicited offers for businesses are coming forward. Buildings have changed hands because people are feeling excited that there's a plan going forward, that the city has signalled it's willing to invest," said Mayor Masters. "We don't have all the answers, we don't have all the plans, but people want to know the direction you're going in. We want to have a quality of life here that is competitive and affordable, and we know we need to invest in our infrastructure to grow. We continue to drive forward on finding solutions to challenges, ensuring that we're creating opportunities.

"Our job is to make decisions and to not only deal with what's before us but with the future as well. There's a real focus on this at the senior levels of administration and you can feel it happening. We have a long way to go to catch up, but the future looks incredibly promising."

## ***UPCOMING REGINA CHAMBER EVENTS***

**TUESDAY, JUNE 20**  
**THE PREMIER'S BREAKFAST**  
The State of Agriculture In  
Saskatchewan  
Premier Scott Moe  
Hall A, Viterra International Trade  
Centre  
Queensbury Convention Centre  
Registration: 7 a.m.  
Breakfast: 7:30 a.m.  
Presentation: 7:50 a.m.  
Q&A session to follow



**THE PREMIER'S BREAKFAST**  
2023 CANADA'S FARM SHOW PRESENTED BY VITERRA  
THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN SASKATCHEWAN  
Tuesday, June 20 -- 7 a.m.  
Hall A, Viterra International Trade Centre

Premier Scott Moe

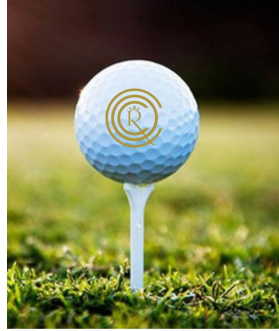
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**MONDAY, JUNE 26**  
NETWORKING ON THE GREEN  
2023 Annual Golf Tournament  
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**NETWORKING  
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2023  
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Royal Regina Golf Club

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**THURSDAY JUNE 29**  
2023 Luncheon Series  
James Bogusz  
President and CEO,  
Regina Airport Authority  
Regina International Airport  
Registration: 11:30 a.m.  
Luncheon: 12 noon  
Presentation: 12:20 p.m.

*2023 Luncheon Series*

**JAMES BOGUSZ**

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