

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

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Hollywood's Corbin Bernsen and residents of Kipling come together for 'Rust'

BY CHRIS ISTACE

Retirement isn't going as Frank Gall had planned.

The Kipling resident sold his mixed cattle and grain farm and moved into town two years ago. At 72, the lines of age on his face mark the decades he has spent working the land and his animals.

But a meeting with a Hollywood actor, director and producer changed the course of what he thought life would be like after ending his career.

"I always wondered what I was going to do with the rest of my life," Gall said during a conversation at the kitchen table of his home last week. "I was used to working long hours; hard work, and I thought, 'I'm not going to lay down and die.' So I pondered on that and I guess when I decided I was taking the part in the movie, I felt that gave me something to do and it would be something I'd likely enjoy."

Despite having no previous acting experience—in fact, the idea of doing such a thing never crossed his mind—Gall plays "Glen Moore," the father of the protagonist in the Corbin Bernsen movie "Rust," which concluded a majority of its principal photography in Kipling on Friday, Feb. 27. Production began in the town on Feb. 10.

Gall originally met Bernsen—most famous for roles he played in television's "L.A. Law" from 1986 to 1994 and the movie "Major League" in 1989—when Kyle MacDonald acquired his home in Kipling in 2005. MacDonald is the imaginative blogger who traded up from a red paperclip to a house through his website. Gall and his brother previously owned the home MacDonald traded for, purchasing it off their mother, then handing it over to the town 10 years later.

Among the 14 transactions MacDonald made for the house was a role in the 2008 Bernsen film, "Donna on Demand." MacDonald exchanged a themed



Chris Istace photo

Kipling resident Frank Gall is following a totally unexpected path in his retirement by acting in a movie being shot in Kipling.

snowglobe featuring the rock band KISS with Bernsen—an avid collector with about 6,000 snowglobes in his possession. In exchange, MacDonald got the acting job.

The blogger then traded the film role for the two-storey home on Main Street in Kipling. Auditions from residents of the town followed and it was ultimately awarded to then 19-year-old Nolan Hubbard.

Gall thought the whole "one red paperclip" promotion was fantastic for Kipling. He followed the auditions with interest un-

til Bernsen turned to him and asked if he had auditioned yet.

"I said, 'No. Why would I audition at my age?' I said, 'The only time I'd even get a shot at it is if you need some grumpy old man,'" Gall recalled. "According to Corbin, he kind of had me in mind (for the role) all the time. He wrote the movie with Kipling in mind. I guess the way the movie turned out, he needed someone old enough to be his father."

Bernsen sent an email through Gall's daughter Loretta asking if the retired

farmer would be interested in participating in "Rust." Gall was sent the script to read and was given a month to make his decision.

"When I read the script, it was really a down-to-earth story, one that I almost felt I could be a part of," Gall said. "But I'd never acted or done anything like that. Eventually, I said to Loretta, 'Let Corbin know that I'd be honored to be in the movie if he felt I could handle it.'"

Gall's next step was an interview with Bernsen, the writer, director, pro-



Chris Istace photo

A movie poster on the door to the Kipling Legion Hall marks the production headquarters for "Rust," which ended shooting in the community last week.

ducer and star of the film. However, earlier the same day, Gall had an optometrist appointment and had trouble seeing due to the drops that were placed in his eyes. Bernsen was not willing to write off the 72-year-old farmer yet and told Gall they could do another reading.

"Then I got another phone call and he said, 'Frank. This is official. You're in the movie.' It was that simple. I never went after it. It just seemed to fall into place for me," said Gall. Bernsen promised to guide him through his role as long as he knew his lines.

"In a lifetime, you go through a lot and there's a lot of things you look back on that are not so good. Some of the things are really good, but this is one of

the highlights of my life," Gall said.

The birth of a movie production

"Rust" is about James Moore (Bernsen), a church minister from a small town suffering from a mid-life crisis of faith. Moore returns to his hometown, where he previously held hero status as a high school athlete playing football and hockey.

Upon returning home, a mentally challenged friend from his youth is accused of starting a fire that kills a local family. He has admitted to doing it and the town is in turmoil.

"The town is in a bad state. This frozen state, as Corbin likes to call it," said Chris Aronoff, a producer of the movie from Los Angeles, Calif.

Continued on page 15

Strong support for Kin Place Phase II

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

There is strong support among prospective tenants for a second phase of Kin Place, results of a meeting last week suggest.

About 30 prospective tenants attended the meeting Wednesday, about a dozen expressed serious interest, and five wrote cheques for an initial deposit of \$1,000 each before leaving the meeting.

Kin Place is a 12-unit life-lease housing project initiated by the Moosomin Kinsmen Club in 1998-99. The second phase of the project would add 12, 18, or 22 units. The second phase would be built facing Wright Road directly south of the first phase on land that was purchased at the time the first phase was developed.

The new building would include 12 units on two floors, or 18 units over three floors, depending on interest in the housing units. An additional four units could also be added to the original building if necessary.

Under the life-lease model, tenants make a refundable equity contribution when they move into a unit, and monthly rent payments. The equity is placed in trust and is refunded when the unit passes to another tenant.

For Kin Place Phase II, the equity contribution will be \$96,000 to \$105,000 depending on the size of

the unit, and the monthly payments will be about \$1,200. Most of the units will be 1,000 square feet, while a few will be 887 square feet.

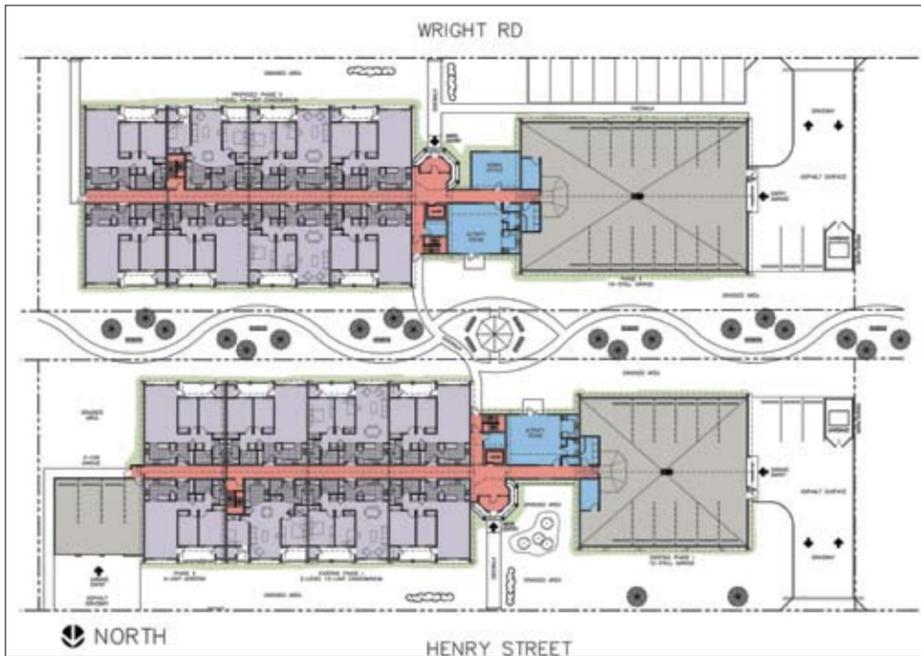
Kin Place Manager Jeff Cole said he was happy with the initial response.

"To have five people write cheques right there is phenomenal," he said. "We've also had a couple of people say they are very interested, but they didn't have their chequebooks with them." There have also been calls from interested individuals from the Carlyle-Arcola area, Brandon, Calgary, and even Florida expressing interest in the second phase of Kin Place.

The original Kin Place building project was spearheaded by Blair Andrew and Robert Mullett of the Moosomin Kinsmen Club. Andrew, who now lives in Carlyle, says the initial building project took years to complete.

"Now that people can see how it operates, I think it will be a lot easier to sell," he said. "It took a long time to get the first phase off the ground. From the birth of the concept to reality was five years. It took a long time to explain to people how it was going to work."

Andrew says that, looking back, he's happy the project was designed so the building could be added to, and additional land



The proposed plan for phase two of Kin Place. The existing building, at the bottom of the plan, faces Henry Street. The new building (at top) would face Wright Road, and a courtyard would be built in between the two buildings.

was purchased for the second phase.

"It was a lot of work, but it was really worth it," he said. "When I read the paper and see that Phase II is being considered that makes me proud to have been part of this project."

"Moosomin has such positive economic growth going on, that's great to see, and this will only add to it."

The building is intended for people 55-plus, and Andrew says he hopes

more people close to the 55 end of the spectrum will look at purchasing units. "Bob Mullett and I went to Virden to see a project the Kinsmen had done there. We asked what they would do differently, and all the residents said 'we should have moved in 10 years ago.' It's harder to get younger people in because they think they're losing their freedom, but they're actually gaining their freedom."

Andrew said he expects

the second phase to be a much easier sell. "With the hospital being right there, with all the construction coming on, I'm sure this will go a lot quicker," he said.

Cole agrees and points out that higher housing prices in the local area than a decade ago may make it easier for people to sell their homes and buy into the life-lease project.

Cole said the cost of Kin Place is much lower than similar facilities in the cit-

ies. Part of the lower cost is because of the lower cost of land in Moosomin—when the original Kin Place was built, organizers bought enough land for a second phase. Rent on similar projects in the cities is \$1,700 to \$2,200 per month.

"We had a call from a group in Saskatoon asking how we can do it so cheap," Cole said.

Cole told those at the meeting Wednesday that the future of the project is in their hands.

"We can only do this project if you people want to do this project," he said. "We are accepting \$1,000 deposits starting today. We need to have a little feedback to find out if we should go ahead and plan it, and if so, how many units we should plan for."

Architect Mike McGinn said he is focused on keeping costs low.

"We're trying to address the overall cost of the project by having a grade level garage rather than underground parking, which can be very expensive," he said. He added that the second phase would mirror the original building, with a courtyard in between. The two activity rooms would be across from each other, with a common patio in between.

Anyone who wants to find out more can contact Jeff Cole at 435-3177.

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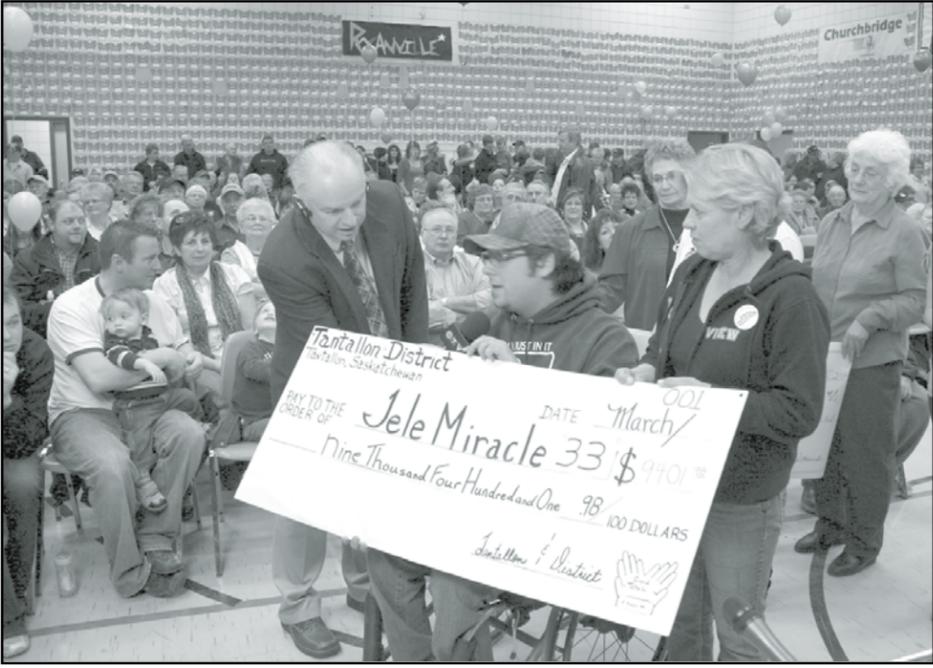
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Tele 33 Miracle

KINSMEN KINETTES

More than 250 people crowded into the gym at Moe's Place in Spy Hill on Sunday for a remote broadcast that was part of Telemiracle 33. Clockwise from top left: The community of Tantalion makes a presentation on air, a local fundraising total is presented by students from Langenburg High School, a young fan enjoys the show, Scott Cornelius of MacNutt plays the fiddle, accompanied by Anthony Kelly of Rocanville, and Jay Derkach sings an amazing country song.



Clockwise from top left: Delta Kelly of Rocanville belts out a powerful song, accompanied by her son Anthony, the crowd packing the gym at Moe's Place in Spy Hill, Two Bits, with members from Moosomin and Esterhazy, performs for the crowd, and a cheque presentation from Langenburg High School





A gathering of historic snow machines

Snowplane enthusiasts from around Saskatchewan and Manitoba gathered in Moosomin with their historic machines on Sunday, March 1 for a snowplane meet. The meet was hosted by the Moosomin Regional Museum. People attended the meet throughout the day, and free rides were given to the general public. The snowplane meet has become an annual event for the Moosomin Regional Museum.

Holland curling club receives \$10,000 grant

The two-sheet Holland Curling Club located in southwest Manitoba is this year's \$10,000 grand prize winner of Monsanto Canada's "Imagine a Better House" Community Curling Club program.

The 40-member curling club, established in 1892, came out on top after sharing their compelling story about the need for a facelift to their 116-year old club that is the cornerstone of social activity in this 1,200 person farming community.

"This is just fantastic news for a small struggling club such as ours," said an appreciative Tamara Greenlay from the Holland Curling Club executive. "The Monsanto prize gives us access to much needed outside funding and now we can move ahead with some renovations that will make our club more attractive and hopefully bring back former curlers and attract more junior curlers. Our heads have been whirling since we got the news!"

Four other finalists were awarded secondary prize money of \$5,000. The four finalists were the Mallaig Curling Club in Alberta, the Medstead Curling Club in Saskatchewan; the Strasbourg Curling Club in Saskatchewan and the Theodore Curling Club in Saskatchewan.

In addition to the five finalists, another 25 rural curling clubs from across Western Canada were awarded \$2,000 in prize money to assist them with improvement projects at their clubs.

All applications received between Sept. 15, 2008 and Jan. 15, 2009 were reviewed by an independent panel of judges that included: Cathy Bowman from Pro-Mar Management Services; Resby Coutts from thecurler.com; Trish Jordan, from Monsanto Canada; and Jennifer Strath from Strath and Company Inc.

"It is incredibly difficult to go through all the applications and select an overall winner" said Trish Jordan, public affairs director

with Monsanto Canada.

"All the entries we received had compelling stories but our judging panel was influenced by the dedication and commitment of the Holland Curling Club membership and the efforts they are making to keep curling alive in their community. They have some great ideas to make their house greener and hopefully the contribution from Monsanto will help make those dreams a reality."

Monsanto launched its "Imagine a Better House" Community Curling Club program in November 2008 with the aim of assisting small-town curling clubs in Western Canada with local improvement projects. Applicants were required to

provide information about their club, the community in which it resides and why the curling club was in need of assistance. In the past two years, \$160,000 in cash awards has assisted 60 different rural community clubs across the Prairies.

2009 WINNERS

Grand Prize Winner (\$10,000) Holland Curling Club, Holland, Man.

Runners Up (\$5,000): Mallaig Curling Club, Mallaig, Alta.; Medstead Curling Club, Glaslyn, Sask.; Strasbourg Curling Club, Strasbourg, Sask.; Theodore Curling Club, Theodore, Sask.

Winners (\$2,000): Acadia Valley Curling Club, Acadia Valley, Alta.; Baldur Curling Club, Baldur, Man.; Bezanson Curling Club, Bezanson, Alta.; Biggar Curling Club, Biggar, Sask.; Binscarth Curling Club, Binscarth, Sask.; Bjorkdale Curling Club, Bjorkdale, Sask.; Broadview Curling Club, Broadview, Sask.; Brooks Curling Club, Brooks, Alta.; Carstairs Curling Club, Carstairs, Alta.; Churchbridge Curling Club, Churchbridge, Sask.; Denholm Curling Club, Denholm, Sask.; Falher Curling Club, Falher, Alta.; Innisfree and District

Curling Club, Innisfree, Alta.; Lafleche and District Curling Club, Lafleche, Sask.; Madden Curling Club, Airdrie, Alta.; McCreary Curling Club, McCreary, Man.; Morse Curling Club, Morse, Sask.; Norquay Curling Club, Norquay, Sask.; Oilfields Curling Club, Black Diamond, Alta.; Preeceville Curling Club, Preeceville, Sask.; Russell Curling Club, Russell, Man.; Strathclair Curling Club, Newdale, Man.; Swan River Curling Club, Swan River, Man.; Togo Curling Club, Togo, Sask.; Wolseley Curling Club, Wolseley, Sask.

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Indian Head Relay For Life

Saturday, June 13, 2009

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Survivor Chair

Lyn Linklater • Indian Head
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lyn_linklater@yahoo.ca

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Bonny McLean • Indian Head
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Luminary Chair

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Plans coming together for Relay for Life

BY KARA KINNA

Plans continue to move forward for both Indian Head and Moosomin's Relay for Life events.

Indian Head's Relay For Life is set for Saturday, June 13. This is the second year Indian Head is holding a Relay For Life in the community.

The relay will go from 7 p.m. Saturday to 7 a.m. Sunday and is held at the PFRA.

Last year 15 teams registered for the event, raising a total of \$50,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.

This year, organizers are hoping for more participants. Awards will be given out to team members on each team who raise the most money. Last year, the relay included teams from a number of different communities around the province.

In order to help cover some of the costs of putting on the relay, Indian Head is holding a March of Loonies as a fundraiser. Twenty-five collection jars have been placed in businesses around town, where people can donate to the event.

A pancake breakfast was held on Feb. 28 to raise awareness about Relay For Life and to kick off the March of Loonies. The event was organized by one of the relay teams, which also used it as a team fundraiser.

Heather Desfosses-Amyotte, one of the committee members for the Indian Head Relay For Life, says she, like many involved in the event, has her own expe-

riences with cancer.

"I've lost multiple family members (to cancer)," says Desfosses-Amyotte.

"Desfosses-Amyotte says the survivors who are honored at the event "get awesome treatment," and that there are more survivors registered for the event than last year.

"We had 35 last year, and that number has grown this year," she says. "They get treated great."

A meeting of the Indian Head Relay For Life committee will be held some time in March, and anyone interested in helping with the event is welcome to attend.

Those interested in registering a team can contact Amy Raiton at 695-2696 or amyayers7@hotmail.com. Those interested in volunteering for the event can contact Bonny McLean at 695-3982 or bonnymclean@hotmail.com.

To register as a survivor for the event, Lyn Linklater can be contacted at 695-2283 or lyn_linklater@yahoo.ca. To purchase a luminary for the event, Marilyn Pelkey can be contacted at 697-2667 or at marilynpelkey@yahoo.ca.

The Moosomin relay will be held at Bradley Park on June 5 and 6.

A meeting of committee members was held for the event recently, where it was reported that 12 teams had registered so far for the event, and that a number of teams are being formed but have simply not registered yet.



Relay For Life teams take a lap around the track.

The deadline for team registrations is April 30. The theme of Moosomin's Relay for Life is "Give Cancer the Boot."

It was also reported that the website for the Moosomin relay is now up and running, allowing for team registrations, donations, and luminary sales online. The site can be accessed by going to www.cancer.ca and following the appropriate links.

Relay co-chair Sheena Metzger says interest in the relay has been picking up.

"Volunteers seem to be stepping forward," said Metzger. "We just need to know where to use them."

Ruth Oliver, chair of the survivors committee, said that 14 survivors were registered as of last week. She also reported that Boomerang's

Pub and Grill has agreed to donate a roast beef supper for the survivors at the event.

Todd Norgan, chair of the entertainment committee, said that a number of performers have been confirmed for the event, and that a lot of people have been approached about it.

Norgan said the bands Southern Country and Shifty Morgan have agreed to play at the event. Other local entertainers have been approached, and the committee discussed the possibility of holding a humorous lingerie fashion show with each team entering one model.

A date has already been set for the relay's bank night, where teams turn in their donations. The bank night will be held on May 28 from 5-8 p.m. at the Royal Bank in Moosomin.

Cathy Lonsdale, who is organizing luminary sales, said she had contacted a number of communities in the area about setting up a booth promoting Moosomin's relay at their local trade fairs. Lonsdale said both Redvers and Whitewood are holding trade fairs and have agreed to waive any fees for setting up a table there. A table will also be set up at Moosomin's Home, Farm and Leisure show on April 24 and 25.

Lonsdale said something new to the relay this year is the ability to add photos to the cards that are attached to the luminaries. Luminaries are sold as part of the fundraising efforts for Relay for Life. The small bags are filled with sand and a candle is placed inside. The luminaries line the relay track, and the names of loved ones lost to

cancer or who survived cancer are put on the outside of the bag.

Lynn Russell told the committee that Boomerang's Pub and Grill is planning to put on an event after the relay as a thank-you to all the volunteers. The event will be held Saturday, June 6 at 7 p.m. Volunteers will receive a free beef on a bun supper.

The next meeting of the Relay For Life committee will be held on Tuesday, March 17 at 7 p.m. at the REDA Enterprise Centre.

This is Moosomin's second time hosting Relay For Life. Relay For Life is a 12-hour event in which teams of at least 10 people raise money to help in the fight against cancer before participating in the all-night relay event.

Moosomin's first Relay For Life was held in 2005 and was a success, with 77 teams and almost 1,000 people participating, more than 100 cancer survivors honored, and 2,904 luminaries sold.

The event raised \$177,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.

To register a team in the Moosomin Relay For Life, contact Sharen Hogarth at 435-3919 or 435-2647, or Marj Steffenson at 435-2133.

If you are a cancer survivor contact Ruth Oliver at 435-3478 or Kristen Murray at 739-2527.

To volunteer contact Sheena Metzger at 435-3851.

To purchase a luminary contact Cathy Lonsdale at 435-4336.

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\$12,495



2008 Chevrolet Cobalt LT Sedan
2.2L V4 auto, leather, A/C, PWR/LR, leather only, CD, 17" alum., 12 gas, leather only, 11,000 km.

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2007 Chevrolet Avalanche LT 4x4
4.8 V8 auto, leather, A/C, PWR/LR, 17" alum., auto, leather only, 21,400 km, 109,000 km or 150,000

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2008 Chevrolet Avalanche LS 4x4
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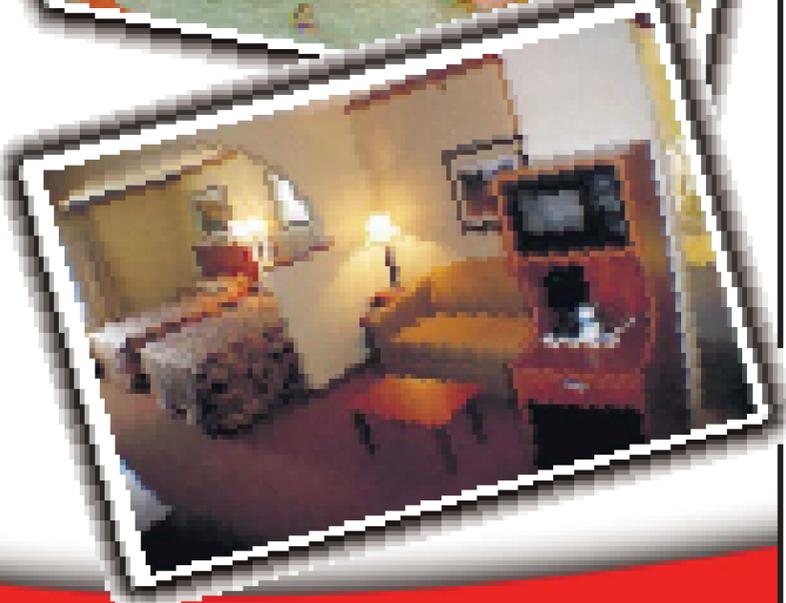
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Métis Federation looks at Fort Ellice site

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The Manitoba Métis Federation is looking at becoming involved in efforts to redevelop the historic site of Fort Ellice, near St. Lazare.

The village of St. Lazare and the RM of Ellice have been working for a decade on purchasing the former Fort Ellice Site from a private landowner.

The landowner has not been interested in selling, so the village and RM have been attempting to expropriate the land where the fort once stood.

The court battle between the landowner and the local governments ended when the Supreme Court refused to hear the landowner's final appeal, but the town and RM have spent \$200,000 on legal costs and are still awaiting a land valuation which will determine how much they have to compensate the landowner for the site.

Fort Ellice was a Hudson's Bay Company site around which a Métis community grew up. There is a historical marker on the site.

Manitoba Métis Federation president David Chartrand attended a meeting of the Fort Ellice Local of the organization at the St. Lazare Hall on Friday, Feb. 27.

The Métis Federation has become involved in other projects to preserve Métis history in Manitoba, recently committing \$1 million to help preserve Upper Fort Garry in downtown Winnipeg, with the proviso that the project include a Métis museum.

The Métis Federation also recently spent \$32,000 to purchase the last poems written by Louis Riel to prevent them from being sold into foreign hands or a private collection.

Chartrand was in St. Lazare to determine the views of local Métis before determining if the MMF will become involved in the Fort Ellice project.

A show of hands in the packed hall showed that local Métis are unanimous in supporting the MMF's involvement.

Chartrand said he believes Fort Ellice is an important part of Métis history in Manitoba.

"I was very proud when I was up there several years ago to see that very beautiful site," he said. "It's important to preserve your culture, and that's why we committed \$1 million to the fight to save Upper Fort Garry in Winnipeg. The Métis find this location very important too. Now we have to discuss how we would become a partner in this project."

"Once I hear the Métis people of St. Lazare tell me they want to partner, we will look at ways to accomplish that."

"If it is the desire of the Métis people here to partner on this, then we have to look at how we do that and what the value will be for us."

"Our history is important, and you can't buy history—it's priceless."

Chartrand said Métis have had negative experiences with expropriation, such as the expropriation of the village of Ste. Madeleine to make way for a community pasture.

"In those cases they took our land, but this is differ-



Manitoba Métis Federation president David Chartrand, poses with Laurene Belhumeur, who painted this portrait of Louis Riel.

ent," he said. "Back then they took our land, burned our houses, and turned it all into cow pasture. Now the land is being taken away from an individual and being returned to the community."

Chartrand said that the Métis people will participate only if their involvement is as a true partner in the project.

"We will protect our Métis citizens any way we can," he said. "Your Métis government will be here to support you."

Chartrand promised to get the provincial and federal governments onside with the project as well. "We need to protect our history," he said. "Our history is being bought and sold at auctions. A lot of Louis Riel's personal items have been sold to collectors around the world. That's not right."

St. Lazare Mayor Martin Dupont explained the history of the project at the Métis local meeting. He said a 1982 archeological survey found that there was significant archeological value at the site, and that it was in poor condition, with bones protruding from the ground at the site of a burial ground. The survey found a presidential peace medal in St. Lazare was one of only 17 medals awarded by the American government to chiefs who signed treaties.

"It's been 10 years since we started trying to get the site into public hands so we can preserve and develop the site," the mayor told the Métis gathering.

Continued on page 3

"In 1999 we had a vision plan developed for our area, and the Fort Ellice site was identified as one of the gems of our area," Dupont said.

"In 2003, a letter was sent to Art Fouillard, the landowner, outlining plans for the historic site. In the fall of that year we met with government officials about ways to proceed, since there had been no response from the family."

In May of 2004, the village and RM started meeting with lawyers about expropri-

ation of the land.

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In August of 2005, an inquiry was held to determine if the municipality had grounds to expropriate the property, and found that the expropriation of the site was defensible.

In 2005, the landowner came up with a proposal to lease a smaller portion of land to the municipality for five years, but the offer and several conditions attached and "we didn't think that it was a very good deal for the municipalities," said Dupont.

In September of 2005, a notice of expropriation was issued and on Oct. 19 of that year, the reeve and mayor offered to purchase the land for \$100,000.

In 2006, the case went to Court of Queen's Bench, and in August of that year, the confirmation of expropriation was served.

The Fouillard family appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, but the court declined to hear the case, exhausting the family's appeals avenues.

The village and RM still don't own the land, as a land valuation commission has to determine a value for the land first.

"Over \$200,000 has been spent on this project to date, and I can tell you with 99.9 per cent accuracy that all of that is lawyers' costs," Mayor Dupont told the crowd.

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Following the meeting, Dupont told the World-Spectator he is optimistic a partnership can be struck with the Métis Federation. "I think there's a lot they can bring to the table," he said. "If we all work together, we can move forward on this."



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Land sale brings in \$6.3 million in revenue

The latest sale of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights has brought in \$6.3 million in revenue for the province, capping a record-breaking \$928 million 2008-09 fiscal year for land sale revenue.

This amounts to more than twice as much as the figure for the previous fiscal year. The 2008 calendar

year total was \$1.12 billion, also a record.

"The lower results for the February land sale are not entirely unexpected," Energy and Resources Minister Bill Boyd said.

"The 75 per cent drop in the spot price of oil in the last seven months is a major contributing factor, along with the now much

tighter financial markets in which energy companies are operating. We are not alone here, and see those new global market conditions reflected in recent lower land sale results in Alberta and British Columbia.

"That said, we continue to have solid grounds for optimism. We are coming

off a record 2008 calendar year for land sales, and the two-year exploration licences that many companies bought should result in a shift from land acquisition to drilling and exploration as those companies move to maximize return on their investments.

"As well, companies investing in our province are aware that attractive oil and gas plays like the Bakken and Lower Shaunavon are like 'money in the bank' to them over the medium and long term."

February's sale included two petroleum and natural gas exploration licences that sold for \$339,000 and 144 lease parcels that attracted \$5.9 million in bonus bids.

The Lloydminster area led the land sale with bonus bids of \$3.1 million.

The Weyburn-Estevan area was next at \$2.2 million, followed by the Kindersley-Kerobert area at \$520,000 and the Swift Current area at \$503,000.

The highest price paid for a single parcel was

\$411,000. Sandstone Land and Mineral Company Ltd. acquired this 65-hectare lease in an oil pool 35 kilometres northeast of Lloydminster.

On a per hectare basis, the highest price paid was \$6,889. Prairie Land and Investment Services Ltd. bid over \$111,000 for a shallow rights lease of a 16-hectare parcel above the Bakken Formation, 16 kilometres east of Redvers.

The next sale of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights will be April 6, 2009.

Petroleum Services Industry offering scholarships to students

The Petroleum Services Association of Canada (PSAC) has a scholarship initiative to help support Canadian youth and build up the labour force.

The nation's current talent pool is on the decline due to an aging and retiring population. At the same time, soaring tuition costs are placing post-secondary education beyond the reach of many Canadian students. In response to this, PSAC is building on the success of its education fund by offering scholarship opportunities to Canadian citizens, 25 years of age or under, who are pursuing post-secondary education.

"The youth of today truly are the leaders of tomorrow, and it's important to ensure that our future leaders are able to take advantage of current educational opportunities available to them," says Rob Gray, Manager of Communications and Member Relations for PSAC.

The scholarships are available to students regardless of academic standing, economic status, and the other factors that are often associated with scholarships. The Association hopes the program will help expose youth to employment opportunities in the petroleum sector, but an interest in such is not a requirement of the scholarships.

"There are thousands of people employed in the petroleum services sector across Canada, working to meet the energy needs of our nation and the world. This industry is closely interwoven into the communities where they live and operate, and so we felt it was important to invest in the future of these communities by enabling its youth to pursue further education."

That's why the scholar-

ship is open to all Canadian citizens, 25 years of age or under, who are planning to pursue a certificate, diploma, or degree at an accredited post-secondary institution in Canada. The scholarship will award five, \$1,000 scholarships, by means of a random draw. Application forms are available online at www.pscac.ca and are due on Friday, April 24, 2009, not later than 4:30 p.m. For more information, visit the website above or call toll free: 1-(800)-818-7722.

The Petroleum Services

Association of Canada is the national trade association representing the service, supply and manufacturing sectors within the upstream petroleum industry. PSAC represents a diverse range of over 270 member companies, employing more than 73,000 people and contracting almost exclusively to oil and gas exploration and production companies. PSAC member companies represent over 80 per cent of the business volume generated in the petroleum services industry.



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Man crushed by gravestone, woman killed by husband's coffin

• A New York man is accused of shoplifting a \$350 shark from a pet store aquarium, smuggling it out of the shop under his jacket. The shark was found in his home aquarium with a \$300 moray eel bought using a stolen credit card.

• Sweden's Social Insurance Agency stopped Jessica Andersson's disability payments even though she still has back pain from a work-related accident six years ago. The insurance agency found a doctor who declared her back pain would subside if she underwent breast reduction surgery.

• Herman Sakaria, the director of a security company, was headed home when he observed two men covering the license plate on their car in Rodney, New Zealand. As he watched, they put plastic bag masks over their faces and socks over their hands, and entered a store. Sakaria calmly parked his car to block their getaway. The two were chased off by the store owner without any loot, but Sakaria was there to disarm them, and hold them, by throwing them to the ground and sitting on them. As they waited for the police, one of the 16-year-old boys looked up and wilted even more. "Oh s--t, there's my mum!"

• In New Holland, Pa., a man and a woman who wanted leniency on public drunkenness fines, got themselves into more trouble and have been cited for public drunkenness in the judge's office.

• A father hauled his 20-year-old son to an Islamic court in Bauchi, Nigeria, and asked that he be jailed for idleness because it shamed the family. The court immediately sentenced the son to 30 lashes and six months in prison.

• Alberta's aircraft fleet cost taxpayers \$4.3 million a year. And furthermore, aircraft flew empty about 230 times last year, logging more than 65,000 kilometers without passengers. The planes are used to ferry cabinet ministers, MLAs and the lieutenant-governor around the province. Premier Ed Stelmach has promised that Albertans may face drastic cuts if the recession is prolonged, and to many this seems like a good place to start.

• In Buffalo, a man was stopped for traveling without a ticket on Metro Rail but now faces various charges after transit police discovered 44 stolen containers of deodorant stuffed down his pants.

• It seemed like a good idea at the time. Police in Franklin, Tenn., announced they would be patrolling parking lots, looking in cars for things that might attract thieves. The plan was to then leave "crime pre-



Gene Hauta

vention cards" on cars that have tempting goods in view. Unfortunately, auto burglaries are up 15 per cent. The thieves just look until they spot a card on a vehicle.

• Benedict Harkins, 46, was charged with attempted petty larceny in Jamestown, N.Y.. He had filed an insurance claim against the Farm Fresh Market for having tripped over a rug at the front door. The surveillance camera captured a sequence in which Harkins sat down and adjusted the rug to make it look like he had tripped. When that info came out, Harkins withdrew the claim but was arrested anyway.

• President Obama has been given a new BlackBerry with which he can text-message friends. All the email he sends is subject to the Presidential Records Act. "So if he bets on basketball games he will never work as a referee again," quipped Argus Hamilton.

• Alex Kaseberg notes that Obama will use his BlackBerry to be the first President to send emails. "President Bush tried to write emails but he kept breaking his crayon on the computer screen."

• The student association at Carleton University in Ottawa has voted to eliminate a Cystic Fibrosis organization from the list of acceptable charities. Since the condition almost exclusively afflicts white people, it was not "inclusive" enough to merit student funding.

• An elderly gentleman was crushed to death while visiting his parents' gravesite at the St. Gregoire Cemetery in Buckingham, PQ. A tombstone fell on him. And an even weirder situation reported by Chuck Shepherd involved a 67-year-old woman in southern Brazil. On her way to the cemetery following her husband's funeral, the hearse struck another vehicle. As she sat in the front seat, her husband's coffin slammed forward, crushing the poor woman's skull.

• Many would have thought the car wash attendant in Portland who chased off a would-be robber with a power washer would be a hero. However, Chris B. Truax ended up being jailed on a seven-year-old

warrant. Truax pulled the power washer from a pail and aimed it like a rifle, pummeling the robber with a stream of soapy, lukewarm water with a force of 2,000 pounds per square inch. The man fled without the money. Truax's employers gave him two days off with pay, but the police jailed him on an outstanding warrant accusing him of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

• In Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, Phillip Buble's father was convicted of attempting to murder his 44-year-old son by slamming him in the head with a crowbar. Phillip would not stop conducting public displays of affection with his dog, Lady. Phillip considers himself married to Lady "in the eyes of God." Phillip also went public with his "love" by giving a 30-minute speech to a state legislative committee urging it not to pass an anti-bestiality bill. Actually Phillip describes himself as a "zoophile," not a bestialist.

• I collect these tidbits from a variety of sources every week, but as usual, Chuck Shepherd was a good source this week. He called this section "More People Disrespecting Railroad Tracks." Toronto police officers were called to a robbery at The Beer Store and as they interviewed witnesses, their cruiser, which they eventually admitted had been "a little bit on the tracks," was crushed by a passing train . . . a vehicle driven by a 68-year-old driver in Anaheim, Calif., ended up stuck on the tracks, but instead of getting out of the car, the woman panicked and spent her last moments on the cell phone, calling 911 . . . Matthew Randall, 40, was considerably luckier in Ashland, Mass., after he drove onto the rails and was seen "barreling down the tracks" toward a train. The engineers were able to slow down before the collision, merely knocking the car onto a side road. Randall actually drove it home and faced a number of charges such as leaving the scene, trespassing on railroad tracks, and of course DUI.

• An unmarried, unemployed California woman who already had six kids gave birth to octuplets after taking fertility treatments. "Fertility treatments for someone with six children?" questioned Jim Barach. "Isn't that like giving a laxative to someone who has just eaten at Taco Bell? The woman gave birth to all eight in five minutes. Fortunately the obstetrician's nurse remembered to bring her catcher's mitt to work."

• Until next time . . . keep reading between the lines.

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Girl from Cowessess wins First Nations flag contest

A flag designed by a young woman from Cowessess First Nation flaps in the Winnipeg wind above the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) headquarters. grade 11 Broadview School student Daphne Kay created the image of the flag as a school assignment last year for a grade 10 Native Studies class.

"We were learning about different symbols that are important to First Nations cultures just before our teacher, Mr. Hallam, got the idea for our class to enter the APTN 2008 Aboriginal Solidarity Day Flag contest that he read about on the internet," said Kay.

Michael Hallam, who continues to teach in Prairie Valley School Division, is now in Whitewood School, with grades 4-6 and grade 10 Native Studies classes. He said last year's class in Broadview entered the contest because it was an excellent opportunity for students to show what they had learned about First Nations culture throughout the year.

"The students had to reflect on what First Nations culture meant to them and interpret that into a flag," he said. "It was a rewarding assignment for the class because they had a chance to use their own creativity and interpretation. Having a student win the contest was icing on the cake!"

"It was an artsy project that I thought could be fun, said Kay. "And then it hit me that I knew quite a bit about Turtle Island, coming from a First Nations background, and that would help me with the project. I decided to try it and started by incorporating the three main native cultures in Canada: Métis, Inuit and First Nations.

"My mushum (grandfather) always said us kids should learn our culture and I took his word. My family is big on learning about ourselves. Any time an elder gives you the time of day, you should listen. I felt that way when this class came up and I thought, yes, this is my chance to learn, and it turned out to be something even bigger for me."

As the drawing began to take shape, Kay said she had design troubles and didn't exactly get what she wanted on paper.

"I wanted to use the Métis sash and sweetgrass and an Inuit carving as images on the flag, but the Inuit drawing got cut along the way and I'm kind of sorry about that. The medicine wheel is

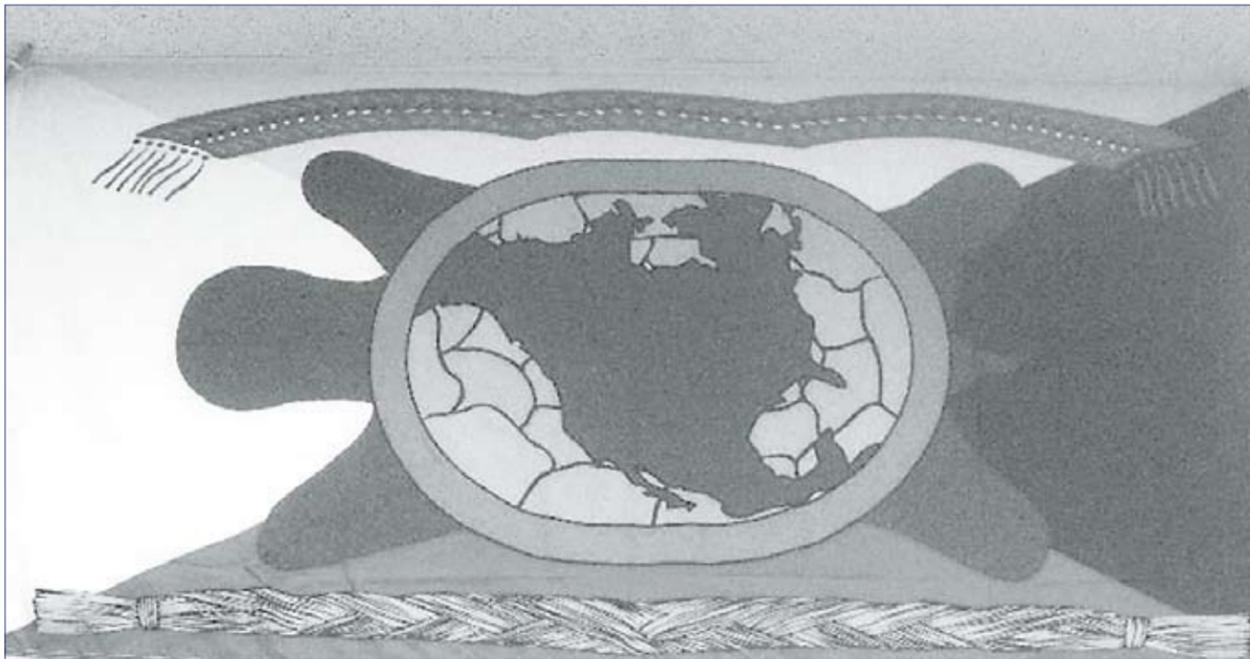
a huge aspect of First Nations culture so I decided to draw a medicine wheel in the background to show the four directions, four colors, four seasons. Some parts are foreign to me like the Métis sash. Mine is blue and white and red—that is what the teacher told me were the colors that stood out for the Métis men."

The budding artist said that once the concept had jelled in her mind, "I just let my fingers do the work. I scanned my ideas through my head and started to draw on scrap first, and then I measured out the paper to follow the specifications of the contest and once I had drawn the flag, I colored it with pencil crayon."

When it got close to the time the assignment was due, Kay said she almost let the opportunity slip away.

"I remember I wasn't done and the deadline was the next day and I decided to take it home. That was the breaking point. I said to myself, 'Should I finish

First Nations culture depicted on flag, which now hangs out side of the APTN headquarters in Winnipeg



Kay's flag, which depicts various images that represent First Nations culture in Canada.



Daphne Kay from Cowessess First Nation and a grade 11 student at Broadview School. Kay won the APTN 2008 Aboriginal Solidarity Day flag contest.

it? Well I did, and now, I wonder 'What if I hadn't worked on my project that night?' Someone else would have won it. It is fate, it was meant to happen."

Kay found out by email that she was a winner and after a follow up call from APTN, she couldn't help saying over and over "I won,

unveil the flag. It was very exciting."

The acknowledgement of Kay's work came at a perfect time for her.

"I was really happy to win because it helped me to look at my future differently. The experience showed me that one day, if I get my education, maybe I can do some of the things I saw at the celebrations, maybe even be a show organizer.

"Before I entered that contest, I had no idea what I was going to do. People kept pressuring me to decide what classes I was going to take and I remember thinking, 'Why so soon?' I was only in grade 10. I had no idea what I was going to do or what I wanted to be.

"What we learn in the classroom is mainly theory; it makes a difference when you get to meet people who really do the jobs instead of looking it up on the internet. Because of winning the flag competition, I was interviewed on television and I got to meet the editorial staff. That was a real eye opener. When you are a kid in rural Saskatchewan you just don't do those things."

Kay, who is involved in acting in her school and also an accomplished jingle dancer is working hard at her studies and leaning toward an advertising or acting career.

"Entering a competition takes a lot your time," she said. "But in the end it is so worth it. Putting your head down and working through

the obstacles is the best way to accomplish things. It's like your every day homework that you don't feel like doing most of the time.

"So what if you miss a few episodes of what you are watching on TV? Just get at it. It is worth it in the end."



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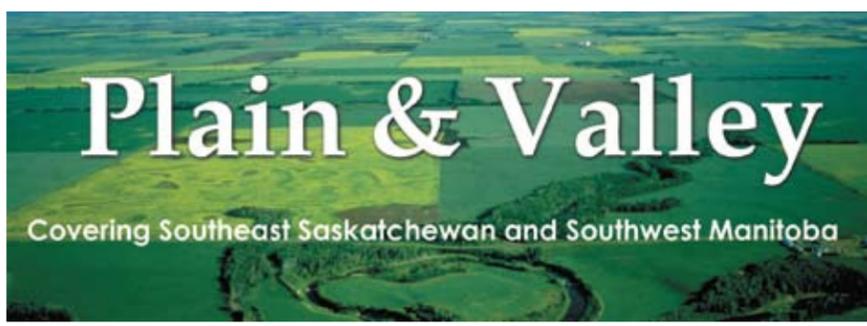
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Kipling residents embrace filmmaking

Continued from front

Moore believes something isn't right and begins to investigate the tragedy. He soon realizes his gut feeling is correct and his friend is innocent. As he finds out the truth of what happened, he regains his faith and moves home to take over as the town's minister.

"It's a family movie, a faith-based movie and a good story," said Aronoff, adding that about 75 per cent of the cast is local talent. The movie also co-stars Lorne Cardinal from television's "Corner Gas." Most of the movie is being shot right in Kipling, but other sites include Windthorst and at Seed Hawk near Langbank.

The movie was born out of Bernsen's love for Kipling, which he visited for both the official hand-over of the home to MacDonald and to rate auditions for the movie role in "Donna on Demand." Bernsen decided to make an attempt at putting together a film with the community and approached local leaders about interest in such a project.

Kipling Mayor Kevin Hassler met with Bernsen and MacDonald's father Ian to discuss the issue.

"They were just bouncing around some ideas and were wondering what I thought. They wanted to see if there was enough interest and money in the area for people to finance a project," Hassler said in his business office last Wednesday. "I thought there probably was. It's kind of snowballed from there. I haven't played that big of a role in it at all, but it's been fun to watch from the get go."

Not long after Hassler met with Bernsen, public meetings were held to check how much interest there was in movie making in Kipling. There was enough. A group of residents established a company called Kipling Film Productions (KFP) and ultimately raised about \$230,000 through the sale of shares in it.

Gall says it was Bernsen's sincerity that sold him on the idea of having the town produce the movie. During the public meetings held to get KFP up and running, Bernsen made no promises about its profitability and suggested that people only invest extra money that they happen to have.

"That sincerity gave me a feeling that I would like to be a part of this," said Gall.

Although the KFP's first movie—which is also being developed with Bernsen's Team Cherokee Productions and other companies—is still being made, it appears the community and the company see a bright future in the industry they are developing there.

"People really wondered what it was going to be like and I think people are enjoying it probably more than they thought they would," said Hassler. "I know from discussing with other people who put money into the film that they'd love to see a return on it, but I think they'd love to

see a return so they can do it again moreso than propping up their retirement or something like that."

Kipling resident Brad Kearns is a member of KFP's executive. He also plays the fire chief in the "Rust" and has been a valuable resource for equipment and services required by the film's producers.

"Our plan is to create other projects here along a similar line (to 'Rust') and Corbin is willing to work with us on this," Kearns said during a chat at the production office, which is located in Kipling's Legion Hall. "This is what he has said from the beginning."

Hassler said the town has totally embraced the "Rust" project. In fact, they've made it their own, with about 500 residents—roughly 45 per cent of the town's population—participating in the movie in one form or another. The mayor himself along with his family were among the extras in various shots of the film.

"Maybe we'll survive the cutting room floor and end up in the movie," he said with a smile.

One thing is certain; the town's participation in Kyle MacDonald's "one red paperclip" initiative is paying dividends.

"It seems like every time you turn around, there's media attention of some description," said Hassler. "In this day and age when everything is becoming more and more localized in larger centres, the more attention we can draw to ourselves, the better we can position ourselves for future growth. It's interesting that all this comes around another announcement with the new care home and hospital facilities. It's very exciting times."

In early February, the provincial government announced they will spend \$152.8 million to replace 13 out-dated long-term care facilities in Saskatchewan. Among them is a 28-bed facility in Kipling.

As for the movie, Gall said the entire project has been a boost to community spirit in the town.

"It is really an amazing thing happening. I wasn't really surprised, but I was pleased to see how many people were willing to go along with it," he said.

The American contingent

At 10 a.m. last Wednesday, producer Chris Aronoff walked into the Legion Hall/production office still a little groggy from a shoot that went until four o'clock that morning. Only he and co-producer James Greilick, who is also from L.A., were moving around in "Rust" headquarters at the time.

Aronoff, whose only previous experiences in Canada were trips to Vancouver, said shooting a film in Kipling has its challenges. In L.A., whatever they needed was made available by making a simple call on a cell phone.

"Our cell phones didn't even work here," Aronoff said while sipping on a cup of tea. "There's a lot of challenges in the sense that we're shooting in a remote



Chris Istance photo

Brad Kearns, a local actor and a member of the executive for Kipling Film Productions, says the effort required to produce a movie is far more than he imagined.

location, but at the same time, there's a lot of good things about it, too. We've got so much support from the businesses and the people here doing things, helping out. We have guys coming to tow our trucks and plowing roads and all that kind of stuff. We don't have to worry about parking or permits. There's trade-offs that make it a lot harder, but there's also a lot of support that makes it easier as well."

While much of the shooting for the film ended on Friday, Aronoff said they will have to return sometime in June for three to five days to complete it. Most of the movie will be cut together by then.

"There's just a couple of scenes we need to see summer here for, which I'm actually much more excited about coming to see," he said.

This winter's frigid temperatures have been something new to him.

"We were briefed on that pretty well before we came up here, so it was nothing we didn't expect," he said. "At 30-below, I don't think you can really describe it, though. You just have to experience it."

Aronoff, one of six crew members from the United States, grew up in a small town in Oregon, but said Kipling has something special.

"Everyone here seems to support each other and they're kind of a blip on the radar because of the red paperclip. They really have a nose for getting noticed and for doing inspiring things," he said. "It's kind of cool to see from a town of eleven hundred people."

A documentary crew was among the half dozen Americans in Kipling during the shooting of "Rust." Aronoff said they are developing either an hour and a half film or a television series featuring Kipling, its 100th anniversary, the paperclip and the town's

budding movie industry. "They've uncovered some really cool things about the area and the town's people," Aronoff said.

"They're here to answer the question as to how this little town of eleven hun-

dred people attracted a Hollywood star. How they banded together and created a movie and the whole story behind that. I think that's so cool."

Kearns, who also had no previous acting experience before "Rust," is amazed at

what the producers, directors, photographers and other movie crew members are able to do.

"Putting together a movie is much harder than any of us on the outside world could imagine," he said.

There are endless takes and re-shoots, yet, "the finished product on the screen is unbelievable. I had no idea what to expect. There's a lot more work and effort than you could possibly imagine."

Gall said there was one way making a movie was similar to farming.

"Someone asked me, 'How does acting compare to farming?' and I said there's not much in common, but one thing is for sure; they both have long hours," he said, noting that some days, he'd be in the production office at 8 a.m., then have shooting end at 2 a.m. the following day.

"I think it was more than I expected. They were asking me one day at the office what the highlight of all this was for me and it's sort of hard to pick a real high spot because it was all very enjoyable," Gall said.

"But I guess the highlight for me was mingling with people that normally, you would think they're bigger than you; they're more important and we're just farmers. The way we were treated—and I think I can speak for almost all of us—we were treated like family—a part of them. They just treated us so well."

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Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

March 2009 • Page 17

Mosaic's artist-in-residence mixes art and industry

BY CHRIS ISTACE

It's difficult to tell if Crystal Howie's passion for art spurs her passion for the blue-collar worker, or if it's the other way around.

For the past several months, Howie has served as artist-in-residence at Mosaic's K1 potash mine northeast of Esterhazy, the same mine where she worked as a summer student several years ago. While there, she is engaging miners in an effort to increase their appreciation of art and to develop a sense of pride for the contributions the workers make to the community and the world.

Early last year, Howie approached human resources manager Chandra Pratt about using art as a way to bring together mine laborers. Pratt was interested and the pair put together a proposal for the Saskatchewan Arts Board asking for funding.

After a three-month trial period, Howie stayed on and is now in the process of developing a large mural to be hung in one of the mine's shops. The piece will mark the National Day of Mourning, which is celebrated every April 28 in honor of workers who have died or lost their health due to their occupations.

"Not being an artist myself and not ever thinking we would employ an artist, or have an artist working on our site, she had intrigued me and I asked more questions on what it would look like and what would be the expectation from Mosaic to make the process work," Pratt said during a conversation at her office last Tuesday morning.

Although Howie had a basic plan for her residency in mind, both she and Pratt continue to develop the artist's role at the mine. The idea, however, was to engage the workforce and allow them to grow as individuals while developing a sense of pride in what they do for a living.

"It's allowing them to experience art in a way that they may never have seen and realize that they have much to contribute and in many cases, that they are artists themselves," Pratt said.

"What I've seen the program do is instill a sense of pride in the work that our



Chris Istace photo

University of Regina Fine Arts graduate Crystal Howie has been working with the employees at Mosaic potash mine near Esterhazy for the past several months as an artist-in-residence at the facility. The painter is there to help workers gain a greater appreciation of the contributions they make to the company and the community.

miners and workers perform and get to see it in a different light through the eyes of an artist. I'd like to hope that they would get to see a glimpse of what our artist sees in the beauty of their work."

The residency is far more wide-ranging for Howie, who is also developing art appreciation seminars and providing art programming to other artists in Esterhazy during her residency.

For Howie, it's an opportunity to provide support to other artists in the community by discussing professional issues for artists.

"Those things are important to me, but they're also important to other artists because they need to know their rights as

workers, and they need to know what it is they're up against," Howie said. "They need to have support systems and networks to be able to communicate, so professional issues for artists is one of the things that I was able to see that the community wanted and I was able to provide that."

But it's a deep drive to promote the cause of the blue-collar worker that propels much of Howie's work.

In 2003, Howie won a commission from the Saskatchewan Centennial Workers Committee (SCWC) to paint a mural to mark the achievements of Saskatchewan's working people. The initiative was part of the SCWC's celebration of the prov-

ince's centennial in 2005.

The 10-foot by 30-foot mural was on the Regina Union Centre building on 12th Avenue in Regina. A print of the painting is now handed out to social activists as an award for their contributions to the labor movement.

"I began to develop an understanding that I was from a working-class home and that my efforts and most of my jobs since I was a child have been very blue-collar," Howie said.

"I gained an appreciation for that and began to understand that a lot of the time, those things are overlooked. I'm not out to glorify it or make it bigger than what it really is, but just appreciate what it is we do as people. That we

are much more than our jobs."

Her work outside of her residency at Mosaic is also tailored to the labor movement. It's a body of work she is calling "Labored Heart," which she spoke about at a Saskatchewan Federation of Labor convention last year.

That work is being financially supported by labor organizations and unions.

"'Labored Hearts' is basically taking feelings and emotions as well as looking at individuals as workers and telling their story," Howie said. "It could be anything from using a work glove to indicate the presence of an idea to a portrait of a person and taking out ideas from that. It's quite

a heavy topic."

The mural she is painting for Mosaic falls under the same category.

The painting depicts a hand of flames which point to the centre of the mural. A male worker wearing personal protective equipment combats the fire with a shovel.

Meanwhile, the male worker reaches with his left hand toward buildings underneath the flames. The buildings include a house of fine arts, a house of prairies, a house of technology and a house of knowledge.

Above the male miner is the outline of the province of Saskatchewan with dots marking the mining operations within its borders.

Continued on page 18

Mural helps employees realize their contributions

Continued from page 17

At the centre of the mural is a Phoenix, canary and nest. A rose rests at the apex of the gable.

Just below the key of the Phoenix, is a potash dryer. The potash in the dryer turns to coins, which fly into the foreground of the mural.

The left segment of the nest is dedicated to water and a fire extinguisher is located below a trades-person. The extinguishing fluids pour from the nozzle.

Further to the right is a trades-person wearing a helmet, work gloves and holding a torch. He is culturally identified as a First Nations person from the eagle's feather.

Just below that is a female worker holding a baby tightly against herself.

Howie said the mural is a piece of art that could not be completed unless she was on-site at the mine conversing with the workers.

"If I was not able to be on-site here, I wouldn't be able to develop such a mural because a part of the development—of my past murals as well—has been trying to understand and communicate with workers about what they see and how I can make it better," she said.

The mural has taken some dramatic changes in the last two months as Howie talks with the workers and management at the mine, as well as with her family.

"Having the ability to talk and even just be present with those people makes a big difference," she said.

"It's why it's being created. It allows it to be created the way it has been."

Howie hopes to have the mural completed by the end of her residency, which concludes in early August.

"But as life says, you never know," she says with a laugh.

Although the mural will be located at the mine, Howie says she wants the community to embrace it as their own as well. In fact, her vision for the project has been to bring as many facets of the community together as possible.

"There's an opportunity with the creation of this mural to engage many people, whether it's the workers here on-site, or the community members if they're taking photographs on-site. Or maybe there are some local artists that we could possibly bring on-site to contribute," she said.

"It crosses those boundaries. It makes art, especially public art, available for breaking down walls that may be placed between corporations, communities, the arts and workers. It opens up bridges. The mural can literally open up those pathways."

Howie also has other ideas to further bring the mural out to the public. One of them is to create a sticker of the painting that workers can stick to their lunch pails or helmets.

This would also provide the people in town—some of whom wonder why the mural is not located there—to have access to it.

"And I can take a bit of the mural with me, too," she said. "I can stick it on my journal and put it on my helmet and lunch bucket. I can give it to my nephew and my



Chris Istace photo

Mosaic artist-in-residence Crystal Howie has created a mural honoring the National Day of Mourning as part of her stay at the potash mine and in the community of Esterhazy. The piece will be hung in one of the mine's shops at Mosaic's K1 mine-site.

family members.

"I think that's really important here. It's like a gift, a gift for everybody to take with them, which I think is really exciting, actually. I'm getting excited talking about it right now. The possibilities are endless."

Both Pratt and Howie admit that the employees at the mine have had mixed thoughts about having an artist on-site. At the beginning, many did not understand what the initiative was about, said Pratt.

"Crystal was getting lots of comments and questions about, 'What are you doing?' and 'Show me in black and white what's going to happen,'" said Pratt, who believes the residency has to take on a life of its own to develop into the benefit it is meant to be for the mine.

That development has

gone well, she said.

"(Howie) has been successful in engaging a number of employees to give her ideas, volunteer time, to even just talk to her about the issues."

From Mosaic's standpoint, the key goal has been to boost morale among the mine's 923 employees at both K1 and K2 sites.

"It was something new and different, and we could see the potential of it to really build pride amongst our workforce," said Pratt. "I think the mural is going to be a big part of that. It's going to be a wonderful legacy to leave behind because it's permanent and it has some very permanent themes to it that will never become dated."

Howie said the miners have received her with everything from confusion to embracing.

"Each individual has their

own set of mixed understandings of what an artist is, or could be, or should be," she said.

"Those are challenges for me as an artist, but they're also just the way a person is."

Regardless, the residency has been a challenge on many levels for Howie, socially, politically and personally.

"But it's a type of growth that an artist needs to—to be fully immersed in something that drives their passion, and mine happens to be this community and the workers in it. The labor movement. It's incredible, really," Howie said.

Despite the challenges—whether for miners to accept the artist and understand what she's trying to do, or for Howie in helping them understand—there is already talk of an artist-in-residence coming back to Mosaic.

"We were actually just discussing whether we want to put together another proposal for another year," said Pratt. "There are a number of projects that Crystal had brought to us and, basically, had gotten our buy-in on. We are going to run out of time to complete them, so we've started those discussions and we'll see where it goes. We'll still need to get the Saskatchewan Arts Board involved if that's where we want to go."

Howie has other opportunities—she has been accepted in the Masters program at the U of R, for example—but has many more things she'd like to accomplish at Mosaic.

"There's a plethora of things that given the opportunity and time . . . There's so much we could do, so much," she said. "Especially with the skills of the workers here. It could be incredible."

Mosaic mural recognizes National Day of Mourning

SUBMITTED BY
CRYSTAL HOWIE

The National Day of Mourning (April 28) is a day which recognizes those workers who have lost their lives on the job and those who have paid with their health.

The mural being painted by Mosaic artist-in-residence Crystal Howie celebrates this day.

Entitled "National Day of Mourning: Safety for the workers, their families and the community," the mural has been developed through questioning and responding to the workers and Mosaic. As an artist, it is a great challenge to envision the dreams of others. The process of developing a mural is consuming and rewarding.

The purpose of the mural is to bring art to the industrial world, to the workers.

The image may be complex, but the message is simple and sometimes overlooked. The message is that workers are people living in reality. They have hopes, dreams and are creative beings. They have strength, courage and the ability to do what is necessary in their lives and in the lives of others.

The mural is described from right to left:

The hand of flames which point to the centre of the mural indicates the brave strength of the dragon which the male worker—clad in personal protective

equipment—combats the fire from the mural centre with a shovel.

The shovel is a tool that all people find useful and is proven to achieve goals beyond which it was made for, indicating that all people have hidden strengths which come to the surface when they face challenges.

The male worker reaches with his left hand to rescue the houses central to the mural. The houses represent the many aspects of peoples' lives, community and pursuits. The buildings include a house of fine arts (writing, music, theatre, film, photography, painting), the house of prairies (agriculture, history, earth, food), the house of technology (electricity, carpentry, roofing, shelter) and the house of book (knowledge, writing, poetry, lyrics).

Above the male miner, the province of Saskatchewan is bold in the circuitry of the information highways available to the broadened understanding of the world.

The wires reaching out root people to the technology, confirming Saskatchewan as a province and as a people with a history, present and future.

The centre of the mural is vested to the Phoenix, canary and nest. The canary was once used in the coal pits to warn miners of toxic gasses. It is now used here to symbolize the dangers workers face. It is used in

the mural to indicate the fragility of humans and our environment.

The nest represents home, family, community and safety.

The Phoenix represents renewal, rejuvenation, wisdom and compassion. It is from challenges and losses that people gain wisdom and compassion introducing prevention and the pursuit of knowledge. It is the Phoenix (the knowledge and collective experience) which holds the key and may penetrate past the picture frame into the world beyond the workplace and into families and communities.

The rose resting at the apex of the gable is a symbol from the song "Bread and Roses." People need to eat, but also fill their souls.

Just below the key of the Phoenix, there is a dryer, a piece of mechanical engineering used to produce

potash. The potash in the dryer turns to coins which fly into the foreground of the mural, possibly indicating that this is a reality of commodity and of livelihoods.

The left segment is dedicated to water, an element which may never be forgotten due to Saskatchewan's history and the circumstances for the potash mines. With water comes destruction, growth and rejuvenation.

There is a fire extinguisher that is placed below the trades-person. The extinguishing fluids animatedly and conjecturally pour from the nozzle, creating a magical atmosphere for which the intended viewer can contemplate. The opposite of water, in this case, is fire.

A great deal of worker safety training is dedicated to fire. It is one of the elements that can be useful to

trades, but may also place people in compromising situations on the job, in the home and within the community.

Here lies the strength of the trades-person, cold in helmet, work gloves and torch; culturally identified as a First Nations person from the eagle's feather, which embodies memory,

respect and the power of protection. It is here that this worker unifies the images. The worker is past, present and future.

The female worker at the right side of the mural is also a brave mother. She holds her baby tightly to herself and a hand watches over her, giving her courage to face water and fire.

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Manitoba creates organic food directory

An organic food directory is available to help consumers, restaurants, retailers, food handlers and processors locate local certified organic food sources, Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Minister Rossann Wowchuk announced in February during Organic Week.

"Organic food has grown tremendously in popularity in recent years and this directory will simplify the purchasing process by helping the public find local organic suppliers for a variety of excellent food products," said Wowchuk.

The minister noted that increasing sales of locally produced organic products is part of the provincial strategy to encourage producers to consider diversifying their production plans and reach new markets. The provincial Organic Transition Program provides new funding to assist Manitobans interested in securing certified organic status for their cropland, pasture, livestock operations or processing facilities.

"Local markets are often the first line for sales growth and the best way to increase sales is to make sure buyers can connect with local sellers," said the minister.

The directory is now available in a booklet from GO offices throughout the province or online at www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/organic or www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/consumer/buymanitoba.html.

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COMBINES

Special interest Free Financing OAC! See dealer for details

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
2007	MF	9895	Duals, Autokube, MAV Chopper, 18' Swathmaster PU, loaded, 354 hrs., warranty to 2010	\$299,000
2007	MF	9895	Duals, Autokube, MAV Chopper, 18' Swathmaster PU, loaded, 486 hrs., Chopper, chaff spreader, rake up p/u	\$279,000
1995	MF	8570	Chopper, spreader 13' pu hdr	\$52,500
1987	Gleaner	R50	Melroe PU, chopper	\$22,000
1986	MF	8560	Melroe PU, chopper	\$24,500
1984	Gleaner	L3	Melroe PU, chopper, chaff spreader	\$12,500

COMBINE HEADERS

2007	MF	5100	98' Draper header, U2 Reel, combine adapter, gauge wheels, transport kit	\$37,900
1994	Gleaner	500	25' Flex Header, U2 PU reel	\$9,500
1992	Gleaner	324	24' Rigid Header, U2 Reel	\$6,500
1996	MacDon	871	Combine Adapter to fit TX	\$4,250
1994	Gleaner	700	30' new batt reel, as is	\$2,000

SWATHERS

2009	MF	9435	120hp, 30' U2 reel, loaded	0% Financing*
2009	MF	9430	120hp, 30' DS, U2 Reel, loaded	0% Financing*
1999	Westward	9300	Turbo, 30' 972 Triple Delivery, PUR gauge wheels	\$55,900
1996	MacDon	960	25' PUR, Bi Directional adapter	\$13,500
1991	MacDon	960	25' PUR	\$10,000
2008	MF	9220	78 hrs, 30' DS, U2 reel, gauge wheels, old shoes, warranty	\$89,500

TRACTORS

2009	Versatile	435	435 hp, 800/70R38 Michelin Drum Duals Deluxe cab, loaded	Great Financing
2005	MF	7495	fwa, 175hp, DynaStep, ldr, loaded, 1100hrs	SOLD
2009	MF	7480	fwa, 145hp, Dyna VT, 965 ldr loaded	SOLD
2008	MF	5480	fwa, 140hp, 955 loader, loaded	0% Financing*
2008	MF	5475	fwa, 135hp, 955 ldr, loaded	0% Financing*
2005	MF	431	45hp, 3pt, remotes, 50 hrs.	\$14,500
2008	MF	598	fwa, 99hp, sync shuttle, DL280 ldr, grapple	0% Financing*
1989	MF	3650	FWA 130hp, loader, grapple, joystick	\$34,900
2008	MF	1531	fwa, 31hp, hydro, loader	0% Financing*
2009	MF	1528	fwa, 28hp, hydro, loader	0% Financing*
2009	MF	GC2400	fwa, 24hp, hydro, loader	0% Financing*
1982	MF	4880	000hp, duals, pto	\$23,900

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2009	MF	2756A	5x6 Baler, full autocycle, kicker, wide pu	0% Financing*
2008	MF	1756	5x6 Baler, autocycle	0% Financing*
2009	MF	1476	16' Mower Conditioner, steel on steel rollers	0% Financing*
2008	MF	3743	430 bu Manure Spreader, upper beater, big rubber	0% Financing*
2002	New Idea	6385	5x6 Hard Core Baler, Full Auto, Mesh wrap (same as Hesston 856A)	\$16,500
2007	MacDon	A30-S	16' Steel on Steel Conditioning Rollers	Call
2006	Ezee-On	2400	Post Pounder, Trailer Type, NEW	Call

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1999	SeedHawk	SD 357	40' w/12" Spacing and 357 Onboard Commodity Cart	\$72,500
2001	Seedhawk	SL1000	35' w/12" Spacing, onboard 1000 liquid fertilizer tank and commodity cart	\$69,500
2007	Seedhawk	777	84"-12" spacing w/777 cart, loading auger, loaded	\$289,000
2008	Ezee-On	1225	14' Offset Disk	Call

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2009	Farm King	Y960	Loader Mounts to fit MF 6200 Series	\$2,500
1999	Fab Tec		98" Snowblower	SOLD
			Sprayer, 100' boom, dual boom, 1200 gal split tank	\$10,500
1998	Flexi Coil	S62	Sprayer, 90' boom, 1200 gal tank, wind screens	\$11,500

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Information Meeting

Date: March 16th, 2009

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Wawota Community Hall

Coffee and refreshments will be available

*A conceptual plan for a set of condos in the Town of Wawota has entered the development stage and interested citizens are invited to stop by and listen to the group of gentlemen involved in the project. A very brief presentation will be followed by an opportunity for interested people to ask questions of the architect, builders, finishers and partners involved. For further information please call Daryl Safinuk 577-7951 or Ed Fahlman 577-9991

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Redvers Ag-Ex and Bull Congress coming up

The spotlight is on agriculture and rural living on April 7, as the Redvers Chamber of Commerce presents Redvers Ag-Ex and Bull Congress 2009.

Highlighting this year's show are the following keynote speakers and attractions:

BRUCE BURNETT -

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD. 11.00 AM.

After spending 10 years as a weather and crop surveillance analyst, Burnett became a Canadian Wheat Board Director, tracking weather and monitoring crops for the Canadian Wheat Board. He heads a department of experts with specialized skills to provide a service unique in Canada.

Using the latest in computer modeling and satellite technology to monitor weather and crop development around the globe, he provides information on soil moisture, preliminary crop forecasts and the world grain outlook.

CRYSTALEE FROESE - WESTWORDS COMMUNICATION, 1.30 PM.

Christalee Froese's popular column, Rural Roots, reaches 200,000 readers monthly in the pages of the Regina Leader-Post and numerous weekly newspapers.

Froese has combed the Prairies and traveled internationally to find some of the most fascinating people and places. Her work has appeared in national newspapers and magazines including the National Post, Calgary Herald, West magazine, Westjet's Airlines magazine and CAA's WestWorld magazine. Froese helped launch Centre 48, a regional arts and continuing education centre, which has educated nearly 2,000 students since 2002.

Froese has delivered over 50 keynote presentations on economic development strategies and has moderated numerous conferences and meetings. As a member of the Saskatchewan Agriculture Institute of Management's workshop program, she was one of the most-requested

speakers for rural communities.

DR. RIGAS KARAMANOS - 2.30 PM.

Dr. Karamanos, an expert in the use and application of fertilizer, discusses the impacts of nitrogen and phosphorous application rates, figuring in fertilizer prices, commodity prices and likely yield responses covering a number of the region's primary grain crops.

Dr. Karamanos worked with Western Fertilizers Ltd. (Westco) where he ran a provincial soil testing analysis lab, until it was absorbed by Viterra at which time he took the position of Agronomy Manager for Saskatchewan based Viterra Inc.

GREG BARROWS - 3.30 PM. OFF FARM INVESTMENTS & WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Often it is the little things we do or don't do financially that make the difference. Barrows will discuss strategies that help you set goals or achieve goals you presently have in hopes of shedding light on your present financial situation. In addition, he will touch on what drives the markets. Greg Barrows is a partner with Cameron Agencies in Melita, Man. and a financial/insurance advisor.

Ag-Ex is once again featuring a petting zoo for the young and the young at heart all day. Back by popular demand is Ed Hunter and his amazing stock dog demonstration, a real crowd pleaser.

The Cattleman's Choice Sweepstakes returns again this year, for a chance to win a bull or a choice of three heifers, valued at \$4000. Only 300 tickets will be sold. Tickets are now on sale and will be on sale until noon the day of Ag-EX. They sell out every year.

Redvers Ag-Ex and Bull Congress features precision agriculture displays, environmental information and innovative crop technology as well as other cutting edge agriculture related businesses.

Top name ranchers from across Saskatchewan and Manitoba will be pre-

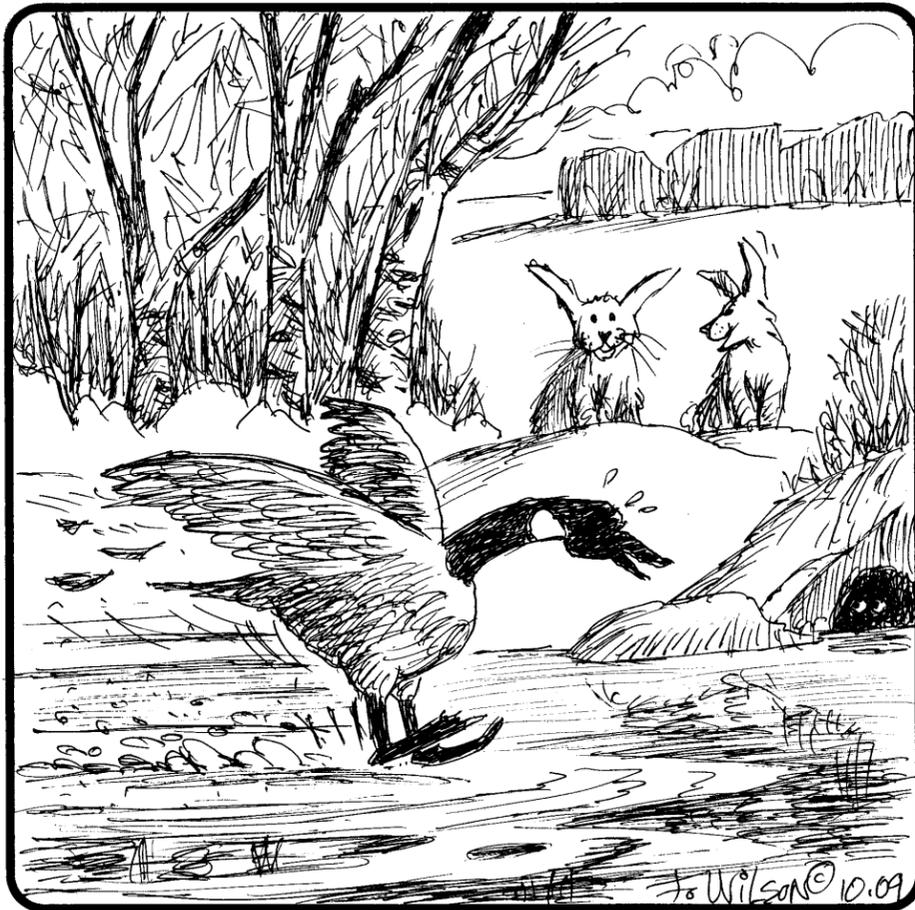
viewing their herd bulls or yearling bulls. Live and dry booths will represent the beef breeds of Red and Black Angus, Charolais, Limousin, Tarentaise, Herford, South Devon, Shorthorn and Gebvieh. Other livestock related booths range from feed, minerals, drugs, handling equipment, forage, and financial.

Redvers Ag-Ex and Bull Congress is an all encompassing event catering to all sectors of the agriculture industry. It is a well-known show with exhibitors and attendants coming from miles around.

The Ag Ex Committee is very pleased to be adding the Home and Leisure aspect to the existing show. Car dealers, furniture displays, and travel trailers will be there, as well as many other lifestyle related venues.

Show hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Redvers Rec. Centre. Lunch and refreshments are available.

Those looking for more information or to book a booth or pens can call 306-452-8492, or go to the website at redversagex.ca or email redversagex@hotmail.com.



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Key Note Speakers

Bruce Burnett - Global Weather outlook. 11.00 am.
Christalee Froese - Rural and Community Development - 1.30 pm
Dr. Karamanos - Viterra - Fertilizer application - 2.30 pm
Greg Barrows - Off Farm Investments & Wealth Management - 3.30 pm.



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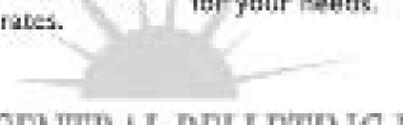
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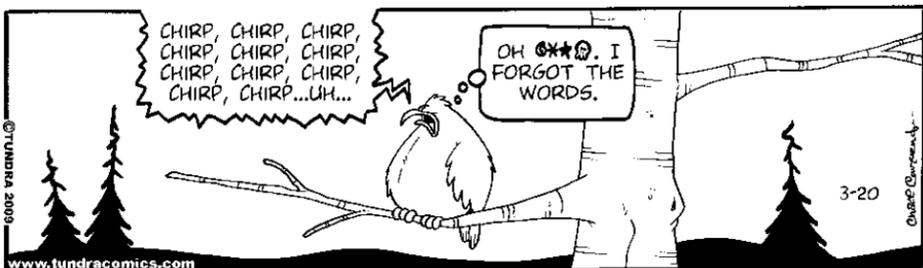
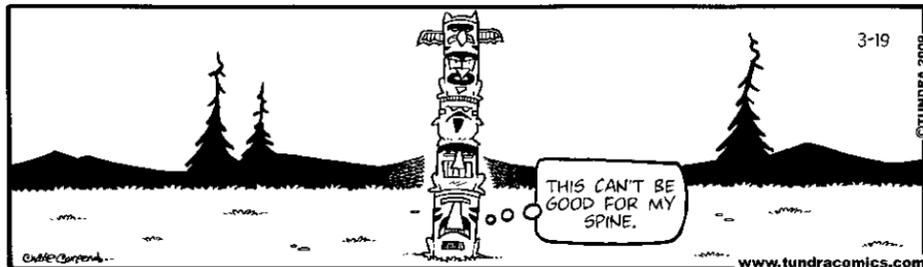
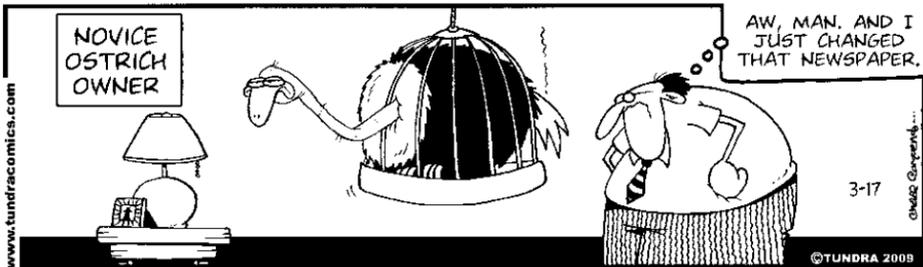


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Govt increases funding for water projects in SW Sask

Farmers and ranchers in the 65 drought designated Rural Municipalities (RMs) in Southwest Saskatchewan, looking for long-term solutions to deal with drought, will receive additional support.

The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan are working together to increase funding for the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP) to \$29 million.

"Producers need water to succeed and this government's investment in wells and dugouts will pay off for generations," said Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz.

"I grew up on a farm near Rosetown so I know producers can't always count on the rain. We're making investments like this to make sure producers have water sources they can count on in dry years."

The FRWIP program, announced last spring, provides funding for on-farm wells, pipelines and dugouts, as well as community wells. These measures address short-term needs while providing long-term solutions. The original funding for this program totalled \$15 mil-

lion.

The program has been very successful, with nearly 3,400 applications submitted by producers and RMs. To address this high demand for the program, the federal and provincial governments are increasing funding to \$29 million.

"Given the number of applications, this program has been well received by farmers, ranchers and RMs in southwest Saskatchewan," Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Bob Bjornrud said.

"This \$29 million will

help to develop long-term water infrastructure that will benefit producers for many years to come."

This assistance is being provided under the AgriRecovery program complementing other federal initiatives, including tax deferral for livestock producers and federal assistance under the Canada Saskatchewan Water Supply Expansion Program. The program is cost shared on a 60-40 basis between the federal and provincial governments.

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 Starting October 14, 2009 - Whitewood
- Electrician - 20 weeks (2 programs)
 Starting October 13, 2009 - Moosomin
 Starting September 21, 2009 - Weyburn
- Hairstylist - 45 weeks
 Starting August 18, 2009 - Estevan
- Office Education - 33 weeks
 Starting October 6, 2009 - Estevan and Weyburn *Class will be a combination of face to face classes as well as distance technology*
- Power Engineering - 36 weeks
 Starting August 31, 2009 - Weyburn
- Welding - 34 weeks
 Starting September 8, 2009 - Weyburn

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- 2009 SPRING AUCTIONS -

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 08th - 11AM**

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For info call:



Mark Woodley 204-248-2127 or 204-847-2184

UNRESERVED FARM AUCTION FOR LONGVIEW FARMS (Archie and Don Fray)

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For info call:



Ken Fray 306-433-8190 or John Fray 306-433-3447

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For info call:



David 204-724-0187 or Richard 204-421-0288

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For info call:



Jack Amos 204-742-0718

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For info call:



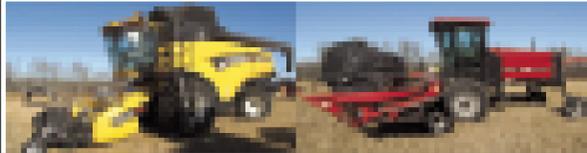
Archie Goodwill 204-741-0470

UNRESERVED RETIREMENT FARM AUCTION for DON & BERNICE WILLIAMSON

**ROCKYVIEW, SASKATCHEWAN
FRIDAY, APRIL 17th - 10AM**

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& more.

For info call:



Don Williamson call 306-433-1907 or 306-442-0410

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Geoffrey Oswald call 306-444-4477 or call 204-433-7024

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For info call:



Shirley Willey 204-647-7287

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Del Smith 204-433-7022 / Milt Stobis 204-248-0222

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Elva Birch 204-847-0804

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For info call:



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Manitoba federal disaster recovery program creates national blueprint

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) lobbying efforts on behalf of Manitoba's flood-ravaged producers came to fruition recently when the government of Canada and province of Manitoba announced a joint funding program to aid business recovery of producers affected by the 2008 floods.

The natural disaster drowned out hay, forage and pasture fields leaving producers without livestock feed and the ability to re-establish crops.

The three-pronged recovery program also improves tax benefits for all Canadian producers, when faced with disasters, serving as a blueprint for developing a comprehensive national disaster recovery program for the industry.

"When disaster hits producers, three crucial areas need to be addressed in order to get them back on their feet—immediate access to emergency resources, financial flexibility for a period of time until operations are re-established, and the ability to recover or restore lost resources," says CCA president, Brad Wildeman.

"We've been working closely with the federal government to develop a national disaster recovery program to help Canadian producers stay in business and get back on their feet when disasters strike their operations. We're glad to see the development of this federal-provincial funding program and enhanced tax deferral for Manitoba. Extending tax deferral benefits to any Canadian producer experiencing business interruption due to floods or storms is a great first step in developing a comprehensive national disaster recovery program."

Wildeman added that Canadian producers face a lot of tough decisions when natural disasters hit.

"It's critical for individual operators, as well as for the sustainability of Canadian agriculture, that producers have options to make sound choices and take steps toward full restoration of their business."

"The ability of Canadian producers to recover from disaster is crucial to the long-term sustainability of our agricultural sector and a guaranteed food supply for Canadians."

The CCA worked together with the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association (MCPA), the federal government and Manitoba provincial government to activate a disaster recovery program for producers in flood-ravaged areas—part of the federal AgriRecovery pillar of Growing Forward.

CCA and its provincial member organizations advocate, on a continual basis, for the creation of

a national disaster recovery strategy and effective risk-management program that's accessible to all Canadian producers impacted in these situations.

"This news comes at a critical time for Canadian livestock producers, who face many ongoing challenges including the world economic crisis and market uncertainty created by the United States Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL)," says Wildeman.

"Canadian cattle producers have endured con-

siderable challenges for the past several years, and it's encouraging to know that our federal government recognizes the importance of equipping producers with tools to effectively manage their bottom line, particularly when there is no immediate end in sight for some of the issues facing the industry."

He added that the CCA will keep working with the federal government to improve business risk management programs to ensure they work for Canadian producers.



Dale Woods photo

Tiny owl

Dale Woods of Moosomin captured this photo of a Northern Saw-whet owl. The tiny owl was perched in a tree on the Woods' farm.



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Tried and True Recipes

by Sandra Johnson



Stroganoff Meatballs

- | | |
|---|---|
| Basic Beef Meatballs: | 1 - 10 oz. can cream of mushroom soup |
| 2 lb lean ground beef | 3/4 cup milk |
| 1/3 cup oatmeal | 2 Tbsp tomato paste |
| 3 Tbsp ketchup | 24 meatballs, cooked |
| 1 egg | 1 - 10 oz can sliced mushrooms |
| 1 Tbsp instant minced onion | 1 pkg broad egg noodles, prepared according to pkg directions |
| 1 1/2 tsp parsley | |
| 3/4 tsp celery salt | |
| Sauce: | |
| 1 - 4 oz. container chip dip (garlic and/or herb) | |

In medium bowl, thoroughly mix ground beef, oatmeal, ketchup, egg, parsley, onion and celery salt. Shape into 1 inch meatballs. Place in lightly greased electric frying pan. Fry at 350°F for 30 minutes, turning frequently. Drain. Set aside. Makes 24.

Sauce: In a bowl, combine cheese, soup, milk, and tomato paste. Whisk until mixture is smooth, stir in mushrooms. Place meatballs in a 2 quart baking dish, pour on sauce mixture. Cover. Bake at 350°F for 30 minutes, or until heated through. Serve over cooked broad egg noodles. Laurie stirs all together.

Caesar Salad

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1 bunch romaine lettuce | 1/2 cup bacon bits |
| 10 large mushrooms | 1 cup garlic croutons |
| 1 bunch green onions | Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese |
| J.L. Kraft Caesar dressing (your desired amount) | |

Break lettuce into bite sized pieces, slice mushrooms, chop green onions. Place in salad bowl. Just prior to serving, toss with J.L. Kraft Caesar dressing (your desired amount). Top with bacon bits and garlic croutons and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

Ducks Unlimited selecting youth for eco-adventure camp

Ten talented teens from across Canada will be selected by Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) to spend August 8 to 14, 2009 at an eco-adventure camp at Oak Hammock marsh and Delta Marsh in Manitoba.

Throughout the action-packed week, they'll meet many new people and participate in exciting activities like duck and songbird banding, radio telemetry, geocaching, decoy carving, wilderness survival, camping, canoeing, fishing and much more.

"Outdoor-savvy teens will love working with DUC's scientists and interpreters to learn more about wetlands and the waterfowl and wildlife that depend on them," said Rick Wishart, Director of Education

for DUC. "Plus, the hands-on activities offer a great way to learn new skills while nurturing an appreciation for conservation."

Youth age 13 to 17 that care about wetlands, love spending time outdoors and want to take part in this thrilling eco-adventure are encouraged to apply by June 1, 2009.

In the application, they will be expected to outline what they've done for the environment, their outdoor interests, hobbies, volunteer work and leadership experience. DUC also wants to know what the applicants' plans are after high school including university and career goals.

"This is a great opportunity to learn about conservation," said

14-year-old Saskia Vaisey of Port Moody, British Columbia, who attended the Great Greenwing Adventure in 2008. "I love nature and being outdoors, and I want to make sure it's there for others in the future. Wetlands are an important part of our ecosystem."

Past Great Greenwing Adventure participants have gone on to careers in science, conservation and resource management, while others use their new skills and conservation ethic in different ways.

Brandon Hicks, a 2007 participant who has gone on to study resource management in post-secondary school, said the experience will have a huge impact on everyone, no matter what path they follow in life.

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Tues. March 31 @ 12 noon Horse & Sheep Sale
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Fri. April 3 @ 11 AM Bred Cow Sale
Sun. April 5 @ 1 PM Cattleman's Classic All Breed Bull Sale
Wed. April 8 @ 10 AM Presort Feeder Sale
Wed. April 15 @ 9 AM Regular Feeder Sale
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Sask ranked Canada's leading mineral producer

Saskatchewan was Canada's number one mineral producing jurisdiction in 2008 according to information released earlier this week by Natural Resources Canada.

Saskatchewan is at the top of the list as Canada's leading mineral producer, with 21.5 per cent of Canada's mineral output for 2008. Saskatchewan's mineral production in 2008 was valued at \$9.7 billion, compared to \$5.8 billion in 2007. Ontario, which has traditionally been the country's leader in min-

eral production, and BC accounted for 21.3 per cent and 14.7 per cent of Canada's mineral production respectively.

"Our mining industry had an exceptional year in 2008, and these statistics from Natural Resources Canada are the latest evidence of that," Saskatchewan Energy and Resources Minister Bill Boyd said.

"There are obviously some new uncertainties for mining worldwide because of global financial markets, but Saskatchewan is still solidly positioned as a

place where opportunities abound for mineral exploration and development.

In 2008, potash was the top-ranked commodity in Canada, representing 18.6 per cent of total Canadian mineral production with a value of \$8.2 billion. The value of uranium production in Canada was \$1.5 billion, representing 1.5 per cent of Canada's mineral output by value. Saskatchewan mining operations accounted for all of Canada's uranium production and the majority of potash production in

Canada.

Saskatchewan mining companies have been the world's leading producers of potash and uranium for a number of years, however the significant increase in the price of potash propelled Saskatchewan to its current leading ranked position in Canada in terms of value of mineral output.

"Mining companies in Saskatchewan will continue to be leaders in mineral production in Canada and the world, as the world

needs what Saskatchewan mining companies produce," said Kelvin Dereski, President of the Saskatchewan Mining Association.

"With a growing global population, there is an increased need for more and higher quality food on less land, and an increased need for clean energy. Potash and uranium will have essential roles in providing both global food and clean energy solutions."

Saskatchewan mining companies have positioned

themselves for this opportunity, and have announced investments of over \$10 billion in the next few years to add capacity to existing mine operations to meet this increased demand.

"Investors have expressed a lot of interest in the Saskatchewan mining industry. The recent economic down turn may have slowed things down but it has not dampened the long term potential for mining opportunities in Saskatchewan" said Dereski.

Student applications being accepted for Lt. Governor's leadership forum

Gordon Barnhart, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, recently announced that the 2009 Lieutenant Governor's Leadership Forum is now accepting applications from Saskatchewan high school students who will be in grades 11 and 12 this fall.

"The Lieutenant Governor's Leadership Forum brings together Saskatchewan youth who have demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities in their schools and communities," said Barnhart. "During 10 action packed days, these students travel the province; they meet successful leaders from government, business, the arts, science, athletics, the non-profit sector, media, academia, military, and law enforcement, and take part in a variety of experiences designed to strengthen the mind, body, and their leadership potential."

The 2009 program will take place October 12 to 23. Students have until May 1, 2009 to submit an application for the 2009 forum. Application brochures and more information about the Forum are available at high schools throughout the province and on the Lieutenant Governor's web site at www.ltgov.sk.ca.

Criteria for selection will include:

1. Leadership in school activities
2. Leadership in the com-

munity

3. Academic achievement
4. Essay outlining leadership in school and the com-

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5. Accomplishments, recognition, awards, honours, and scholarships.

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In June, the Gateway REDA distributed a 10-page full color newspaper section to 290,000 households in southern Alberta, focusing on opportunities in southeast Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba and on the stories of people who have moved here. This section was designed by the World-Spectator. Check it out at gatewayreda.com

We are now working on a section that will reach households in Windsor and southwestern Ontario in the new year.

This section will focus on

- A. Regional business investment opportunities
- B. Careers & job opportunities
- C. Real-estate (home and lot opportunities)
- D. Opportunities in the trades
- E. Stories of people who have moved to the region
- F. Regional quality of life
- G. Community profiles
- H. Regional profiles

Our first project was assisted with a financial contribution from the REDA Enhancement Fund. We have applied for funding for this second phase, which keeps advertising costs down. We are targeting an area of Ontario where there have been layoffs in the automotive sector, and where the future of remaining jobs in the industry is in doubt.

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