



Group aiming to start search and rescue chapter in SE Sask
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Weddings & Grad feature
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Chance to stay in Canada was the perfect Christmas gift for Moosomin family
Pages 29 & 31

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba
January 2019 • Volume 12, Number 1



Western Canada has erupted in protest over denial of pipeline projects. On Jan. 5 there was a truck rally from Virden to Brandon and a rally for resources in Regina that included some local residents.
Left: Cory Garvey made this sign for the Virden truck convoy, including a section of pipe.
Right: Premier Scott Moe addresses the crowd at the Regina Rally for Resources.



Left: A large crowd was on hand for a Rally For Resources at the Saskatchewan legislature.

Right: One of the signs on the load of a truck at the Virden rally.



Pro-pipeline protests erupting

Large crowds for Virden to Brandon truck convoy and Regina Rally for Resources

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK
Large crowds were on hand for a convoy from Virden to Brandon on Jan. 5, and for a pro-resource rally held at the Saskatchewan legislature on Jan. 8, as discontent grows across the prairies

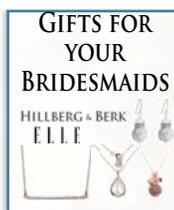
over the difficulties in getting Western Canadian resources to market.
There is a plan for a Moosomin rally for resources in February.
Details such as a date for the Moosomin event were not finalized at press

time as organizers were trying to work with the schedules of potential speakers.
Sinc Harrison was at both the Virden truck convoy and the Regina Rally For Resources.

He said he believes people taking part are worried about livelihoods in the energy sector and are doing everything they can to get their message through to Ottawa.

Continued on page 8

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North Portal in the winter of 1911. The Grandview Hotel is on the left.

Railway & Main: Small-town Saskatchewan hotels

North Portal: Roughts Come in from Dakota

Joan Champ is an online blogger and historian whose blog "Railway & Main: Small-Town Saskatchewan Hotels" has featured a number of historic hotels in Saskatchewan. Here she shares some of the stories from the town of North Portal during the prohibition years.

The border town of North Portal was a wild and woolly place in the early 1900s, due in large measure to the sale of alcohol to residents of North Dakota, a "dry" state from 1889 to 1932.

Sales of liquor flourished in North Portal from 1903 when it was founded, until 1915 when Saskatchewan implemented its own prohibition laws. Things picked up again during the Roaring Twenties when American rum runners used North Portal as a distribution centre for illegal liquor.

The town boasted two hotels located only a few feet from the Canada-U.S. border—the Union Hotel and the Grandview Hotel. It also gained notoriety as a town with a high crime rate for a community its size.

Located on the Soo Line Railway, North Portal attracted many shady characters from south of the border. In 1906, for example, Corporal Hogg of the Royal North West Mounted Police (RNWMP) was called to one of the hotels in town to break up a disturbance. The hotel was full of cowboys led by a gun-toting "notorious bad man" named Monaghan, aka Cowboy Jack. Police records state that in the process of arrest-

ing Monaghan, the following property was damaged: "door broken; screen smashed up; chair broken; field jacket belonging to Corporal Hogg spoiled by being covered with blood; and the wall plastered with blood." Monaghan, or Cowboy Jack, is reported to have remarked that if Hogg had not confiscated his gun, another death would have been recorded in Canadian history.

It was into this fray that Louis Kill and his family arrived in 1906. Kill, a German-born representative of the Standard Oil Company, had immigrated to Canada via Minnesota and South Dakota with his wife, Anna, and their children. By 1921, Louis Kill was reported to be "one of the most widely known citizens in southern Saskatchewan."

In 1907, after a year with the oil company, Kill decided to take over the Union Hotel in North Portal, built in about 1900. Unfortunately, however, Kill's application for a liquor license for the hotel was unsuccessful. During the hearing of the provincial liquor commissioners, the chief license commissioner stated that, while Louis Kill was, as far as he knew, "of good character," he doubted whether he was a suitable person to manage a hotel in North Portal which was frequented by "a hard crowd."

In a newspaper story, "Roughts Come in from Dakota; Dry Americans Need Careful Handling at North Portal," the chairman noted that there had been a good deal of

trouble in North Portal. "It is right on the line of a prohibition state and people—the very worst element, I am told—come over the border for liquor," he stated. "We would like to see a man who could handle these people."

The commissioners decided to deny Kill's application and to hold an inquiry on local conditions in North Portal.

Undeterred, Louis Kill bought the hotel at Alameda, Saskatchewan, about 50 kilometres north of North Portal. He and his family operated the hotel for about three years. The 1911 Canada census shows Kill, age 54, and his wife Anna, age 50, as the hotel proprietors in Alameda. Their 23-year-old son Edward worked as the hotel's bartender. Annie (25), Vincent (15), and Sylvester (13), as well as four domestics, also lived in the hotel.

Opportunity knocked once more for the Kill family due to yet another violent incident in North Portal. In 1914, William Hetherington, owner of the three-storey Grandview Hotel, was convicted of manslaughter in the death of Pat Murphy, alias Kelley, alias Denver Blackie. The crime had been committed during a drunken brawl in the bar of the hotel at the end of August. Shortly after Hetherington's sentence to two years' imprisonment, Louis Kill returned to North Portal and bought the Grandview Hotel.

In 1916, the year after Prohibition was

implemented, the Canada census records Louis and Anna Kill living in the Grandview Hotel with their unmarried daughter Anna (30); their one-year-old granddaughter Ethel; and sons Edward (38), who was no longer working as a bartender, but instead working at the local hardware store; Vincent (20), a clerk for the railway; and Sylvester (18). Also living in the hotel were two chambermaids.

By 1921, Louis Kill had retired from the hotel business. In the early years, he had made considerable money at the Grandview Hotel. With the passing of bars in Saskatchewan due to Prohibition, however, hotels had become "white elephants." The Kill family moved to Sacramento, California where daughter Frances and her husband Charles H. Hecht now lived.

Throughout the 1920s, the Grandview Hotel became the centre for illegal liquor trading as well as gambling, apparently attracting some notorious gangsters from Chicago, including Al Capone—incongnito. Legend has it that some of the big-winning gamblers never left the Grandview. A sign beside the hotel once told of guests who disappeared after cleaning up at the gambling table, leaving their belongings—and their train tickets—untouched in their rooms. It is rumored that they may have ended up at the bottom of the hotel's 60-metre-deep well.

Continued on page 9

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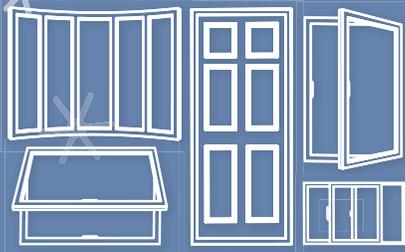


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Above: Part of the show room at Moosomin Dodge.

Moosomin Dodge is open for business

Company may add future dealerships in Esterhazy and Carlyle

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK
Moosomin's newest car dealership is now open.

Moosomin Dodge is located on Highway 8 north, in the former location of Mazergrupp. The Dodge dealership moved into the location once Mazergrupp completed its new building on the North Service Road facing the Trans-Canada Highway.

The sales department moved into the new location in early December and the first appointments in the service department were last week.

The business is owned by Ron Kaban of Yorkton, who also owns Whitewood Dodge.

When he purchased Whitewood Dodge he decided to open a location in Moosomin, and he may open future dealerships in Esterhazy and Carlyle.

Manager Cody Bruvold said Moosomin Dodge and Whitewood Dodge will operate as separate businesses, and the plan

is to retain the Whitewood dealership as well.

"We share inventory and we share some staff, but they are two separate businesses," he explains. "Our goal is to ensure Whitewood remains viable as well. We'll do everything we can to keep both locations busy."

Bruvold said a lot of people have been around to check out the new business.

"Everybody is really happy to have us here. We had a bunch of guys come to check out the place the Saturday after we opened. Some brought doughnuts. One of the other dealers emailed me to welcome us to town. I think that's great. We want to do whatever we can do to work together. We're all here for the same thing—to make a living and keep our communities alive."

The former Mazergrupp building has been completely renovated to house the new Dodge dealership.

Continued on page 20

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What is a master of ceremony?

In short, a Master of Ceremony is the guide of the event. They are in charge of bringing attention to important moments, leading your guests through the events of the evening, and making sure that there is never a dull moment on the most important and special day of your lives. As the name of Master implies, they are also knowledgeable in the customary traditions of a wedding and capable of anticipating any problems such as gaps in the schedule and compensating accordingly.

The true defining characteristic of a Master of Ceremony, however, is experience. Professional Masters of Ceremonies have seen, attended, planned and led many different weddings. They have training and experience in public speaking as well as, in many cases, a talent or passion for entertaining.

In the past it has long been a tradition to ask a close friend or family member to fill this role. In recent years, however, that has become less popular as more professional entertainers choose to invest in acquiring these skills and offering them for the benefit of wedding couples.

Consider the benefits

of hiring a professional Master of Ceremony. A professional has the skills that define them as a Master of Ceremony. Hiring a professional frees up your close friend or family member to enjoy the festivities and be present with you rather than taking on the responsibility of the evening (or potentially letting you down if they fail to). A professional has the experience from past events to enhance the quality of the event, plan and execute quality entertainment, and relieve stress from your guests by being a leader of the event.

Some people are fortunate enough to have



Riley Wieler

a friend or relative who have the qualities and skills to be a passable representative for them at their wedding. However, the bulk of weddings have been missing out for many years until recently.

With this shift becoming more pronounced in recent years, today's bride and groom should consider the option seriously as a part of their entertainment. Many DJ/Entertainment services

now offer a Master of Ceremony as part of the package.

A few good questions to ask when considering a Master of Ceremony are:

- Where were they trained?
- How many weddings

have they been a Master of Ceremony for?

• Do they enjoy speaking to and entertaining wedding guests?

• What are some of their backup plans if the schedule gets derailed for some reason?

• Do they have experience co-ordinating with other wedding vendors such as caterers to keep the evening on schedule?

The final and most important thing to consider when considering a Mas-

ter of Ceremony is:

• Do you get along with them?

In the end, whoever you select to represent you at your wedding must be comfortable if they are going to do a good job. That begins with being compatible.

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How to supplement your wedding invitations with a wedding website

Wedding invitations traditionally include a few different cards and a whole lot of information. If you're planning a wedding and want to cut down on the amount of paper you send, a wedding website is the perfect way to communicate with your guests.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE ON THE INVITATION

All basic information about your wedding needs to be on the invitation. This includes the full names of the bride and groom to be, the location of the wedding and the date and time it'll take place. Traditionally, your parent's names would also be included, but if you're paying for your own wedding, you can take or leave this tradition. Include the URL to your wedding website so people know how to access it.

RSVP CARDS

Your guests need a way to tell you whether or not they can make it to your wedding. You can include this with your invitation, or have people respond on your website. Both options are acceptable, but keep in mind that some of your older guests may not understand the lack of a response card.

WHAT TO PUT ON YOUR WEDDING WEBSITE

Use the website to let your guests know about accommodations, the gift registry and directions to the venue. You can also include some photos of the two of you, introduce guests to your wedding party or add local fun facts for people from out of town.



Building a wedding website is easy and often times free. Use one of the following host sites:

- withjoy.com
- minted.com
- weddingwire.com
- theknot.com

Alternatively, you can build your wedding website using Wordpress.com; they even offer a free wedding theme.

The history of the wedding cake



The tall, tiered wedding cake — with or without toppers — is one of the most widespread wedding traditions in the western world. You've probably tasted a slice or two over the years, but what do you know about the ori-

gins of this sweet nuptial custom?

Historians believe that the concept of wedding cakes can be traced back to ancient Rome. At that time, it was customary to break a wafer or loaf of sweet bread over the bride's head with the goal of invoking happiness and fertility. In medieval Europe, wedding guests typically stacked small pastries as high as possible, and the bride and groom would kiss over the

resulting pile of sweetness. The higher the pastry tower was, the happier the couple would be. Sweet, tall, tiered cakes like those seen today in weddings across North America only became commonplace around the eighteenth century.

Nowadays, bakers create wedding cakes that are true works of art. Anything goes when it comes to the shape, flavour and colour — and toppers are no longer limited to the tiny bride and groom model.

A SYMBOLIC GESTURE

The tradition of the wedding cake being sliced by the bride and groom dates back to the Middle Ages. The gesture symbolized the first action taken by the bride and groom as a legitimate couple. Traditionally, the groom rests his hand on the bride's as a sign of fertility and protection.

Three unique wedding reception ideas

If you're getting married, but the thought of a traditional wedding reception leaves you cold, try one of these three fun alternatives:

With this type of reception you can use a smaller space to accommodate your guests.

1. BRUNCH RECEPTION

For early birds, a morning ceremony and brunch reception is the way to go. Ask your preferred breakfast spot to cater and then serve all of the breakfast classics with espresso drinks to wake your guests up. Just because it's early in the day doesn't mean you have to have a dry wedding — mimosas anyone?

A wedding reception that breaks with tradition can be more memorable, festive and affordable than the standard dinner and dancing that follows most nuptials. Your options are limited only by your imagination.

2. BACKYARD BARBEQUE

If you prefer to spend your Saturday nights drinking beer and hanging out with friends, why not have a backyard wedding? Find a caterer that specializes in barbeque and get dirty with some ribs or pulled pork. Serve local craft beers and set up some old-fashioned lawn games.



3. COCKTAIL PARTY

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Pro-pipeline protests erupting

Large crowds for Virden to Brandon truck convoy and Regina Rally for Resources



Some scenes from the Virden rally on Jan. 5. At top are the trucks heading out to the Trans-Canada Highway. Bottom left is Rob Dinsdale from MP Larry Maguire's office speaking at the rally, and bottom right is one of the signs on the side of a truck.

Continued from front

"I get the sense that people are frustrated and they want to do something," he said. "What affect they'll have is very difficult to determine, but to sit and do nothing is not acceptable by some of us."

"We realize the importance of pipelines and how important they are to making sure we meet our own energy needs instead of importing oil. The rallies are an act of frustration. People aren't going to them because they want to spend money and burn gas, but because there's a really important point that has to be made."

"I'm not directly affected by the threat unemployment because of the situation with our resources, the difficulties getting them to market, but certainly a lot of people are."

"That sense was there in both Regina and Virden, where people are not working and are hurting."

"We see the direct benefits of pipeline construction right now in our own town with the amount of employ-

ment that is created by pipelines. That's one reason we need to make the point, and then there's the safety of pipelines as opposed to trucking and rail. There are a whole bunch of reasons why we should be doing this."

"Even if a pipeline was approved today it's probably four or five years before it would be put into place, so it's not that we're going to get immediate results from this, but there is frustration out there people want to express it, and from my past history of being involved in SARM and the RM of Moosomin you feel that you have to do something to get change."

Harrison said he saw a lot of anger and frustration at the events last week.

"There's frustration, there's anger, but the Virden convoy was very peaceful and the Regina rally was very peaceful. In the Moosomin area anybody that I've been involved with so far has not wanted to get involved with the yellow vests and be associated with what's going on in France and being disruptive. Anything that I've been involved with and would be involved with in the future

would be peaceful message to the government of Canada that things have to change."

He said he is hopeful the message will get through.

"You try to attract the attention of the media and it's got to get through to Ottawa. The majority of members of parliament in the west but the are on the opposition side of the house and I think they're in agreement."

"Larry McGuire (the MP for Brandon-Souris) was not present at the Virden event, but he had a person speaking. He made it quite clear that they were in favor of pipelines and in Regina Denise Batters one of the senators spoke about her support for overturning Bill C69 but she mentioned a number of senators from Saskatchewan that did not oppose Bill C69, which was concerning, so they are obviously following party lines even though Senators are supposed to be non-partisan"

"The message was very clear at both rallies. How much good it will do, nobody knows at this point."

"When you look at the TransMountain, everyone in Canada owns that. It's sitting there, not doing anything. I haven't heard anything for months as to whether there has been any progress there. It's very frustrating for everybody and for those involved in the business."

"When you look at the amount of equipment that Banister has just for the section of pipeline they're doing here, and there are sections being done right across, you realize there's billions of dollars tied up when there's requirement for pipelines. When contractors like Banister don't get work, it has a ripple effect throughout the economy."

"Our efforts started over a year ago when we got SUMA and SARM to pass resolutions, then we followed up this summer, and the town and RM of Moosomin appointed me to try to work on this issue so I felt obligated to be at these rallies to see how they were functioning and what was going on, and perhaps assist in a rally that may be going on in our area in mid-February."



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Legal battle coming over carbon tax

A legal battle is coming over the federal government's right to impose a federal carbon tax on individual provinces.

The documents are filed. All that's left is for the lawyers to put on their robes and descend on the courthouse. Then the legal spat over the carbon tax can begin in earnest.

In 2019, the carbon tax fight comes before the courts, as Saskatchewan and Ontario have asked their respective highest provincial courts to weigh the constitutionality of the federal government's imposition of a carbon tax on provinces that haven't put in place their own.

The documents filed with the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal by the federal government and Saskatchewan detail the legal case that each government is going to make. What the court decides could determine the future of one of Justin Trudeau's government's signature policies.

Saskatchewan, a long-term hold-out over a carbon tax, has asked its top court to weigh in on whether or not the Liberal imposition of carbon pricing on provinces that didn't make their own pricing schemes are constitutional.

Ontario is doing the same, but Saskatchewan's case is up first, with court dates set for Feb. 13-14.

The case is not a debate about whether or not climate change is real or whether or not humans are causing it.

The case is not about whether or not the carbon tax is an effective means of reducing emissions.

The federal government's court filing contains ample quantities of Liberal talking points and old speeches making this case. But, that's not the legal question at play here. That's the political one.

"The Attorney General submits that the Court should not be swayed by arguments about the importance of climate change in today's world," says Saskatchewan's filings.

"Legislative jurisdiction under our Constitution is not determined by the importance of the matter."

This case is about which level of govern-

ment has jurisdiction to regulate carbon emissions, or whether it is shared jurisdiction where the federal government can impose a tax and provinces are free to have carbon policies in addition.

The court is also being asked, if it is the federal government that has jurisdiction, how does the Constitution grant this power?

This is linked to the question of whether or not the carbon tax is ... a tax, as opposed to a "levy" and if the federal government has the power to put a tax in place in this circumstance, and with variability across the country.

Jurisdiction question

Historically speaking, some aspects of pollution have been regulated at the provincial level. Industrial regulations, say, are a provincial matter.

So, asks Saskatchewan, why would climate change be a federal responsibility?

"There is no free standing federal jurisdiction over the environment or pollution," says Saskatchewan's factum.

But the federal government says Saskatchewan, by being intransigent on carbon pricing, risks affecting British Columbia because climate change has global effects.

Lawyers for the Liberal government draw a line between Saskatchewan's refusal to implement a carbon tax and the fact that, annually, large swaths of British Columbia are subject to forest fire.

The Saskatchewan government rejects this: "The greenhouse effect of a megaton of emissions from Saskatchewan upon British Columbia, for example, is no different than it is upon Timbuktu."

Federal argument

The federal government says this power comes from something called the POGG clause—the peace, order and good government clause—of the Constitution.

The Liberals say this allows the federal government to step in and do something nationally, if there's a national interest component to that policy.

Continued on page 18

North Portal: Roughs Come in from Dakota

Continued from page 3



Grandview Hotel, North Portal, c. 1910



Union Hotel, c. 1910.



Baseball game in North Portal, 1914, with Grandview Hotel in background.



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Group aiming to start search and rescue chapter in SE Sask

BY KARA KINNA

A group is hoping to get a volunteer SARS- SAV search and rescue chapter started in Southeast Saskatchewan and will be holding public information meetings from January 16-24 in four different communities in the southeast.

SARSAV stands for Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers. Currently there is a chapter in the Yorkton-Melville area (the Parkland Chapter) and another in Regina, but nothing in the southeast corner Saskatchewan. SARSAV is comprised of member chapters of search and rescue professionals who volunteer their time for training, search missions, preventative information and public awareness when someone goes missing.

The meetings to organize a chapter in southeast Saskatchewan are being organized by a partnership between the RCMP Search and Rescue Team, SARSAV, Estevan Police Service and Weyburn Police Service.

"There's no established volunteer group in that part of the province," says Cpl George Riffel with the Yorkton RCMP who got the Yorkton-Melville SARSAV chapter started.

"The closest groups are Regina or Yorkton-Melville Parkland, and typically SARSAV likes to work with a 100 km radius. So that would be basically from the U.S. border 200 km north and 200 km from the Manitoba border that would encompass the border to the Qu'Appelle Valley coming up north, and from the Manitoba border over to the Weyburn area.

"It's just a matter of having a trained, organized group of volunteers that are equipped and ready to go in case of an emergency call coming in for a missing person.

"There is a bit of a hole in that area. The majority of the populated area is covered. Less than half of Saskatchewan is heavily populated, but the majority of that is covered by various chapters. There is overlap in some areas, but in that southeast area there is just a hole where there isn't a chapter actually based."

Public meetings are being held in Carnduff, Carlyle, Estevan and Weyburn.

"What we would be looking for is the incorporation of a SARSAV chapter," says Riffel. "SARSAV is Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers. And they would work on call to assist the RCMP in the rural areas, or if it was a call in Weyburn or Estevan, inside the city they would work with city police to assist with missing persons searches.

"What we are looking to do is establish the chapter, and with the chapter comes training, telecoms, communications equipment, that type of stuff. Volunteers would be trained to national standards so that in the



Back in 2016 when Jonathon Richter went missing in the Welwyn area, SARSAV volunteers from the Regina, Moose Jaw and the Parkland (Yorkton-Melville) chapters were called in to help with the search. Now SARSAV, the RCMP, and Estevan and Weyburn police services want to start a SARSAV chapter in Southeast Saskatchewan. Shown here are some of the local and SARSAV volunteers getting organized to go out searching during the Richter case in 2016.

event of a missing person, we actually have people who are equipped, trained, ready to go, and they understand how incident command works, that type of stuff. We call on a volunteer base that is known and ready to go. Spontaneous volunteers are great, but they may not know what to expect or how to work with the police, how to look for evidence, and different things like that."

Riffel says there is a need for all kinds of skill sets when setting up a chapter, from people who want to be searchers to executive members. He says volunteers can choose to be involved as much as they want.

"There are certain levels of training, there's a basic searcher course and there is a team leader course, and there's a search manager course," he says. "So what level they want to be involved, that's completely up to them."

"There is a need for an executive to get the chapter started. Not everyone can do 20 miles a day walking through the bush or up and down the valley, if that's what the call is, so there is a need for a secretary, a treasurer, people who are good with public relations, good with fundraising for the group, that type of stuff too. So you may have someone who's retired that may fit perfectly into a role like that that can't do the other physical side of things.

"There's a need for all different skill sets

and interests and levels of involvement.

"At the meetings we are going to explain the different roles. We are going to have the president of the Parkland Chapter here out of Yorkton-Melville come down and explain some of the successes and challenges they had getting going, some of the types of calls they get, the areas they get to attend to."

Riffel says SARSAV chapters also assist each other in different parts of the province when it's needed.

"A group like this for the Southeast, you may be called locally, and you will probably be the first group to get called locally, but if there is something in the Yorkton area, if the RCMP says we need 25 or 30 people here quickly to help here, and Parkland Chapter would only be able to get 10 due to people on holidays or away or sick or whatever, you start calling in neighboring groups too," he says.

"For the southeast corner we'd be calling in Parkland and Regina and possibly Moose Jaw depending on who's available from where and when, so it wouldn't just be isolated to there."

Riffel says the goal of the meetings is to simply get a chapter started and once that happens, that chapter can start organize its volunteers into various different roles.

"Once the group gets formed and those people identify their interest, the group sort of has to sort those things out on their own. The RCMP doesn't help with that. We are just sort of putting the word out saying there is a need for it in this area and this is how it would work. So the group has to form that on its own, but it would be with the assistance of the provincial body of SARSAV and with the help from the Parkland Chapter here."

Riffel, who has been involved with search and rescue for many years himself, and who got the Parkland chapter started, says there is enough interest in the Southeast that he knows a chapter will get going there.

"I've been involved in search and rescue informally for my service, for 20-some years, but formally I've been on the RCMP team for seven or eight. I did the same thing here, started a group out of Yorkton and Melville. I just put the word out, said there isn't a group here, is anyone interested in starting one, set up a meeting and had a bunch of people come out and then the group formed and away they went.

"There is quite a bit of interest. I'm working with a member from Estevan city police and the president of the Parkland chapter is coming to the meetings. We've already reached out to a bunch of the fire departments and EMO committees to put the bug out to people that this is going on and get some interest going. There is quite a bit of interest.

"I know with the mines there is some expertise and people there who have done some underground (rescue) work and we never know what kind of calls we are going to get. There are people all over that have skill sets and interests that can benefit the chapter.

"If someone can't make one of the meetings, it's not like this is a one shot deal where if you don't get to the meetings, you can't get involved. I know it's going to move ahead, there is enough interest between the different communities already that it will form, it will happen. It's just a matter of getting a sign up sheet, starting the ball rolling as to who is exactly interested in what and who can commit to what."

The meetings will be held in the following communities at the following times:

- Carnduff: Jan. 16 at 7 pm at the Carnduff Education Complex
- Carlyle: Jan. 17 at 7 pm at the Memorial Hall
- Estevan: Jan. 23 at 7 pm at the Western Star Inn and Suites
- Weyburn: Jan. 24 at 7 pm at the City Works Building classroom

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The crowd at the Virden truck convoy.

Pro-pipeline truck convoy gathers in Virden

A pro-pipeline truck convoy was held from Virden to Brandon on Saturday, Jan. 5. The rally started at Sparks Gravel Co. yard in Virden and included speeches by Virden's mayor Murray Wright and Rob Dinsdale from MP Larry McGuire's office. A prayer was said by minister Vic Falk.

There were over 100 rigs that left Virden. The convoy included men, women, children and dogs, and the trucks came from Western Manitoba and Southeast Saskatchewan. The RCMP lead the convoy. There were lots of yellow vests on trucks and signs with a variety of messages on issues pertaining to the energy industry and Canadian government issues.

"On behalf of myself and Virden, which is the oil capital of Manitoba and the surrounding area, I'm going to wish everyone great luck," Mayor Wright told the crowd before they headed out.

"I know what I'd like to do with Mr. Trudeau but I would be in jail if I did that. And I'm sure the first pig that we run through the pipeline when we get it built out west, that he's duck taped to the front of it with that pig behind his ass when it goes!"

"Let's keep the momentum going and end Justin Trudeau's war on the energy sector," said Rob Dinsdale, "by repealing Bill C69, cancelling the ban on the shipping of energy resources off the B.C. coast,



Virden mayor Murray Wright speaking at the rally.

scrapping the carbon tax and ending foreign meddling in pipeline approvals."

After the rally the trucks headed down the TransCanada Highway to Brandon.

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Rory Allen performing in Moosomin Feb. 3

Elvis tribute artist Rory Allen will be performing in Moosomin on Feb. 3 at the Moosomin Community Theatre. The show will be a fundraiser for four community groups—the Moosomin Legion, Sask Elks Senior Homes, MOTOH, and the McAuley Church Building.

Rory Allen has a personal connection with Southeast Saskatchewan, spending part of his childhood in the town of Rocanville.

World-Spectator editor Kevin Weedmark interviewed him last week. Following is the interview:

I believe you have a connection with this area?

Yes, I lived in Rocanville for a couple years.

Was that when you were growing up?

Yup, I just a little wiener and then we moved to Regina after that but lived in Rocanville for a while. My brother-in-law still lives in Rocanville so it's sort of my old stomping grounds. Of course, I've done a few shows in Moosomin in the past and also in Rocanville and the area, so yes it's kind of cool to be coming back again.

What can people expect to see at your show in Moosomin?

It's going to be of course an Elvis show. I do a costume change—I'll do two sets. The first set I like to do some of the earlier stuff that Elvis did and for the second set of course I like to change my clothes and come back and do the Las Vegas stuff, and people like those kind of outfits and everything and have a lot of fun. And I mean there is going to be a little rock n roll, country and gospel—everything that Elvis covered.

We're going to put a good mix in for everybody, and I like to have a lot of fun with the audience, so I never know what I'm going to say next, so it's very unscripted we have a lot of fun.

How did you get into this Elvis show? How did you get started?

Growing up my mom was a huge Elvis fan and I used to have her albums playing lots when we were growing up, and especially at Christmas time with the Christmas album, I think everybody knows all the Elvis Christmas songs off by heart, and we'd sing along.

And so when I was a little older I was in choirs and stuff at school, and drama, and at one point I actually wanted to be an actor. And we were at a church function and we were supposed to do a talent night, so I decided to do an Elvis song. We'd have screamers come in and I'd throw scarves out to everybody, so I did that.

I had a jumpsuit made very quick for me and went in and I think it was probably blue suede shoes I did.

And after it was all said and done, a fellow came to me after the performance and he asked me if I did it for a living, and I laughed at him I said no we are just doing this for the church thing. And he said well you should think about it because you were better than the guy I seen at the dinner theatre. And I went hmm. And I was currently out of work, I had been laid off, and with my wife and everything, so we decided hey I'll maybe start with doing a few smaller gigs and make some money.

How long ago when you started this?

I'm in my 23rd year, and the casino had opened but they didn't want our kind of music there, they just wanted background music, and we thought it would be a great fit for me, you know an Elvis show in a casino, it should fit really well, but they just



Rory Allen performing in a show in Rocanville in 2017.

wanted background music.

So my wife at the time, Laurie, she said well we're going to make a splash in there. If they won't return our calls about this show you're going to walk through in your jump suit right through the casino. And I'm going no I'm not, and she goes yes you are, we need groceries.

So I put on the jump suit, and I had nephews, nieces and friends come around me like an entourage and walked in there in costume, and had the body guard and everything. People were asking me different things like Elvis when are you playing here, and I'm like well pretty soon I hope—and I did the voice—and where are you from ma'am? Calgary. Oh Calgary, I said. I flew over that town, it's pretty nice, and stuff like that.

And we were walking around creating a stir, and then the fellow that was playing at the sports bar at the front of the casino, we had done an anniversary thing with him just a couple weeks before. Ken Jefferson is his name. He is this well-known piano player around the province. He is just a great guy. And he said Rory, Bob Moyer is playing behind the bar with his combo and Pat Steele is singing. I bet they would let you do a song with them.

And I'm thinking, I'm dressed like Elvis, what am I going to do with a jazz combo behind a bar. And he said come on, come on, so we went over there and Pat graciously gave me the stage and we decided to do "Can't help but falling in love."

And so I got up there and they gave me the mike and they played "Can't help but falling in love." I sang the song and it went from about six people that were sort of sitting at the bar there playing the machines to probably to a crowd of 100 by the time the song ended. And it was getting bigger because people were wondering when the next show was.

And the fellow that owned the restaurant at the time came and said, tell him that is what we need, we need a show here, we want to book you. And that's how I started to get regular bookings at the casino.

I just kind of grew and grew and grew, and now for our big casino shows there's 12 of us on stage with the brass section and the backup girls and everything else.

So we performed in Palm Springs, sang in Hawaii, Las Vegas, but bread and butter is the prairies. I mean Canada's the best place to travel. You don't have to worry about getting over the border, it's just great. And smaller towns really, really treat you great and you always get fed good.

Are you able to make a pretty good living with this?

It's been 22 years full time, so we've been very fortunate to have a great fan base, and people know the name I think now after so many years. And I think a lot of people know what they're going to get. It's a family show, so no matter where I am, I take pride in that you can bring your kids to the show. But it's still going to be fun and entertaining.

It's just a really, really good time. People who maybe aren't necessarily even Elvis fans leave usually having a good time.

Is there much difference playing a big venue or a smaller town?

Not really. I think the smaller venues, smaller towns, are a little bit more intimate and it makes it a lot funner. I get to meet more of the people.

I like to sing out in the crowd in the first set, I like to walk out and do a few songs out amongst the crowd, and there is a lot of shaking hands and a lot of jokes in between the songs, so a lot of fun. Well I think it's jokes but normally if you are the only one laughing at your own jokes you're not that funny, but hopefully I am.

We have a good time. It's quite exciting to be able to keep doing this—it's a lot of fun.

Are you looking forward to this Moosomin show?

You bet, Moosomin is a great town. We are looking forward to seeing a lot of folks around there that we recognize. It's a 2 pm show. It came upon us very quick and we're hoping to sell it out within a month here.



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Carbon tax coming into effect this year

Canadians in the four provinces with carbon pricing plans the federal government considers inadequate will receive pre-emptive rebates from Ottawa when they begin paying the federal carbon tax in April 2019.

The government estimates that average households in Ontario, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and New Brunswick will get back more than they pay through the federal carbon tax, in what Ottawa is calling a Climate Action Incentive.

There will not be a rebate to businesses that pay the carbon tax.

The federal price on fuel

will come into effect in the four provinces in April 2019, the beginning of the next fiscal year. Beginning in July 2019, the system will also be applied in Yukon and Nunavut, which have opted for the federal tax in lieu of creating their own.

The federal government says 90 per cent of the revenue from the fuel charge will be returned to households through the annual rebate. The remaining 10 per cent will support small businesses, universities, hospitals, schools, municipalities, non-profits and Indigenous communities.

A separate carbon pricing system for heavy in-

dustrial emitters came into effect January 1.

That revenue will not be returned to households.

Heavy emitters will have to report on their emissions from 2019 after the end of the calendar year, and will then have the option to purchase credits or carbon offsets, or to pay the federal carbon price.

The federal fuel charge will be levied at \$20 per tonne of carbon emissions in 2019, rising by \$10 per tonne each year until it reaches \$50 per tonne in 2022. The government estimates the carbon tax will increase gasoline prices by 4.4 cents per litre in 2019, increasing to 11 cents per

litre in 2022. Natural gas will increase by 3.9 cents per cubic metre in 2019, rising to 9.8 cents per cubic metre in 2022.

Here is a breakdown of how each province stands to be affected.

The costs and rebates vary because some provinces rely more heavily on coal, diesel and natural gas than others.

SASKATCHEWAN
Average cost per household in 2019: \$403

Average rebate in 2019: \$598

Average cost in 2022: \$946

Average rebate in 2022: \$1,419

Support for small busi-

nesses and affected sectors over next five years: \$445 million

MANITOBA

Average cost per household in 2019: \$232

Average rebate in 2019: \$336

Average cost in 2022: \$547

Average rebate in 2022: \$797

Support for small businesses and affected sectors over next five years: \$190 million

ONTARIO

Average cost per household in 2019: \$244

Average rebate in 2019: \$300

Average cost in 2022: \$564

Average rebate in 2022: \$697

Support for small businesses and affected sectors over next five years: \$1.45 billion

NEW BRUNSWICK

Average cost per household in 2019: \$202

Average rebate in 2019: \$248

Average cost in 2022: \$470

Average rebate in 2022: \$583

Support for small businesses and affected sectors over next five years: \$77 million

QUEBEC, ALBERTA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, NEWFOUNDLAND, NOVA SCOTIA, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

These provinces and territories already have carbon pricing systems in place, or plan to implement carbon prices that Ottawa says will meet the federal standard. However, Alberta Premier Rachel Notley has said that province's carbon levy will not increase as planned until the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion is built, and opposition leader Jason Kenney has vowed to scrap the carbon tax if he is elected next year.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND P.E.I. is implementing a carbon tax that will meet the federal standard, but has asked Ottawa to apply the federal backstop to large industrial emitters in that province.

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Legal battle coming over carbon tax

Continued from page 9

Since climate change affects all of us, it's in the national interest, therefore, the federal government can impose a carbon tax.

"GHG emissions are a matter so vital to the interest of the nation as a whole that GHG emissions must be dealt with on a national basis," its factum argues.

Principles of federalism

Saskatchewan argues that the federal government stepping in on what each province wants to do to combat climate change is an "Ottawa knows best" approach that disregards the principles of federalism—both as spelled out in the Constitution and as exist historically in principle.

A co-operative approach would be preferable, but Saskatchewan says the federal approach is the opposite of co-operation because there's no ability to refuse to participate.

"Nothing less will satisfy the principle that provinces are sovereign and autonomous within the realms of their jurisdiction and that neither level of government is subordinate to the other," it says.

The federal government disagrees, naturally. "Federal jurisdiction to

legislate as a matter of national concern does not shift the balance of legislative power, but rather provides Parliament with a flexible tool, reflecting the scale of the problem," it argues.

When is a tax not a tax?

The other thing at issue is whether or not the carbon tax is a tax, because, as Saskatchewan lays out, it's a powerful tool that should be used carefully.

"Furthermore, it is well established that the federal government cannot use its taxation power as a guise to regulate matters within provincial jurisdiction," say Saskatchewan's lawyers.

The federal government's lawyers argue that the carbon tax isn't a tax.

The federal government argues that, rather than a tax, the carbon tax is a regulatory measure meant to change behaviour by compelling people to use less carbon.

It says that in order for something to be a tax, its primary purpose must be to raise revenue.

The feds further argue that even if it is a tax, well, they still have the power.

Saskatchewan also objects to the tax only applying in certain provinces, saying this is unconstitutional.

The feds disagree:

"There is no constitutional requirement that federal laws operate equally throughout Canada."

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Melville Prairie Fire to fold this season

BY JASON G. ANTONIO

The Melville Prairie Fire could be ejected from the Female Midget AAA league after this season, as the Saskatchewan Hockey Association (SHA) has announced a new model for female hockey across the province.

The change means Melville would have only a female Midget AA hockey program, which would be part of an 11-team league, while the Saskatchewan Female Midget AAA Hockey League (SFMAAAHL) would decrease to seven teams from eight.

The Prairie Fire would finish its 2018-19 season and then returning eligible players would choose where they want play for the 2019-20 season. Twenty players will be affected by this decision, including Ochapowace's Kyla Bear and Jordyn Bear and Wapella's Megan Hayhurst and Allison Hayhurst.

The organization has been part of the SFMAAAHL since the league's inaugural year in 2006.

TEAM REACTION

"(I'm) very disappointed and concerned, for our community and for female hockey as a whole ...," said Prairie Fire president Kevin Kirkwood. "It's just not about the Prairie Fire, it is (also) our local minor hockey in the area, it's our female players that need a chance (and) opportunity to be able to learn and play the game."

The Prairie Fire had 30 days to appeal the decision; the SHA made the announcement Nov. 13. The SHA would then have seven days to make a decision. If it's unfavorable to the Prairie Fire, Melville could appeal to Hockey Canada.

MEMO EXPLAINS CHANGES

The SHA's board of directors has worked to grow female hockey during the past three years, explained SHA general manager Kelly McClintock in a memorandum.

"The desire is to create a 'pyramid' structure of teams whereby a larger base in the lower age groups assists in developing players for what the SHA feels is the elite category of minor female hockey," McClintock wrote, "that being Midget AAA."

The SHA board of directors met on Nov. 10 and 11 to approve recommendations within the female development model for the location of teams for next season, wrote McClintock.

The changes will also affect teams in lower divisions. Besides reducing female Midget AAA teams to seven, the new model means the SHA will determine the location of each team, while every team must reapply to be admitted into the league.

Furthermore, female Midget AAA is being made "age appropriate;" Only Midget-age girls can participate. The SHA noted there are between 17 and 22 Bantam-aged girls who register in the league every year; They will not be allowed to join next season.

FEWER FEMALE PLAYERS

This season, between 143 and 146 female Midget AAA players registered, which means 14 to 17 spots across the league will be empty next season, McClintock told the Melville Advance.

"There had to be one team that was reduced. We had some criteria. We laid out that criteria ... and then we took a look at bases of registration around the province in all of female hockey players that are registered and where the biggest bases of players are," he said, "and unfortunately, there isn't as big of a base of players in that Melville area and they were the ones not chosen." McClintock noted they could have reduced the SF-

MAAAHL to six teams with the number of players registered; Eight teams was even too much when the league began.

There are significant numbers of registered players in north and northwest Saskatchewan, while there are fewer female players in east-central Saskatchewan, he said.

In Weyburn, there were 99 girls registered in Novice last year, which was more than the combined number of boys and girls registered in Melville Minor Hockey Association (MMHA).

In Saskatchewan there are 3,000 males playing Midget hockey across 10 teams and 550 females in Midget hockey across seven teams.

"If you start looking at numbers alone, we've probably had too many teams at Midget AAA hockey," he added. "And nobody can argue with those kinds of numbers."

Continued on page 28



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Moosomin Dodge is open for business

Company may add future dealerships in Esterhazy and Carlyle

Continued from page 5

"We've done quite well hiring people from Moosomin. The people who are going to care the most are local people," says Bruvold.

Ron Kaban said he is happy with the new dealership, which has been in the works for two years. "We wanted to be in Moosomin. This is the centre in the area, it's where things are happening, it's where we have to be," he says.

He says the hardest part of setting up a new dealership is getting the right people in place.

"You need the right people," he said. "We're very lucky to have been able to find some great people. We have Cody managing this dealership, who has a lot of experience. We're very fortunate. People are what makes the difference in a successful dealership. You need to have good people and you need to be willing to go above and beyond in customer service."

Kaban has been in the vehicle business for his entire career. "It's been a long road for me, and now I get a lot of enjoyment out of putting good people in place and seeing them succeed."

A grand opening will be planned in 2019.

OTHER DEALERS WELCOME NEW BUSINESS

Rob Bradley of Bradley's GM said he welcomes the new business to town.

"A new business in Moosomin is always good for everybody," he said. "It helps the community grow, it brings more business to town, it brings consumers to town, and when that happens, everybody benefits."

"With more services, you have more people coming, you might have people moving to town to work there, which helps the community grow."

"Everybody in a small town is always for anything that will add to the commu-

nity and help drive growth. If you don't have new businesses coming to town, you're not going to grow."

He said that having GM, Ford and Chrysler dealerships in Moosomin, along with the major agriculture dealerships, Case, New Holland, and John Deere, should help Moosomin draw more customers.

"It makes it better for consumers, it's one-stop shopping—they don't need to go down the road, all the dealerships are right in town."

"Competition is good for every business. You might change your business model a little bit, how you do things, but it's good for the consumers who will benefit from the competition, and we'll have to work harder to earn their business. I always welcome competition."

"I think it's great for the community to have another dealer in town," says Tyler Thorn of Celebration Ford.

"That's a big business to bring to town. It'll have a fair number of employees. When you can get a major brand in your community I think that's a good thing."

"If people want to shop all three brands they can come to Moosomin. We've become a pretty rare community, there are not a lot of communities our size that would have all three manufacturers represented. I don't think many communities our size would have the three brands, and to have the three big ag dealers, too, I don't know if there's another town our size that has all of that."

"I think the new dealership is good for the community. It brings more shoppers, it brings more traffic to town, and it makes us have to be that much better."

"Consumers will win. They get better service and better prices. We certainly welcome them. In the long run it will bring more buyers to town and we'll all prosper because of it."

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Chelsea Sauve performing at Telemiracle

Local youth band Human Kind performing on Facebook pre show

BY KARA KINNA
Seventeen-year-old Chelsea Sauve from Wapella has been invited for a second time to sing live on television at Telemiracle.

Sauve will be performing on Sunday, March 3 at around 2:44 pm.

Local youth band Human Kind from Rocanville and Welwyn have also been chosen to give a live performance on the Telemiracle pre-show on Facebook on Saturday, March 2.

"This will be my second time on the show, I was on it two years ago," says Sauve, who is excited about the opportunity to contribute to the fundraiser.

"It's such a large fundraiser and telethon all over Saskatchewan to help people. It helps people with disabilities, and helps families that can't really afford to do much for people who are sick. It helps with fundraising for them to get them help."

Sauve will be singing one song, "If I Ain't Got You" by Alicia Keys, and

playing the piano.

Sauve says it's also a great chance to showcase her musical talent, something she found out two years ago when she performed.

"Last time I was on it I actually got many messages and YouTube comments from strangers telling me how great a singer I am, so that was pretty cool," she says. They post videos of everyone who sings, and on my YouTube video I think I got almost 5,000 views."

How does someone get selected to sing at Telemiracle?

"There's auditions," says Sauve. "They were held in early November. And then they go through and they cut people and they give you an email telling you that you made it through the first set of cuts, and then there is a second set of cuts, and then you get another email telling you know if you made it through to the actual show."

"I think it's just talent and how you present yourself. And they



Chelsea Sauve singing and playing piano at the McNaughton's Got Talent show in Moosomin in October.

also asked me about the money I raised last time. I raised close to \$10,000 last time with my fundraising. I told them about

that and that made them really happy, so I think that might have had a little impact on it too."

Sauve will be fundrais-

ing once again leading up to the event, and she's hoping to raise even more money than last time.

"Last time we had a skate-a-thon and we did something with the school, which I'm hoping to do this year, and we had donation boxes at the local places, like the store and post office in Wapella. And we also sold helping hands."

Sauve says she's hoping to hold a big event like the skate-a-thon again this year, along with other fundraisers.

"I think my goal is going to be \$15,000," she says.

Local youth band Human Kind has also been selected to be a part of Telemiracle, and will be performing live on Facebook during the pre-show on Saturday, March 2 at 8:32 pm.

The band is made up of Rocanville Grade 9 students Jenna Olafson on bass guitar, Alex Gulka on acoustic guitar, Rayna Palmer on drum, and Grade 10 student Toryn Harper from Welwyn on

vocals.

"It's a live show on Facebook and we are doing two songs," says Toryn Harper.

"We haven't chosen our second one, but we are doing 'Ho Hey' by the Lumineers."

Harper says they too had to go through an audition process to be selected for the pre-show.

"They listen to a whole bunch of people, so we had to do an audition, which was pretty nerve-racking, and then they would tape it and listen to everyone after the audition, and they'd select like that."

"They liked that we were an all-girl band, and they said they didn't see that very often."

"It's a really big opportunity for us, we are really excited."

Human Kind has been performing together for a year and a half and are hoping for more exposure at events like Telemiracle.

Harper says the band is planning to start practicing this weekend for the live pre-show.

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Yorkton Melville MP

Wagantall prepared for 2019 election



Yorkton-Melville MP Cathay Wagantall

Yorkton Melville MP Cathay Wagantall's riding includes the area north of the Qu'Appelle Valley in east central Saskatchewan. Kevin Weedmark spoke with Wagantall about the upcoming federal election in 2019.

Are you in election preparation mode for 2019 or do you have your day to day constituency work to worry about? Well, that's the challenge! It's not an either-or, it's a both-and, so we are gearing up slowly here working on creating my team and what the key issues will be. Obviously we are taking a good look at that at this point in time, and as I go into the Christmas season over a couple of weeks, at least I'll be reaching out again into the riding. I do a lot of going and meeting with my RMs and communities just to make sure I'm on the right track. It is always in the back of my mind and part of communicating with people. No question we are gearing up.

What do you think are going to be the main issues on people's minds in Yorkton-Melville?

Well, I can definitely tell you the economy is top of mind for everybody. There is a lot of apprehension in regards to the deficits and the debt as it continues to grow extensively and how that will impact future generations, but also the whole issue around our growing loss of competitiveness—that is a big concern with a lot of the businesses I talk with. I'm dealing with concerns now about rising inflation and interest rates going up and a loss of investment opportunity as business is leaving Canada.

That is always a concern, and the energy sector impacts Saskatchewan, as does the issues around our manufacturing as well. We have a number of businesses that are very concerned that are facing the impact of the steel and aluminum tariffs and the red tape.

I had a construction company come into my office two weeks ago and brought in the actual stack of paper it took for them to apply to put in a bid on a government job versus what it was three years ago, and there's a huge amount more red tape to go through that process. That's a growing concern as well. So market access even for ranchers and farmers it is a concern, and the taxes and regulations that have just seemed to grow as well.

There is a lot of concern about being able to get good quality foreign workers. I know a number of them have been waiting and waiting and now are told well that person doesn't qualify and they say well we know who it is that we need. I don't understand what's going on here. So there is a lot of that around the economy.

Continued on page 25

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Skepticism over Saskatchewan urban rural political split

Saskatchewan's latest "back to the future" episode should be greeted with skepticism as certain pundits have returned to the old issue of an urban-rural split in provincial politics.

For much of the 1990s and early 2000s, Saskatchewan's two political movements featured a powerful NDP in the cities while the fledgling Saskatchewan Party (and its earlier predecessor non-socialist parties) held rural ridings. The narrative was left wing NDP cities versus right wing country folk.

Hindsight teaches that conventional wisdom was anything but conventional. The NDP, with superior organization and history as Saskatchewan's Natural Governing Party, was supported by powerful trade unions and voter focused on city-dwelling government employees and universities. The party's greatest advantage was its ability to split opposing votes between Conservatives and Liberals.

As a result, the NDP was strongly entrenched in urban 1960s neighborhoods of Saskatoon and Regina, any seats walkable to a university or college campus, the four seats in Moose Jaw and Prince Albert and several smaller urban centres like the Battlefords, Yorkton and Meadow Lake.

Along with a permanent hold on inner city ridings and the two Northern seats, the NDP created a 16-year run in office.

There was also an obvious contrast in leadership. With the exception of its most successful leader, Weyburn Baptist Minister Tommy Douglas, the NDP was always led by Saskatoon or Regina MLAs while its strongest opposition had a focus on rural leadership.

But the 21st century brought structural politi-

cal changes to Saskatchewan well beyond the simplicity of claiming an urban-rural divide. The NDP's vote splitting on the center-right ended with the ascent of the Saskatchewan Party. The once fearsome NDP machine, which had long preached settling for mediocrity, ran headlong into a Brad Wall-led Saskatchewan Party that channeled an electorate with raised expectations and hope.

Coinciding with the significant provincial attitude shift, plummeting union participation, influence and relevance—particularly in the non-government economy—has weakened the NDP.

The past two election campaigns for the NDP have been unfocused and weak, as two failed leaders have not resonated



John Gormley

with voters. Now the party has opted for a hard-left Hail Mary pass with social justice activist physician Ryan Meili at the helm.

The retirement of MLAs David Forbes and Cathy Sproule—the only NDP caucus member who supported Meili—will leave uncertainty between the more moderate Trent Wotherspoon camp and the hard-left Meili faction, which is generally found outside the Legislature—including literally outside when it's camping on the

grounds.

The post-Brad Wall Saskatchewan Party—which did significant electoral damage to the NDP in all but the safest of seats—has been ably led for a year by Scott Moe who is rural but has uniquely established a reputation as a policy wonk, fearless defender of all things Saskatchewan and the image of that nice guy across the street you don't know well enough yet.

With strong personal approval ratings, Moe—ac-

ording to the most recent Mainstreet poll taken in November—has actually reversed an NDP surge in the cities that was happening under Brad Wall, more attributable to unpopular budget decisions than any rural-urban dichotomy on issues.

The poll found Saskatchewan Party urban support returning, with a four per cent lead over the NDP in Saskatoon and a six per cent lead in Regina.

Today's NDP holds its base of inner city and Northern seats, has taken back just one of the important four Moose Jaw and PA ridings, and has been shut out in smaller cities. The NDP "resurgence" has been three by-election wins. One seat in each of the big cities were NDP strongholds that returned

to the party after being held for two elections by the Sask Party. The third was a convincing Saskatoon by-election win by Meili on the eve of the Sask Party austerity budget in 2017.

The narrative of city versus country on a left-right split involves a broader conversation in newer suburbs and urban communities, where population has surged by 160,000 in the past decade.

The 1990s Saskatchewan is gone.

John Gormley is a broadcaster, lawyer, author and former Progressive Conservative MP whose radio talk show is heard weekdays from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm on 650 CKOM Saskatoon and 980 CJME Regina.

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Results of 2018 Sask clubroot survey released

On Jan. 9, the Government of Saskatchewan released a map outlining the rural municipalities (RMs) where clubroot has been identified to date.

Visible symptoms of clubroot have been confirmed in 43 commercial canola fields and the clubroot pathogen was confirmed in soil samples from an additional three fields that did not have visible clubroot symptoms. These fields were identified through the 2017 and 2018 clubroot surveys or reported to the ministry by producers and agrologists outside of the survey.

"Monitoring the spread of clubroot through surveys is valuable to everyone in the agriculture industry, as it helps the industry make informed decisions around clubroot management," Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "We consider awareness and education of clubroot to be priorities, as both will help prevent the spread of the disease in Saskatchewan."

The Ministry of Agriculture, in partnership with SaskCanola and the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), increased its clubroot surveillance efforts in 2018 as a response to the detection of clubroot in two Saskatchewan crop districts in 2017. The purpose of the 2018 clubroot survey was to help both government and industry better

understand the distribution of clubroot in the province, and to guide clubroot management and prevention efforts.

Clubroot, a declared pest under Saskatchewan's Pest Control Act, is a disease that restricts a plant's ability to obtain water and nutrients from the soil. The key to clubroot management is to keep the pathogen levels as low as possible to minimize the impact on canola yields. A proactive and science-based clubroot management strategy should include the use of clubroot-resistant canola varieties in a minimum of a three-year rotation. An extended crop rotation will help to minimize yield losses while also protecting the effectiveness of clubroot-resistant canola varieties.

"SaskCanola invested in this survey to help farmers understand where the movement of the disease is within the province," SaskCanola Executive Director Lisa Horn said. "We con-

tinue to encourage growers to remain vigilant about minimizing soil movement and use this new map as a tool in their ongoing management and prevention of the disease."

Approximately 1,500 fields were tested as part of the survey during the summer and fall of 2018. The landowners of all fields with visible clubroot symptoms or the presence of the clubroot pathogen have been contacted. The locations of these fields have also been shared with the appropriate RM office.

The ministry is working with RMs and SARM to ensure a farmer-driven approach to clubroot management. As part of this approach, the landowners and/or producers of fields with visible clubroot symptoms will be required to develop a clubroot management agreement that fits their production practice and includes science-based clubroot management strategies for infected fields.



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Attention: Karen Beauchamp

PROPERTY:

- SE 1/4 5-8-28 WPM excepting Road Plan 2546 BLTO and all mines and minerals
- Cultivated land, fenced with a dug out. Road access from highway 256
- Surface lease(s) form part of the transfer and will be assigned to the Purchaser

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller. Inquiries should be directed to Evelyn Edel at 204-257-9807.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on February 15th, 2019.
3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$1,000.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on a date no later than March 22, 2019, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payments are made following acceptance of tender.
4. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any Transfer.
5. Land is in the Torren's Title system.
6. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2019.



FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property described below will be received by:
Meighen Haddad LLP
P.O. Box 397 Melita, Manitoba R0M 1L0
Attention: Karen Beauchamp

PROPERTY:

- NE 1/4 5-5-27 WPM exc mines and minerals
- SE 1/4 5-5-27 WPM exc mines and minerals
- The Easterly 160 acres of the W 1/2 of 5-5-27 WPM exc mines and minerals
- 440 cultivated acres

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller. Inquiries should be directed to Lyle Forsyth at 204-522-5379 (c).
2. **The Tenders must be for the entire land as a package.** The land will not be sold in individual parcels.
3. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on February 6, 2019.
4. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$1,000.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
5. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on a date no later than March 15, 2019, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
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Yorkton Melville MP

Wagantall prepared for 2019 election

Continued from page 22

Do you hear a lot of concerns over the temporary foreign worker program?

The whole temporary foreign workers program definitely needs to be updated and revised in a way that is more beneficial to those that are bringing the individuals into the country. It costs them a great deal to even go through the process of trying to get someone.

If you have a good worker and they learned their trade well and you want to keep them, that's not an option and it should be. We're looking toward an immigration policy that makes it more palatable for them to be able to stay to become permanent residents and Canadian citizens, if we're going to be bringing them in and they have that opportunity. Some of them are not skilled workers. They're filling roles that we need filled but at the same time they learn their craft in their trade so it is something that is quite disconcerting to a lot of our small and medium businesses that need that source of employees.

What do you think are going to be the main issues nationally?

There are a number of things that I think are issues across the country and one of them is the issues around the economy and where it's going.

The environment and the carbon tax is huge, and I do believe that the economy and the environment go hand in hand. That has always been something that we have believed on our side of the floor as well.

The carbon tax is punitive and does not encourage or incentivize conservation. To be effective, those types of taxes have to be at such a level that they change behavior. The rates that we're looking at here are high enough to cause a downturn in the economy but not high enough to encourage people to change behaviors. In Saskatchewan we are very conscious of our environment and as a country we are one of the cleanest manufacturers and producers of resources in the world, so we continue to do more and do better, and I really think we are an example with carbon capture, with zero tillage, all these things that make us productive and at the same time protect our environment.

Immigration is a very hot issue around the border crossers and the global compact on migration that the UN is bringing in and Canada's a signatory on. There is a lot of concern around that, because although it's not binding on domestic law, these international laws tend to influence domestic law. On immigration, Canadians are very much feeling that as a nation it's our responsibility to determine how and when to have new immigrants come to Canada, and of course it's a high priority, but the loss of that sense of sovereignty is a very, very high concern right now across the country.

So those three—the economy, the environment, immigration—are going to play a key role I believe in the election.

I am the deputy Shadow Minister for Veterans Affairs and I can tell you that the veterans weren't happy with everything that the Conservatives did in the previous government—and that's fair—but they are very, very disillusioned with this government.

They went to talk with the various parties and determined who was prepared to do what. They even had it in writing and this government has not lived up to their promises. The life-long pensions that they were promised is not at all what they've received.

What we've heard from them is 'You know, we weren't always happy with you, but you at least were up front and straight with us.' They are prepared to play a pretty significant role in influencing Canadians votes.

We know the line 'you've asked for more than we can give' is very grating on them when they see how the government has spent funds in other places, with Omar Khadr, and Chris Garnier who has received veterans funding very quickly for PTSD when he killed an off-duty policewoman.

These are things that on a moral level just really grates on their hearts and minds, so the veterans' issues will definitely play a role as well.

Then there is the whole issue around mistrust. The first thing that they did was shut down the office of religious freedom when they came into power and then we had the attestation values test (for summer job funding). Both of those things are very much impacting freedom of speech and freedom of belief, and Canadians hold those very dear. Those are true charter rights.

Now the gathering of personal and private information by Stats Canada without Canadians' consent has become a very hot issue as well. They have pulled back from that because of the privacy concerns on that. Unfortunately they had already got 15 years worth of credit information on Canadians, and so there isn't a sense of trust that they are truly going to do what they say in that regard.

Locally do you do much to campaign or is it pretty easy to campaign in an area that seems to be so conservative? If we look at the results in your riding last time, and apply the change in voting intentions across the region, it looks like you would be in line for 66 per cent of the vote if the election was held today.

I've been involved since 2004 on the volunteer side of politics. That's when I really first got my feet wet and took on every job there was and did serve as a campaign manager in Alberta, which also generally is fairly conservative, but I have to tell you there's no way you ever take everything for granted.

Last election in this riding I did maintain what the previous Conservative member had in votes. The NDP did the same as they have done over the last three years, but out of the woodwork came around 6,000 Liberal voters that had not voted in the past, so you don't take anything for granted.

The dynamics around a rural riding are very different than a city riding. I have such a huge territory to cover. In the last election I went to every community I possibly could and door knocked and had meet-and-greets and met with the people.

In rural Saskatchewan a lot of times (voters in small communities) are taken for granted or people think it's too far to go.

I was asked by a newspaper reporter after I did win 'why did you bother to do all of that when you didn't really need to?' and my response is because I believe it's my responsibility and I have a deep desire to truly represent the people that I'm campaigning to win their votes. So there's no question. It's not who I'm running against, it's why I'm running, and so that's what motivates me.

Why do you think this seems to be such a strong conservative area? When you look at all of Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba, it seems to be very solidly Conservative.

I sometimes say I think it really is the last bastion of common sense, and people just are concerned about everyday life, they are concerned about their families and opportunity.

There isn't that attitude of entitlement here. People have a great deal of pride in Canada and in our province and in the opportunity to succeed. Hard work is an ethic, honesty is an ethic. All those types of dynamics are very, very important to people on the prairies and I think that resonates with our principles and our policies as a party, because we do believe government should only function where it needs to, and it should encourage and motivate and incentivize individual opportunity and prosperity, and prairie people like that.

Should I mark October 21 as the election date for sure next year, or do you think the government might decide to go in the spring?

You never know. I have trouble imagining that they would go earlier, but I'm not in that room.

We have to prepare as though it could happen at any time going forward, and from the spring on I think we just have to be ready and reach out the best we can in that time frame.

Kevin Weedmark is conducting interviews with the incumbents in the federal ridings of southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba in advance of the 2019 federal election.

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property described below will be received by:
Meighen Haddad LLP
P.O. Box 397 Melita, Manitoba R0M 1L0
Attention: Karen Beauchamp

PROPERTY – All in the R M of Two Borders:

- NE ¼ 32-4-29 WPM exc mines and minerals
- SE ¼ 32-4-29 WPM exc mines and minerals
- NE ¼ 27-4-29 WPM exc mines and minerals
- NW ¼ 27-4-29 WPM exc mines and minerals
- SE ¼ 33-4-29 WPM exc mines and minerals
- SW ¼ 33-4-29 WPM exc mines and minerals

The preference is to sell all of the land as a package. If Tenders are received on individual quarter sections they will be considered but preference to be given to Tenders for the entire land.

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller. Inquiries should be directed to Barb Higgins (204) 757-2397.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on February 15, 2019.
3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$1,000.00 per quarter section deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on a date no later than March 29, 2019, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payments are made following acceptance of tender.
4. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any Transfer.
5. Land is in the Torren's Title system.
6. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2019.

 Meighen Haddad
LAW FIRM

1:2c

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property described below will be received by:
Meighen Haddad LLP
P.O. Box 397 Melita, Manitoba R0M 1L0
Attention: Karen Beauchamp

PROPERTY:

- S 1/2 31-4-27 WPM exc mines and minerals, in the RM of Two Borders
– to be sold as a half section
- Section 36-4-28 WPM exc mines and minerals, in the RM of Two Borders
– to be sold as a section
- The S ½ 31-4-27 WPM should receive a separate Tender and Section 36-4-28 WPM should receive a separate Tender. If Tenders are received on individual quarter sections they will be considered but preference to be given to Tenders for the blocks of land.

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller. Inquiries should be directed to chg_hotels@live.ca.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on February 15, 2019.
3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$1,000.00 deposit cheque per block of land, payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

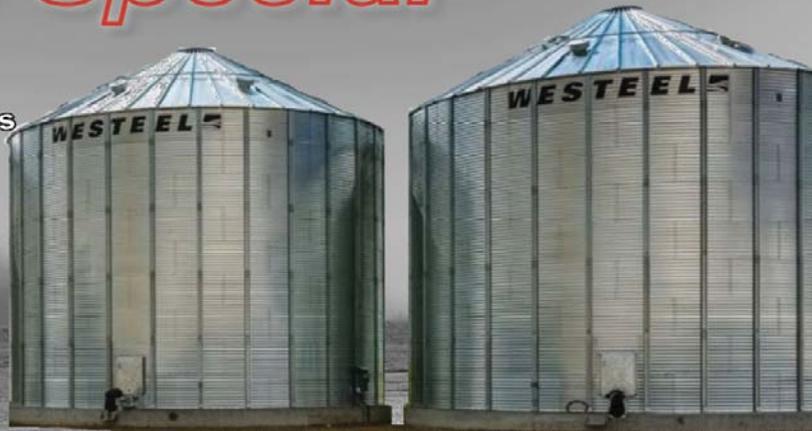
1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
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MP Robert Kitchen says carbon tax will have big impact

World-Spectator and Plain & Valley editor Kevin Weedmark spoke with Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert Kitchen recently on the federal carbon tax, which is being imposed on Manitoba and Saskatchewan this year.

What sort of changes do you think people are going to see as a result of the carbon tax?

Well, I think they are going to see prices start to rise. The reality is, and what people need to understand is that as of yesterday he (Trudeau) was putting a price of \$20 a tonne, and that price is going to escalate, and it is going to escalate \$10 a tonne until 2022, and it will be \$50 a tonne. And what they need to understand is that even now the Trudeau government, the Liberal government, is saying that the price needs to be at least \$300 a tonne in order for it to have any affect whatsoever. So that is going to go up exponentially because even when at the COP24 in Poland, there was pushing from the United Nations, endless support from this Liberal government for a motion that's talking about \$5,500 a tonne. And if the Liberals get back in you're going to see that escalate and that is going to be a huge impact on Canadian families.

How do you think it will impact us specifically here in Saskatchewan?

Here it is going to hit us. I was in Regina yesterday when Andrew did his press conference, so I was there during that and I got talking to a lady who came from Ottawa and she was saying oh what a beautiful place Regina is and Saskatchewan is, and I said yeah and you arrived when it was minus 26 degrees, that is not what you get in Ottawa. It's not what you get in Ontario.

We have that temperature here three plus months of the year and we have to live with that.

We don't have the infrastructure with the green transit lines that they're building in Ottawa or anything like that. People in rural Saskatchewan have to get to places, and if this idea is to curtail what we do, how are people in Moosomin, how are people in Rocanville, how are people in Maryfield going to get to their doctors, to where they need to go?

On top of that, the groceries that we have today, the produce that we have today here in Saskatchewan is grown somewhere else, it has to get here, and that cost of this carbon tax is going to be tacked onto that food bill or that grocery bill or that commodity bill, and it's going to be tacked on to our farmers and our agriculture industry and they're just going to escalate and escalate.

Do you think anyone, including the federal government, understands the total impact of the carbon tax?

I don't think that they do.

I don't think that they look at it from how it is to live in rural Canada.

They look at it from a strictly urban perspective where they have these amenities that they can maybe stop driving their vehicle.

We can't do that here. We can't stop and live in a community where it is warmer more than it is colder. As we always say out here, we have two seasons in the year.

We have summer, we have winter and we get maybe two weeks of spring and we get two weeks of fall, and it's been like that for years, but when it's cold it's cold and we need that energy to heat our homes. We don't have any choice. I

recall when I was going to university and my dad he was the commandant of the command and staff college of Toronto (Canadian Army College), and I remember on Christmas Day playing football in shorts with my brother and my sister and my dad—that's 40 years ago. I mean it was warm back then, and they can live in that type of weather at that time of year where they don't need to heat their homes, but you're not going to find that here.

What impact do you think it's going to have on businesses in Saskatchewan, and on our major industries?

Well it's going to have a huge impact on how they do their business and how they look at things.

In Moosomin when we look at the potash and the impact it will have on the fertilizer prices and we look here in Estevan where we have the carbon capture, and we have a tremendous study that comes out and says that by



Dr. Robert Kitchen

putting a carbon capture on the Shand power station will reduce the tonnage cost by 67 percent, yet do we see any of that? No we don't.

What do you think the long term impact will be on the coal industry and the oil industry?

Well if this government stays in power it's going to have a huge impact on the coal industry, it's going to have a huge impact on the power workers. It's going to have a huge impact on the oil industry and it's going to have a huge impact on our farmers and our agriculture industry because they're going to end up having to pay it.

They don't live in downtown Regina, they live in rural Saskatchewan. They need to get there to get their crop into the ground and to get their crop off the ground.

They need to use the products that they need, the parts that they need, and they have to access that from somewhere else, and it isn't being grown in the cities where people believe that they just get their bread from the grocery store.

It's grown out in rural Saskatchewan and it will have a huge impact on these small businesses, who aren't tax cheats by the way.

What has the Conservative party been doing to fight the carbon tax, or is there anything that you can do?

As Andrew has said before and he reiterated yesterday, with a Conservative government the first thing we will do is get rid of this carbon tax, and at this time next year we hope to be standing there and Andrew hopes to be standing there saying to Canadians this is the end of carbon tax in Canada.

Would they replace it with something else or would it just be abolished?

Well as we progress towards the election you will start to see more and more information coming out on the is-

ues and dealing on how we look at the environment and how we look at our economy and work that hand in hand.

What we have here is we have very knowledgeable, very innovative minds in the agriculture industry, in the oil and gas industry, in the coal industry and the energy sector. Getting those people and that knowledge to the rest of the world to change global emissions around the world—that's where we can have an impact—changing global emissions.

That's where we will step forward.

Do you think the carbon tax is going to be a major campaign issue?

I think it will be part of the campaign, but I truly believe that ultimately it will be the economy. It is the economy that we need to focus on.

I participated in the truck rally when it was here in Estevan just before Christmas.

There is a tremendous amount of knowledge and wealth and prosperity that comes from that sector. Not for just here in Southeast Saskatchewan, but all Canadians benefit from that. Manitoba is hurting right now, Saskatchewan is hurting right now. Alberta is hurting right now.

Why? Because of the policies this present government is putting forward, which are not putting confidence in that industry to look at this and invest in it going forward.

You are not going to invest in something if you don't think you can get a return going forward, and these big industries and these big players aren't going to do that when they don't believe they are going to be able to get at least their money back that they put into something.

Are you hearing much about the carbon tax around the constituency?

For a lot of people it's a big issue.

The economy is a bigger issue for some people, but the carbon tax falls into that because people realize that the tax is not going to do what it's intended to do, and it's purely taxing us here in this part of the world and in Saskatchewan.

Here we have a situation where we're looking for an equivalency agreement to recognize the good work we do in capturing carbon.

We've been pushing for that equivalency agreement and the Saskatchewan government has been pushing for that equivalency agreement.

Nova Scotia has been given that equivalency agreement and they can now extend the use of their coal-fired power plants past that deadline that the Liberals arbitrarily put into place.

They've been given that equivalency, why hasn't Saskatchewan been given that equivalency? Why are we not being recognized for the great work that our farmers do, for the great work that our ranchers do in the capture and sequestration of carbon, for the great work that our carbon capture does in capturing those coal emissions and sequestering them.

Why are we not getting that? It ends up pitting one province against another.

When we ask the government we don't get any answers, we don't get any response. We have a federation of provinces and we have a federal government that is pushing provinces into division.

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Melville Prairie Fire to fold this season

Continued from page 19

Ally Hayhurst (top left), Ava Metzger (top right), Cheyenne Jamieson (below left), and Meagan Hayhurst (below right) are four local players with the Melville Prairie Fire girls team that will be effected by the loss of the team.



FOLLOWING THE PROCESS

The SHA circulated the proposed changes in January. The Prairie Fire submitted a full report stating it wanted to continue as a female Midget AAA club, said Kirkwood. However, the SHA said Melville did not have enough females registered in lower levels to support a triple-A team.

The club did not formally lodge a concern last January since it wanted to follow the SHA's processes, said Kirkwood. "We knew that we could lose our team," he said. "So by doing a whole bunch of complaining in front of somebody that was going to make the decision about whether you stay or (go), you didn't really want to rock the boat in fear of the consequences due to it."

POOR COMMUNICATIONS

"It's very disappointing they would cut (the team) without more communication to us," Kirkwood said.

As the president, he did not receive an email or call from the association with this news. Instead, someone with the SHA called MMHA to relay the information, and then posted the news on the SHA website.

"Our Prairie Fire girls found out through social media. Some other hockey players in the area saw it and were texting," said Kirkwood. "These girls were in between classes. You can imagine how upset and confused (they were). We didn't have the opportunity to help them through this decision."

Kirkwood himself learned about the news through a text from a Prairie Fire board member. He pointed out even the media was informed before he was.

The SHA deals with minor hockey associations and not with specific teams, said McClintock. It was the MMHA president who submitted the Prairie Fire's application to the SHA, along with applications for other Melville teams. Teams don't do that individually.

MELVILLE COVERS LARGE AREA

The SHA wants to have more Bantam female teams created throughout the province. While there is no Bantam AA female team in Melville, McClintock hopes a Bantam A team

SPRINGS UP.

Melville is the only location in east-central Saskatchewan to offer female Midget AAA hockey, said Kirkwood. He thought the SHA's decision contradicts its goal of having female hockey in every corner of the province.

He pointed out a map of the league shows Weyburn, Notre Dame and Regina overlap each other, while Saskatoon, North Battleford and Prince Albert also overlap each other. Swift Current and Melville each cover their own areas.

"The cities are represented very well. Players in our area are not represented," he added. "In male hockey leagues, AAA is represented very well in all areas. It's devastating to all."

"Just because there's no AAA team doesn't mean that you cannot develop female players and develop female hockey," said McClintock, pointing to the growth of female hockey in Wadena for the first time this year.

FEWER OPTIONS FOR FEMALES

This decision would push many girls to quit hockey altogether, said Kirkwood. The next closest location to play hockey is Weyburn—Regina and Saskatoon would be closed to girls outside those cities—but the cost and driving distance would turn off female players in the Parkland Region.

Every minor hockey association must also be able to sustain a Midget AA program for affiliates, said McClintock, while a female Midget AAA team

must have a minimum of 15 skaters and two goaltenders.

Kirkwood pointed to the active role the Prairie Fire players have played in the community, ranging from the annual breast cancer awareness game, to supporting the Austin Hollinger family this year, to reading to students in schools, to being part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

It has been heartwarming to receive messages of support from the community and alumni, said Kirkwood. Fans can help the team by writing letters and sending them to the club, which would pass them along to the SHA.

"Any way they could help the SHA understand how important the Prairie Fire is to this zone and area (is great)," he added.



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21	MONDAY BUTCHER SALE	9 A.M.
23	WEDNESDAY REGULAR FEEDER SALE	9 A.M.
25	FRIDAY BRED COW SALE	11:30 A.M.
28	MONDAY BUTCHER SALE	9 A.M.
30	WEDNESDAY PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10 A.M.
FEBRUARY 2019		
4	MONDAY BUTCHER SALE	9 A.M.
6	WEDNESDAY REGULAR FEEDER SALE	9 A.M.
8	FRIDAY BRED COW SALE	11:30 A.M.
11	MONDAY BUTCHER SALE	9 A.M.
13	WEDNESDAY PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10 A.M.
18	MONDAY CLOSED - LOUIS RIEL DAY	
20	WEDNESDAY REGULAR FEEDER SALE	9 A.M.
22	FRIDAY BRED COW SALE	11:30 A.M.
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Chance to stay in Canada perfect Christmas gift

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Eighteen months after they were facing a deportation order and the community rallied behind them in a vocal call to "Let Them Stay," the Santos family of Moosomin received what they say is the best Christmas gift they could imagine—news that the first part of their application to stay in Canada on Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds has been accepted, and now they must simply meet statutory requirements to receive their permanent residency in Canada.

"It was a good time to receive this letter," says Victor. "It was the best gift ever."

Minister of Public Safety Ralph Goodale said he looks forward to a positive final outcome in the case.

"It's good to hear about such success stories," he said Wednesday. "I'm glad to know that the process is rolling forward in a productive way. We all look forward to the best possible final outcome."

"The enthusiasm demonstrated by so many people in the Moosomin area is a positive testament not only about the Santos family, but also about the huge contributions which newcomers and refugees make to our country."

"That sentiment is embodied in the official motto of the Province of Saskatchewan, "From many peoples, Strength." Diversity and inclusion are fundamental to our success, in communities like Moosomin and all across the country."

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The community had rallied around the family in June of 2017 as they faced deportation to Honduras, where they feared



Best Christmas gift ever!

The Santos-Cardoza family of Moosomin—from left Victor, Edward, Lesi, and Victor Jr.—have had the first part of their application for permanent residency in Canada approved. The government says the family have proved that they should be allowed to stay in Canada, now they just need to show they meet the statutory requirements and they will receive their permanent residency.

for their lives.

The day of the large community show of support, where 400 people came out, the family was given a two-year visa extension to file their application for per-

manent residence. They were notified that the minister of immigration had ordered the two-year visa extension—a very rare occurrence—at 11:37 am that day, just as people were gather-

ing to show their support behind a giant banner reading "Let Them Stay."

That two years is up next summer, and the family was still facing uncertainty over their

status after their visas expire, until they received the letter.

"Humanitarian and compassionate factors are assessed to decide whether to grant an exemption from certain legislative requirements to allow your application for permanent residence to be processed from within Canada," the letter states. "On 28 November 2018 a representative of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration approved your request for an exemption from these requirements."

The family will be invited to an interview with Citizenship and Immigration Canada, expected 12-24 months from now. At that interview, a final determination on the family's application for permanent residence will be made, but they are through the first part of the process—the government agrees that they should stay based on humanitarian and compassionate grounds. The second part is simply ensuring they qualify on all grounds.

"This is good news," explains Mathieu Genest, press secretary for Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. "An H and C application has two steps. The first one is where they evaluate the humanitarian and compassionate information on the file. The letter confirms that a decision was made that they have met the requirements on the humanitarian and compassionate grounds. The second step is going to be the statutory requirements—health, medical, security clearance, things like that. Those things will be done next. This is an update to say you have passed the first phase—on to the second."

Continued on page 31

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Rachel Erickson rink heading to Canadian Juniors

A rink skipped by Maryfield's Rachel Erickson will be one of two Saskatchewan rinks heading to the women's 2019 New Holland Canadian Junior Curling Championships in Prince Albert this month.

Erickson's rink from Regina's Callie Club will be wearing the green jacket from Jan. 19-27 at the Art Hauser Centre and the Prince Albert Golf and Curling Club following a 5-3 win over Moose Jaw's Skyler Ackerman in the junior provincial final at the Saskatoon Sutherland Curling Club.

"It still feels a little weird when you realize that you get to play for Saskatchewan in your home province," Erickson said. "With it being so close to where we are from, there's going to be a lot of support for us, which will be a bit of a different experience."

Erickson, second Sarah Hoag and lead Jade Goebel will be heading to the Canadian Juniors for the first time, however it's not their first experience with nationals. The team won U18 provincials twice in a row, and have been to U18 nationals twice.

For fourth stone thrower Sara England, this will be her third straight trip to the junior nationals event. England, who is the daughter of the late Sandra Schmirler, was the third on Kaitlyn Jones' rink in 2017 and skipped her own foursome last year.

"I was playing university curling in Regina when their coach (Jamie Schneider) let me know that they were looking for someone to join their team," England



The Rachel Erickson rink after winning the Saskatchewan junior women's provincial final Monday night. From left are Sara England, Rachel Erickson, Sarah Hoag, Jade Goebel and Jamie Schneider.

said. "This is my last year in juniors and I wanted to join an elite level rink that was going for the green jacket. Luckily enough, we were able to do that."

It took the Erickson rink a little bit to get rolling at the provincial

final. They dropped their opening game by a score of 6-4 to Moomsom's Elliot Martens but hit their stride after that with a solid team play as they posted a 6-1 record on the way to the title.

"We missed some shots that we shouldn't have in our first game and that gave us some extra motivation to play better throughout the week," says Erickson.

"Being consistent is some-

thing that we are really going to focus on as we get ready to head to Prince Albert. We made a lot of the hard shots at the provincials, but now we need to make sure that we can make the easy ones."



Left: Sarah Hoag and Rachel Erickson sweeping in the final game.



Right: Jade Goebel and Rachel Erickson during the final game.

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Scenes from the June 2017 event where the community gathered to show their support for the Santos family, then facing deportation. At 11:37 that morning, just as the community gathering was getting under way, Immigration Minister Ahmed Hussen announced that the family would be given a two year visa extension to allow them time to file an application to remain in Canada on Humanitarian and Compassionate grounds.

Chance to stay in Canada perfect Christmas gift

Continued from page 29

LOTS OF WORK ON APPLICATION
Victor and Lesi fled first to the United States and then to Canada from Honduras, a very violent nation in Central America.

Victor had witnessed the kidnapping and killing of a reporter in Honduras, and had his life threatened as a result.

While their refugee claim was rejected because they were facing a personal threat of violence, not being oppressed based on their religion, ethnicity or political grounds, leading to the deportation order last year, the family has filed an application for permanent residence in Canada based on Humanitarian and Compassionate grounds.

Victor says a lot of work has gone into their immigration application, with a lot of help from friends and supporters in the community.

"We have been working on a new application since that day last year," he said. "It was a lot of work. We tried to collect information and update more and more."

An update filed with Citizenship and Immigration Canada November 22 included a letter from the family's landlord, letters from the couple's employers, letters from retired principal Devona Putland and vice-principal Sherrie Meredith, letters from a church leader, a cadet officer, school report cards, swimming lesson progress reports, information on the boys' skating and air cadets involvement, a doctor's report, photos of family activities, and six pages of newspaper clipping illustrating the family's community involvement.

"We have collected a lot of information and sent it to them, but we haven't heard anything until now," says Lesi.

The family still must meet several requirements, such as continuing to support themselves. They always have, with Lesi working two jobs, at Co-op and providing home care, and Victor working at Denray Tire.

As the letter they received points out "Persons in receipt of social assistance or welfare benefits, either directly or indirectly, are defined in the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act as inadmissible persons."

Devona Putland says a lot of work by a lot of people went into the application. "There was a lot of work done by Victor and Lesi, getting people to write letters for them and putting together information," she said. "One of the things we tried to show was that the boys are grounded in this community, that this has been their home for the majority of their life. So it was letters from cadets, from the churches, from swimming lessons, from skating lessons, their report cards, there were a lot of different letters."

Why did she get involved?

"I look at it from a child's perspective," says Putland. "I wanted to make sure that Edward can go to school here so he has the best possible life. I wanted to get involved to do my part to help. Something I included in a letter for them is the fact that while most people are thinking about their kids' education, about retirement, the future, we couldn't think past June of 2019 because we don't know what the future holds. I think it's a great stress relief for the family to have that little piece of paper that says we've got a future."

Sinclair Harrison has also been involved with helping the family.

"You never know what makes the difference," he says. "Maybe when this recent batch of information went in someone pulled the file and took another look at it, because this letter was sent just after that latest batch of information went in. Sending in more information always helps, I think. It looks like we're on the right track."

Russell Slugoski is a family friend who has been deeply involved with helping the Santos family along with his wife Yvonne.

"This package of information put a human face on the family," adds Russell. "The pictures in particular gives the family the human face that CIC hadn't seen."

EMOTIONAL RESPONSE

Victor said he became emotional when he received the notification that they can remain in Canada until their hearing.

"I saw it said our application was granted. I was so happy. I just thought thanks to God," he says.

"This makes a big difference in my life. When I got the

letter I was at work. I just laid down and said Thanks, God. I was crying. It's like I've been given a new life. There are no opportunities in Honduras, no jobs, the violence is getting worse. Now that I have this letter I know I am going to be safe."

He immediately called his wife when he got the notification.

"He was calling me but I was working," says Lesi. "He kept calling, and calling, but I couldn't answer because I was working. Finally I could answer."

"When he told me I didn't believe it at first. I said 'are you sure? Are you sure?' I said thanks, God, I called my mom and sent a text to my brother and sisters in Honduras."

"Now we don't have to worry about our visas expiring. We are so happy. We can now start to plan for our future," says Lesi, "to think about buying a house, to think about our future. We couldn't think about the future before, because we didn't know what would happen when our visas expired."

They also contact Russell and Sinclair right away. "It brought tears to my eyes," says Russell. "I was so happy for them. This is so important."

SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

"This is because of the people we have supporting us," says Victor. "This community has been so good for us. When I came to Moosomin I went to church and the first person I met was Russell. He started helping us right away, he went with us to Saskatoon to see the lawyer, he was involved in everything. So many people have helped us so much. We wouldn't be here today if we didn't have their help."

Lesi agrees. "We are in a difficult situation, but we found nice people who have helped us so much. We have to thank God for the nice people who have helped us—we call them angels."

JOURNEY TO MOOSOMIN

The family credits the fact that they are in Moosomin, with supportive people around them, for the fact that they have been able to stay in Canada.

They were first in Toronto when they arrived in Moosomin. A friend told them there were good jobs in Moosomin, and Rev. Helena Houldcroft, an Anglican priest from Saskatchewan who was working with the refugee community in Toronto, assured them there were good people in Moosomin and it was a good place to go.

"Mario Zavala from Honduras was living here and told us there were better jobs here," says Lesi. "He said 'you can come to Moosomin,' and we thought 'where is Moosomin?' We could only find part-time jobs in Toronto, Victor was working nights, everything was expensive, the food, the rent, the insurance for the vehicle. It was too hard for us."

"It was in December. We looked at the weather and thought oh-oh, but we decided okay we should go there."

"We were driving 10 hours a day—it was a long drive—but we enjoyed it. When we arrived the family we were renting from, we had never met them before, but they trusted us. They were waiting with a lot of food for us. We thought wow! They were very happy to meet us. The first month they didn't take any money. They had never met us before, it was amazing. Roman (Chernykh) from Motel 6 offered us both jobs the week after we got here, and we started working right away."

"We knew a reverend in the Anglican Church, (Helena Houldcroft) in Toronto, she said she knows a lot of people here, she told us we would be okay in Moosomin, there are a lot of good people here."

Victor says it was a big change.

"In the big cities nobody trusts anybody," he said. "In the city they wouldn't trust you enough in the banks to give you a credit card. When I came here it was super different. I went to the bank and they said 'you have a job, why don't you have a credit card?' I knew right away this was a different place to live."

How different do they think their lives would have been if they hadn't ended up in Moosomin.

"A long time ago we would have been sent back to Honduras," says Lesi.

"I would be in the ground, a couple of feet under the ground," says Victor. "They don't care, they would have sent me back to Honduras. I'm lucky because I'm still

here. I'm so happy."

APPRECIATIVE OF COMMUNITY

Victor says the family is very appreciative to everyone who has helped.

"The only way we can say thank you to everyone who helped is through the Spectator," he says. "We want to say a big thank-you to everyone who helped in any way, if it was signing the petition, if it was sending a letter. The community has supported us. The community has given us hope. This is like a gift from the community, a Christmas gift. God bless everybody."

"We really appreciate everything the community did for us. We are happy now. We can establish ourselves better in the community now. We don't have to worry about being sent away."

Lesi says she has so much to say that she would like to put it all into a book.

"I want to write a book about our story," she says. "I always think I want to say this to the community, I want to say that to the community. There's so much to say. It's a long story, almost eight years. We've had beautiful experiences here. We have learned a lot. We experienced a lot. Our situation was like a cancer. Sometimes the treatments didn't work. But when that happens you keep going, and finally you see the light. There is hope. I have some friends who have had cancer and it's hard and it's painful, but finally at the end of the time there's the light."

HOPE

Devona Putland said that helping with the case has made her appreciate the Canadian system.

"It makes you appreciate the processes available to us without government corruption," she says. "Once you've travelled to developing countries, you notice how much corruption exists, and it's usually the one who greases the palm that gets the service. In Canada that doesn't happen. We have processes and we have legitimate means for doing things and I think that's so important for hope. When there's no corruption you can have more hope."

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