

# Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

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A farmer takes off some of his crop near Wawota. Harvest is almost complete in Southeast Saskatchewan.

## Heartbreak for farmers:

# Crops that looked good coming in at low yields

BY KARA KINNA

It was supposed to be the year that made up for all the bad years.

Crops were looking good out in the field, and prices are strong.

But now that farmers are getting through harvest, yields of grains and oilseeds are nowhere near what many were expecting.

"It was shaping up to be just the perfect harvest," says Murray Bruce, summing up the thoughts of most farmers in the weeks before harvest began. "I would have expected an above average crop. If it looks good you think it's going to be good. There were lots of plants with lots of foliage and big leaves. It looked fine, but until you put the combine in and actually combine it, that's what really tells the story. And once you get it to the terminal, that tells you what you've got in black and white."

Like many farmers in Southeast Saskatchewan, Bruce seeded two crops—wheat and canola—on his farm in the Moosomin area. He says both crops were looking good, but come harvest he was in for a surprise.

While the wheat is providing an average crop at about 40 bushels an acre, it's the canola that is the big disappointment. Bruce expected his wheat to yield about 50 bushels an acre, and the canola 40 bushels an acre. Instead he says his canola crop is giving him just over 20 bushels an acre.

"It's quite a bit below what we expected because the stand and the swath looked good," he says. "We still had an awful lot of drowned out area from the wet weather in the spring, but the rest of the crop looked good all year."

So what happened?

Bruce says it was a combination of factors.

"The canola had two main problems—it had a disease called aster yellows. We've always had that in the canola, but it's never near the level it was this year and that took away from the yield, and we had quite a bit of sclerotinia fungus in the canola, worse than I've ever seen it—it's as bad as it's ever been. So it is a combination of the two—sclerotinia and

aster yellows—along with the wet spring and drowned out areas."

Aster yellows are small leaf hoppers that come up from the U.S. by travelling on currents of air.

"We've always had it, but it's never been a yield factor before," says Bruce. "They say because of a warm winter it came up to Canada a month earlier than normal, and apparently it gives the canola flower a virus. Usually 10 per cent of the leaf hoppers carry this virus, and it was up to 30 or 35 per cent this year."

Sclerotinia, on the other hand, thrived on the moist conditions created by heavy and constant rains in the spring.

"The high humidity nights—the fungal diseases love that high humidity," says Bruce, "and during the summer too there were very few mornings when you would get up and the grass wasn't wet."

Bruce adds that a weekend of high winds in August also took its toll on the crops.

"That hard, 80 kilometre wind we had, that shelled and rolled a lot of the canola too, so that cost us some bushels. And also it did shell some of the wheat."

But it wasn't only disease and a windy weekend that hurt this year's canola crops. According to a number of farmers, lots of heat and very little rain in July didn't help either.

"Back in July I would have thought the canola would be a 40 bushel crop, but it's certainly not. We might average 30," says Bruce Dunsmore, who farms in the Rocanville area. "If we make 30 we'll be satisfied now. But we lost 10 bushels an acre for sure. It was looking really good in July until it got dried out."

"First it was disease, and then in July we only got two tenths (of rain) once and three tenths once and that's all the rain we got in July."

"Before those aster yellows showed up and before the sclerotinia showed up, and before it was dry, it was just a beautiful crop."

Dunsmore says the hot, dry weather caused small pods on the canola plants.

But he says he's not complaining, and he doesn't consider this year's harvest to be a writeoff for farmers, especially if they've planted wheat.

Aside from some of his crop drowning out in the spring, he says he's quite happy with his wheat, which is giving him an average to above average crop this year.

"We're not disappointed, it's still a pretty good crop," he says. "I've had 57 crops—we have to take it as it comes. You take it in your stride, it's all you can do."

"That's very much the talk, that the wheat is good and the canola is poor, and you can't have everything good at once. Wheat is a pretty strong crop in heat. Wheat will withstand heat a lot better than canola."

"I think everyone will be generally satisfied, and it's been a beautiful harvest so far."

"We had a lot worse last year, and then two years before that we had excellent crops—you can't have butter on both sides of the bread."

Tim Lincoln, who farms in the Wawota area and owns Lincoln Farm Supply, says there is high disease pressure in all crops in the Wawota area, including wheat which has been hit with Fusarium.

While wheat is still the stronger crop, he adds that barley is also yielding poor results so far this harvest.

As for canola, it's the same story as everywhere else.

"Virtually the difference is whether people sprayed their canola crops," he says. "And the average for most farms that didn't spray would be 20 to 24 bushels, and if you sprayed you're getting about seven bushels more."

Lincoln says the one offsetting factor this year is high commodity prices, but he says it all comes down to bushels in the bin in the end.

"That's what the whole talk of the industry was—everyone was talking about this \$14 canola and \$9 wheat. Well it doesn't matter what it's worth if you don't have it. It's like having a lottery ticket you don't buy—you always use the same number

and on Tuesday night you don't have it when they call it.

"I would think the biggest thing is overall the farmers have to be happy with their results compared to 2011. Going forward in this area we are not fighting the moisture problems we were last fall. There are fields we are swathing through that were full (of water) in the spring."

Chris Thomas at the Parrish and Heimbecker grain terminal in Moosomin says this year's harvest has been more bitter than sweet for farmers.

"First of all the wheat has been a pleasant surprise—it's yielding better than expected, but Fusarium is downgrading 90 per cent of it to a two," he says.

"Barley is another huge disappointment—it doesn't like wet feet, and it has been a bit of a disaster too."

"Disappointed, I just don't know any other word to describe it, especially when you have the stand and the swath there that looks like it should be better than it is."

Thomas says the high commodity prices had a lot of farmers hoping for a fantastic year.

"That's the other thing that was so disappointing—they were looking for the potential for such high income if they hit even average yields on the canola, and with prices where they're at, there was a lot of optimism that was shattered."

He says he expects some farmers to apply for Crop Insurance.

"I think some will be applying for Crop Insurance. I think harvest will be pretty-much done in the next week or two and they will start assessing what they got and whether they should apply for Crop Insurance."

"Fortunately there was a lot of wheat that went in, and that is going to offset some of the other problems."

"They were reporting a bumper crop and that's not going to happen. Until the guys got the combines out and the grain in the bins, they thought it was going to happen too, because it was looking pretty good."

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**Back to school**

Students in Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba returned to school last week after summer holidays officially came to an end.

Left: Mathieu and Burke from Moosomin's MacLeod Elementary Kindergarten class on the first day of school last week.

**Letters about key events in MB history uncovered in Scotland**

The National Records of Scotland has uncovered two letters shedding light on a couple of key moments in Canadian history.

Registrar George MacKenzie say one letter illuminates more about the arrival of the Selkirk Settlers, who brought wheat to Manitoba from Scotland 200 years ago.

The other is an account of the Battle of Seven

Oaks, a fight between the rival fur-trading companies Hudson's Bay and the Northwest Company.

The Selkirk Settlers were the first Europeans to establish permanent residence along the Red River in what is now the City of Winnipeg.

MacKenzie says the letters' significance and connection to the Selkirk Settles bicentenary only

surfaced a few weeks ago, adding they provide a direct connection to the past through the minds of the people involved.

Copies of the letters will be presented to the Lt.-Gov. Philip Lee by the current Lord Selkirk, the Rt. Hon. James Douglas-Hamilton, sometime this week in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Selkirk Settler's arrival in Manitoba.



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Kevin Weedmark photo

## Needs study approved

The Regina Qu'Appelle Health Authority has approved a needs assessment for the Moosomin area that will look at the health care needs of the area and determine if any changes are needed to meet those needs. The Moosomin and District Health Care Foundation had made a presentation in June requesting the needs assessment, suggesting that additional acute care and long-term care beds are needed at the Southeast Integrated Care Centre in Moosomin, above. The needs assessment will be completed by February.

# RQHA approves Moosomin needs study

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region will conduct a needs assessment to determine if the health needs of the Moosomin area are being met or if changes to facilities or services are needed to meet those needs.

The Regional Health Authority decided at a meeting in August to move forward with a needs assessment for Moosomin. Karen Earnshaw, the Regina-Qu'Appelle Health Region's acting vice president of rural, restorative, and continuing care, told the World-Spectator that a consultant is already in place for the Moosomin area study, and the study should be completed by February 2013. "We were very confident that this would go ahead, so we've already started work on it," said Earnshaw.

"We hired a consultant whose specialty is needs assessment, and she has set some aggressive timelines to complete this." A small steering committee will oversee the needs assessment.

The committee will include a representative of the Moosomin and District Health Care Foundation, a manager from SEICC, a data analyst for the health region, a representative of population health, Karen Earnshaw, and Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Chief Operating Officer Michael Redenbach. Earnshaw says the consultant working on the needs assessment will be focused on gathering

as much input as possible from people in Moosomin and surrounding communities. "She has a plan to engage folks from Moosomin and surrounding areas," Earnshaw said. "She will be gathering input from the physicians at the Family Practice Centre, she will be speaking with health administration from Sun Country, we will be looking at Wawota, Maryfield, Rocanville, Elkhorn—all the surrounding communities—she will be talking to special interest groups—the seniors, the mines—so we should have a lot of input from around the area."

Specific terms of reference for the needs assessment will be established by the steering committee. "In general, the needs assessment will collect data, it will engage community folks, we will ensure we hear from people who provide and seek services—there will be public consultation," said Earnshaw.

"We want to know about access to acute care services, mental health, emergency transport services, do we have the right mix of services for the community right now? It's important to look at all these." The consultant wants to get all this done and provide a final report by the end of February. That's a very aggressive timeline—there are a lot of people to meet and a lot of work to do."

The next step once the needs assessment is complete will depend on the findings. "Depending on what the infor-

mation tells us, depending on what this looks like, other decision-makers may need to be involved," said Earnshaw.

"Depending on the findings, this information may need to be shared with the ministry of health," said Earnshaw. Bill MacPherson, chair of the Moosomin and District Health Care Foundation, said he is happy to see the needs assessment going ahead. "The reason why I think they're full speed ahead is they realize the facility wasn't big enough to begin with," he said. "You (The World-Spectator) said that and I said that, and I think they realize that now. Moosomin's a big medical centre, and more services would help everyone out in the whole Regina Qu'Appelle region."

The health care foundation is made up of mayors and Reeves of municipalities in the Moosomin region. The foundation was responsible for fundraising and collecting municipal contributions for the local share of the original construction cost of the Southeast Integrated Care Centre. MacPherson has no doubt what he would like to see come out of the needs assessment.

"I've always said if we had another 10 long-term beds it would really take the pressure off seniors having to go to Woleseley. If we could get 10 acute care beds, that would be a big improvement, and if we could get more recovery beds so our talented doctors could do more surgeries, that would really benefit the region." The SEICC currently has 58 long-term care beds and 27 acute care beds. The Regional Health Authority met with the Moosomin and District Health Care Foundation in June to hear the health care foundation's arguments that a needs assessment is

warranted.

At that time, Regina-Qu'Appelle Health Region CEO Dwight Nelson told the World-Spectator that he believed the region should move forward with a needs assessment. "Their bottom line request was to say we think it's time for a needs assessment, and I completely agree," Nelson said. He said that population growth in the area and the growing importance of Moosomin as a centre of medical care both support a needs assessment.

"There are two things that support the idea of a needs assessment—the growth going on in your area for one thing, and secondly because of the medical staff situation you are providing services to quite a range outside of Moosomin."

The needs assessment will get under way shortly and will take four to six months to complete. "If we really do one of these assessments thoughtfully, we have to look at data regarding population, we have to have focus groups in Moosomin and surrounding communities."

Most times we would hold one or two community forums so people can raise concerns or suggestions. "If it shows a need for new beds, we would make a submission to the provincial government for those beds. We would have to have the provincial government's approval as they're the funding partner."

Nelson said he is impressed by the work of the Moosomin and District Health Care Foundation. "The foundation has raised in total \$13 million over the years and that's remarkable for the population," he said. "I've said to people in Regina that if they supported health care proportionally the way Moosomin does, it would be amazing."



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# Angels of Hope continues to grow

BY KARA KINNA

When Terry Tocker started Angels of Hope animal rescue, she simply wanted to find homes for pets who were no longer wanted and for strays animals without a home.

Now, a year and a half since it began, the charity has helped 425 animals and Tocker has seen everything from physically abused animals to animals that have been hit by cars and left to die in the ditch.

"It's a good thing, and there are days I wish I didn't have a full time job," says an exasperated-sounding Tocker. "I wish I was unemployed so I could dedicate every waking hour to it."

"It's a service. Right now we're dealing with 26 different communities plus one reserve. We are hitting 425 animals that we have dealt with in a year and a half, so when I say we're busy, we're busy. And unfortunately we don't know how to say no."

Tocker, who hails from Esterhazy, says she got the idea to start the charity after talking with the Esterhazy dog catcher and realizing that there were stray animals, especially cats, who were being euthanized in the winter.

"I have four dogs of my

own," she says. "I look at them and think of how lucky they are and of how many animals out there that are suffering, and I thought there has to be something I can do."

That "something" turned into a board with an executive, numerous charity events throughout the year, and a website that lists an average of 30 dogs and cats for adoption, all of them taking up residence in "foster" homes until permanent owners can be found for them.

Tocker says Angels of Hope animal rescue is often turned to because people realize their charity does not euthanize animals (except in extreme cases when an animal has been injured beyond recovery and is in pain), and will care for them until a suitable home can be found.

The charity provides food, shelter and medical attention to the animals they take in, and ensures all pets are spayed or neutered and have their shots before going to a new home. Tocker says adoption fees are nominal, covering only a small portion of the vet costs, and anyone who adopts an animal from their charity must sign something saying that if they can not care for the an-



One of the many animals up for adoption with Angels of Hope.

imal, or no longer want the animal, they must return it to the charity. "We don't want it to be sloughed off onto a home where it's not wanted," she says.

Tocker says the charity never lets an animal go to a new home without first finding out if the owner will properly care for it. She says it's not uncommon for

Angels of Hope to follow up with their adoptions afterwards as well, to see how the new pet is settling in.

She also adds that the charity does not ask ques-

tions if owners are looking to get rid of an animal. "We don't care why they want to get rid of it," she says. "We are just happier than ever to know that we are taking an animal that can make someone very happy."

Angels of Hope presently works with four vet clinics in the region, including Valleyflats Veterinary Services in Moosomin. Valleyflats held a barbecue and garage sale on Saturday, August 11 with proceeds going toward the Angels of Hope.

"They help us out quite a bit with our stray animals, so if we have an animal with no home they take it," says Nicole Bremner with Valleyflats Veterinary Services. "Sometimes when owners come in and they are having a problem or want to euthanize, we can say there are other options to euthanization. They've saved quite a few animals here."

"It's a really good thing to raise money for."

"We're here for the animals. We are not her to euthanize any unnecessarily, so to have the option for rescue is very helpful."

Valleyflats Vet Clinic began working with Angels of Hope last October, and since then has been able to save 25 animals.

*Continued on page 7*



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# More volunteers, foster homes needed

Continued from page 6

Ashley Schlamp, with Valleyflats, says at one time or another, all of the staff at the clinic have adopted animals just to keep them from euthanization.

"We'd try to find them homes, and they have three days generally, and if we can't find them a home or if they are unfit to go to a home, then they do get euthanized," says Schlamp. "But we try our best not to do that, and that's why working with Angels of Hope has really helped."

The fundraiser on August 11 raised some money for Angels of Hope, and six dogs were adopted that day. A number of the charity's dogs were on display that day.

Because the charity has become so active and has taken on so many animals, Tocker says fundraising has become a huge part of what they do.

"We do so many things it's pathetic," she says with a laugh, "but that just goes to show you how eager we are."

Tocker says the charity holds raffles, sells pet pillows and blankets and homemade dog cookies, does highway cleaning, and will even bartend or



Valleyflats Veterinary Services held a barbecue and garage sale on August 11 to raise funds for Angels of Hope. The charity regularly takes stray animals and unwanted animals from the vet clinic as an alternative to euthanization.

help with cleanup at local events. Angels of Hope holds an annual "Santa Paws" event for pets and owners to have their photos taken with Santa each year, and had its first annual Cause for Paws walkathon this spring as well. The charity is presently selling tickets on a

\$1,000 travel voucher, and once a year the four vet clinics that support Angels of Hope contact their pet food suppliers for donations of pet food.

"We'll pretty much do anything except stand on the street corner," laughs Tocker, who adds that people are welcome to contact their group to help out with local functions.

Tocker also says the

group is constantly looking for donations—everything from pet food to blankets and pet equipment is needed to keep their animals healthy and happy while they stay with the charity before finding new homes.

Presently Tocker says there is a big need for more foster families for the animals, and for volunteers who simply want to work with their or-

ganization. Tocker says keeping the animals in foster homes, rather than kenneling them, ensures that the animals remain socialized before going to a new home. "They have no expenses whatsoever," she says of the foster homes. "We provide the food and medical attention, if they can provide the home."

Tocker says the next big aim of Angels of Hope is

to build a facility to kennel the animals temporarily if a foster home cannot be found. Presently the group has \$10,000 set aside for a new building, and have acquired the land, but Tocker says more volunteers need to be found to help with their pets first before moving ahead with construction.

So why do Tocker and the rest of the Angels of Hope volunteers continue to do what they do?

"To give a life to the homeless, the sick, the injured, to educate people to know that we are here and we are another option to euthanization," says Tocker. "Our motive, our mission is to find those animals that are needing help, to have a voice for the voiceless. There are just too many out there that are unwanted, are strays, hungry, or hurt."

Tocker says it's not uncommon for stray animals to come to Angels of Hope injured and in poor condition. She has seen open wounds where some animals have been shot, and in one case the charity received a dog that had been slashed across the throat.

"Sometimes it's best we don't know what these animals have been through," she says, "because it would just tear us apart."

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**OCTOBER**  
Oct 2 - Tentative Presort All Breeds 9 a.m.  
Oct 9 - Simmental Presort 9 a.m.  
Oct 16 - Angus Presort 9 a.m.  
Oct 23 - Charolais Presort 9 a.m.  
Oct 30 - Angus Presort 9 a.m.

**Delivery for October sales:**  
Sunday 12 noon - 5 p.m.  
Monday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. for Presort Calves,  
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### OCTOBER

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### NOVEMBER

NOV. 7, 10 14, 21, 24 PRE-SORTED CALF SALE

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DEC. 5, 19 REGULAR SALE

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### September

19	WEDNESDAY	REGULAR CATTLE SALE	9:00 A.M.
26	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE REGULAR SALE TO FOLLOW	10:00 A.M.

### October

**BUTCHER CATTLE SALES START MONDAY, OCTOBER 15**  
**SELLING COWS, BULLS AND FAT CATTLE**

3	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE REGULAR SALE TO FOLLOW	10:00 A.M.
10	WEDNESDAY	REGULAR CATTLE SALE/ GREEN TAG ANGUS SALE	9:00 A.M.
13	<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>PRAIRIE LANE ANGUS DISPERSAL SALE</b>	
15	MONDAY	BUTCHER SALE	9:00 A.M.
17	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE ANGUS INFLUENCE	10:00 A.M.
22	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 A.M.
24	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE	10:00 A.M.
29	MONDAY	BUTCHER CATTLE SALE	9:00 A.M.
31	WEDNESDAY	PRESORT FEEDER SALE CHAROLAIS INFLUENCE	10:00 A.M.

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# Gov't reminds farmers to be safe during harvest

The health and safety of farmers and farm workers is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. During high activity on the

farm, specifically harvest, it is important that safe farming practices are followed.

"Identifying hazards and assessing risks

when working with machinery, tools and equipment are important factors in eliminating injuries," Labour Relations and Work-

place Safety Minister Don Morgan said. "We want to make sure everyone returns home safely every day."

On average each year,

approximately 14 individuals die from farm related incidents. About 75 per cent of farm-related deaths and 50 per cent of farm-related

injuries are machinery-related.

For more information about farm safety, visit [www.lrws.gov.sk.ca/](http://www.lrws.gov.sk.ca/) farm-safety-guide.

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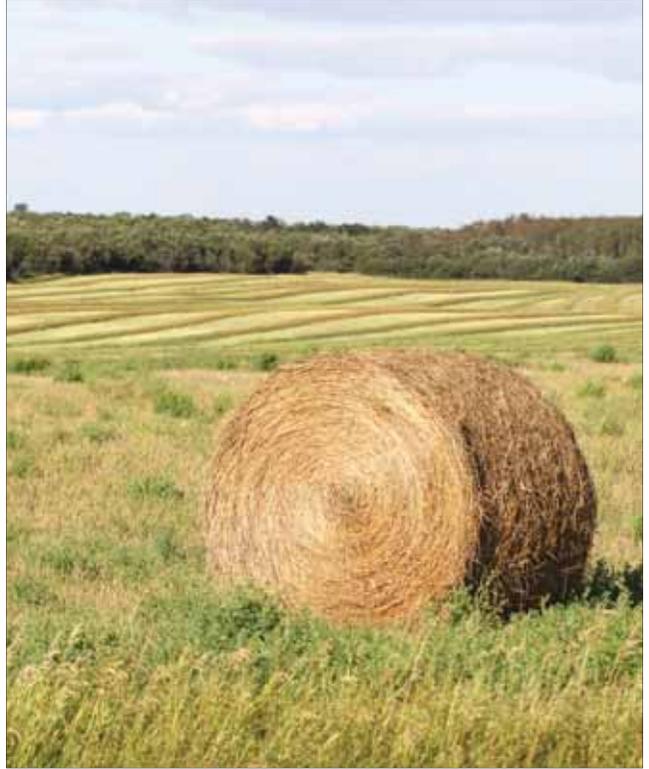


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**Harvest scene**

A round bale gives way to fields of swathed canola in this typical Prairie harvest scene. This photo was taken near Spy Hill, Sask.



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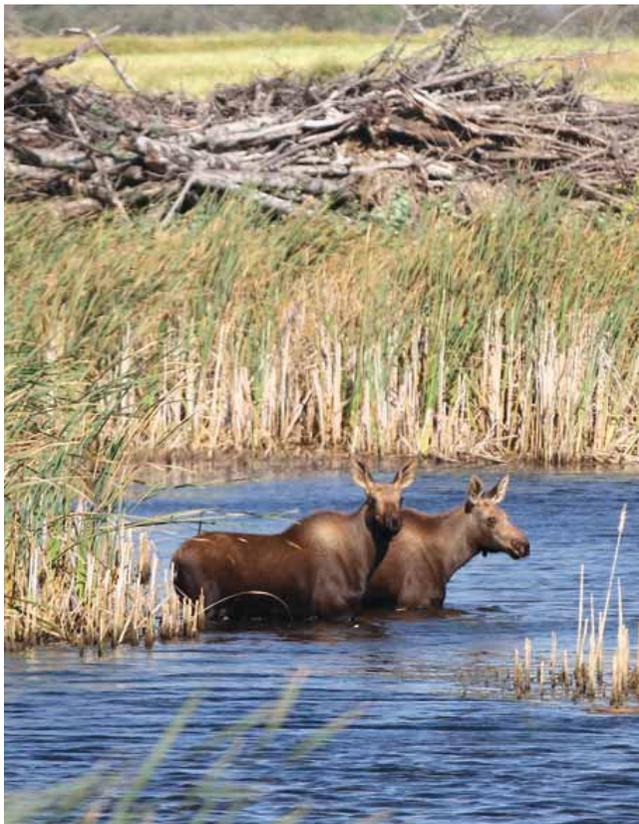
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Kara Kinna photos



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- 2008 CHEV 1500 LT CREW RWD 5.3L V8, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Buckets, 17" Alum, Blue Granite, 57,367 kms ..... **\$19,995**

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- 2006 GMC 1500 EXT 4x4 SPECIAL EDITION 4.8L V8, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, 40/20/40, 17" Alum, Tubes, Black, 116,261 kms ..... **\$15,995**
- ### OPTIMUM PRE-OWNED SUVS
- 2011 CHEV EQUINOX LTZ 1SC AWD, 2.4L 4cyl, ACT, PW-PL-PS, Htd. Leather, UVC, AP3, 17" Alum, XM, UK3, 47,461 kms ..... **\$27,995**
  - 2011 GMC ACADIA SLE AWD, 3.6L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, 7 Pass, KA1, BTV, 18"Alum, UVC, U07, V92, UK3, Cyber Gray, 32,140 kms ..... **\$31,995**
  - 2010 GMC ACADIA SLT AWD 3.6L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, Htd. Leather, 7Pass, CSU, BTV, U07, UVC, 19"Alum, Flaps, White Diamond, 62,130 kms ..... **\$31,995**
  - 2010 CHEV EQUINOX LT1 AWD, 2.4L, 4CYL, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, 17"Alum, Keyless, XM, RED, 83,165 kms ..... **\$20,995**
  - 2009 PONTIAC TORRENT AWD 3.4L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, Buckets, AP3, 16"Alum, Pioneer, ST, Htd. Leather, Silver, 107,193 kms ..... **\$17,995**
  - 2011 CHEV ENCLAVE CX1 AWD, 3.6L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, KB6, Buckets, TB5, BTV, 18"Alum, CSU, UVC, White Diamond, 88,326 kms ..... **\$30,995**
  - 2008 CHEV EQUINOX LS FWD 3.4L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, 16"Alum, CD, Keyless, Blue, 141,130 kms ..... **\$9,995**
  - 2011 HUNDAI VERACRUZ AWD LTD 3.8L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, Sunroof, DVD, AP3, Htd. Leather, 7Pass, UK3, C.J2, Steps, Mocha, 20,687 kms ..... **\$34,995**
  - 2010 CHEV EQUINOX LS AWD 2.4L 4CYL, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, 17"Alum, Keyless, Black, 64,677 kms ..... **\$22,995**
  - 2010 CHEV TRAVERSE LT FWD 3.6L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, Sunroof, DVD, 18"Alum, UK3, XM, Bluetooth, Gray, 50,866 kms ..... **\$24,995**
  - 2009 CHEV TRAVERSE LT AWD 3.6L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, PPass, BTV, 18"Alum, U07, UK3, XM, V92, Greenmoss, 114,561 kms ..... **\$20,995**
  - 2007 PONTIAC TORRENT AWD 3.4L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, Buckets, AP3, 17"Alum, Sunroof, 6-CD, Pioneer, Str White, 82,798 kms ..... **\$15,995**
  - 2011 BUICK ENCLAVE CX1 LTD AWD, 3.6L V6, ACT, PW, PL, PS, Htd. leather, CSU, BTV, 18"Alum, UVC, U07, V92, Red Jewel, 30,473 kms ..... **\$39,995**
  - 2010 GMC TERRAIN SLE2 AWD, 2.4L, 4 cyl, ACT, PW, PL, PS, Htd. Buckets, BTV, 18" Alum, UVC, USB, Cyber Gray, 63,496 kms ..... **\$23,995**
  - 2010 FORD ESCAPE XLT AWD, 3.0L V6, ACT, PW, PL, PS, Htd. leather Buckets, AUO, Alum, CD, Black, 39,773 kms ..... **\$23,995**

### OPTIMUM PRE-OWNED SUVS

- 2010 CHEV EQUINOX LT1 AWD 2.4L, 4 cyl, ACT, PW, PL, Buckets, BTV, 17" Alum, UK3, Bluetooth, Silver, 83,399 kms ..... **\$22,995**
  - 2010 CHEV EQUINOX LT1 FWD 2.4L, 4 cyl, ACT, PW, PL, PS, Buckets, Keyless, 17"Alum, Mocha 75,442 kms ..... **\$21,995**
  - AWD, 3.6L V6, ACT, PW, PL, 7 Pass., 18"Alum, Keyless Gold, 109,951 kms ..... **\$22,995**
  - 2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CX AWD, 3.6L V6, ACT, PW, PL, PS, 7 Pass Buckets 18"Alum AP3 U07 CD C.J2, Red Jewel, 144,738 kms ..... **\$21,995**
  - 2008 PONTIAC TORRENT AWD 3.4L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Htd. Leather, 18" Alum, Black, 69,663 kms ..... **\$25,995**
  - 2010 GMC ACADIA SLE FWD 3.6L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, 8 Pass, 18" Alum, Keyless, XM, White, 62,450 kms ..... **\$26,995**
  - 2008 CADILLAC ESCALADE AWD 6.2L V8, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Lux Pkg, Nav, DVD, White Diamond, 144,442 kms ..... **\$34,995**
  - 2008 PONTIAC TORRENT AWD 3.4L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, Buckets, 17" Alum, XM, CD, Black, 159,905 kms ..... **\$10,995**
  - 2005 CHEV EQUINOX LT AWD 3.4L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Htd. Leather, Buckets, 17" Alum, CD, Gold, 152,690 kms ..... **\$10,995**
  - 2005 CHEV EQUINOX LS AWD 3.4L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, Buckets, Keyless, Gray, 92,702 kms ..... **\$12,995**
- ### OPTIMUM PRE-OWNED VANS
- 2009 CHEV UPLANDER LT EXT 3.9L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Quad Buckets, 17" Alum, DVD, Dual Pwr Doors, Brown, 90,001 kms ..... **\$13,995**
- ### OPTIMUM PRE-OWNED CARS
- 2010 TOYOTA CAMRY S Sedan, 4CYL, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, Gray, 51,218 kms ..... **\$14,995**
  - 2010 CHEV IMPALA LTZ Team Canada, 3.9L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL-PS, Htd. Leather, CF5, AP3, 18"Alum, F&R, RR Seat, Gold, 64,643 kms ..... **\$17,995**
  - 2010 CHEV COBALT LT Coupe, Team Canada, 2.2L, 4CYL, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, 16"Alum, AP3, CF5, USB, White, 44,150 kms ..... **\$12,995**
  - 2008 BUICK LUCERNE CXL 3.8L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL, Htd. Leather Bench, AP3, 17"Alum, U07, Htd. ST Wheel, White, 50,521 kms ..... **\$16,995**

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- 2007 BUICK ALLURE CX 3.8L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, AP3, 17"Alum, Silver, 104,342 kms ..... **\$11,995**
- 2007 PONTIAC G5 SE SEDAN 2.2L 4CYL, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, Keyless, Spoiler, AP3, Blue, 108,521 kms ..... **\$9,995**
- 2009 CHEV COBALT LT COUPE Team Canada, 2.2L, 4CYL, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, AP3, 16"Alum, Spoiler, XM, UK3, Red, 117,178kms ..... **\$10,995**
- 2008 PONTIAC G6 SE SEDAN 3.5L V6, A-C-T, PW-PL, Buckets, 17"Alum, Keyless, CD, Dk Gray, 67,914 kms ..... **\$13,995**
- 2011 CHEV MALIBU LS SEDAN 2.4L 4cyl, ACT, PW, PL, Buckets, Keyless, 17"Alum, CD, White, 64,997 kms ..... **\$15,995**
- 2010 CHEV IMPALA LT 3.5L V6, ACT, PW, PL, PS, AP3, Buckets, 16"Alum, UK3, C.J3, Bluetooth, Dark Blue, 57,577 kms ..... **\$14,995**
- 2010 CHEV COBALT LS SEDAN 2.2L 4cyl, 5 speed, Buckets, CD, Silver, 44,774 kms ..... **\$11,995**
- 2010 CHEV COBALT LT SEDAN 2.2L 4cyl, 5 speed, ACT, PW, PL, Buckets, Keyless, 15"Alum, CD, Silver, 103,680 kms ..... **\$11,995**
- 2008 BUICK ALLURE CX SEDAN 3.8L V6, ACT, PW, PL, PS, Buckets, Keyless, Alum Wheels, Chrome pkg, Silver, 110,173 kms ..... **\$13,995**
- 2011 HUNDAI GENESIS 2.0T COUPE Premium, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, Htd. Leather, 18" Alum, Keyless 6-CD, Black, 12,059 kms ..... **\$24,995**
- 2010 CHEV IMPALA LS SEDAN 3.5L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, LS Pkg, 17" Alum, Buckets, Dark Blue, 46,109 kms ..... **\$15,995**
- 2009 CHEV COBALT LT SEDAN 2.2L 4cyl, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, Buckets, 16" Alum, XM, Silver, 94,200 kms ..... **\$10,995**
- 2009 CHEV COBALT LS SEDAN 2.2L 4cyl, 5 Speed, Buckets, CD, Silvermoss, 62,975 kms ..... **\$10,995**
- 2009 PONTIAC G6 SE SEDAN 2.4L 4cyl, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, Buckets, Keyless, 17" Alum, CD, Dark Gray, 82,578 kms ..... **\$11,995**
- 2008 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT SEDAN 3.8L V6, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Buckets, Keyless, 16" Alum, CD, Silver, 112,779 kms ..... **\$11,995**
- 2008 BUICK LUCERNE CXL 3.8L V8, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, PS, Leather Bench, 17" Alum, XM, White Diamond, 121,430 kms ..... **\$11,995**
- 2007 FORD FOCUS ZX5 SES HATCHBACK 4cyl, AC, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, CD, Red, 136,886 kms ..... **\$7,995**

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## Roblin, Russell area detour can handle RTAC loads

Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation advises truckers and farmers in the Roblin and Russell area the detour around the damaged area of PTH 83 will be rated for Road and Transportation Association of Canada (RTAC) loads, the maximum legal truck weight, following work on PR 482.

A portion of PTH 83 north of Russell was closed due to a landslide in July. Effective immediately, all traffic will be able to use PTH 5 west of Roblin and PR 482 as the designated detour.

PR 482 can handle RTAC loads now. Work will begin on the road in September to ensure it can continue to carry RTAC loads with increased traffic throughout the fall and winter. All bridges and structures on the new portion of the detour route can also handle RTAC legal truck weights.

Speed limit reductions will be put in place at points along the detour to ensure the safety of all motorists using this route.

During the spring of 2013, typical annual road weight restrictions will be put in place on this portion of PR 482 to protect the road's structure during the spring thaw period.

## Wall heads to Asia

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall headed to China on a trade mission.

Wall left Saturday to Asia, with stops in Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, and China.

He says Saskatchewan is in a unique position with the amount of resources such as potash, oil and uranium able to be exported to the region.

Wall will join Alberta Premier Alison Redford and B.C. Premier Christy Clark to address the World Economic Forum's meeting of the new champions.

Then he will travel to Indonesia, to meet with its ministers of agriculture, and trade.

Indonesia is Saskatchewan's fifth largest export market, with major exports of potash, wheat, and semi-chemical wood pulp—50 per cent of all Canadian trade to that country comes from Saskatchewan.



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**OCTOBER:**

- 2 – Saskatoon Auction Site
- 11 – Chris & Jacquie Pascoe Ceylon, SK
- 13 – Junek Farms Inc. Esterhazy, SK
- 18 – Vogelaar Bros Farm Pincher Creek, AB
- 22 – John & Teresa Rempel Elmworth, AB
- 24 – Assedo Farms Ltd. Odessa, SK
- 25 – Estate of David Verigin Veregin, SK
- 30 – Regina Auction Site

**NOVEMBER:**

- 3 – Leslie & Kim Just Bruno, SK
- 15 – Lethbridge Auction Site

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Kevin Weedmark photo

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# Name that town

When it came to slapping names on chunks of this country our forefathers (and mothers) were a relatively adventurous lot. They tapped royalty (Victoria, Regina, Alberta), explorers (Vancouver, Hudson), local topography (Montreal, after Mount Royal), forgettable politicians (Kitchener, Hamilton) and saints (Sault Ste Marie, St. Catharines, St. John and just in case we missed the point—St. John's).

Occasionally they aped their betters (London, Warsaw, Paris, Berlin—all in Ontario); other times they realized they couldn't improve on the originals and simply stole the First Nations names already in place—Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Toronto, Missis-sauga.

Eclectic and wide-ranging—not a dull or boring name in the lot.

Not like, well, Dull and Boring. You'll find the former in Scotland and the latter in Oregon. Dull (population 84) is a tiny village in Perthshire; Boring is a not-so-tiny burg of ten thousand or so Oregonians located about 20 miles south of Portland.

Ironic when you think about it. We Canadians are the ones with the rep for being dull and boring, but you wouldn't know it by the names of our towns and cities. As a matter of fact, a visitor might get the impression Canucks are downright colorful—and unabashedly randy.

From the far north (Steambath Lake, Yukon; Hump Island, North West Territories) to the deep south (Middlesex, Ontario)



Arthur Black

Canada has a steamy sheet of place names that would make Madonna blush.

British Columbia has a Sin Lake, Moan Creek, Shag Rock and Peekaboo Falls. Alberta can claim Sexsmith and Spanking Lake. Saskatchewan? Well, there's Lust Lake and Climax, for starters. Manitoba gives us Love Lake, Cuddle Bay and Strip Rapids.

In Ontario there's Flesherston, Bottomlands and Peeler Lake. And Quebec? Quelle surprise—la belle province teems with suggestive nomenclature—Lac Brassiere, Lac de la Caresse, Lac Eros and even Lac Latex.

Plus—(gasp!)—the Gaspé peninsula. The Maritimes won't be left behind in the erotic topography department—not while there's a Kissing Brook, a Lover's Cove and an Etang Slippery Stick to be found on your GPS.

And then there's Newfoundland. Even if the entire upper two-thirds of the North American continent was as dull and boring

as, well, Dull and Boring, we'd still have Canada's youngest province whistling and twirling its moustache, winking like the porch light on Hugh Hefner's pad.

Look at the names in that province! Never mind the obvious Dildo and Come-by-Chance—how about Bare Bum Pond? Naked Man? Leading Tickles? And my favorite—Pinch Gut Tickle.

I'm not sure if that's an S & M option or an illegal wrestling hold, but it sounds way more intriguing than Lloydminster or Sydney.

Naming geographical entities is a tricky business; you want to be careful who gets the honor to take it on. There's a city named A in Sweden and a bay named Y in the Zuyder Zee. France has a village named Ws, a river named As and a lake named Oo.

On the other hand, there is a town in Wales that goes by the name of Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwyllantysil-iogogoch.

Some people think we'd avoid confusion and misunderstanding if citizens got to vote on the names of towns, rivers, public buildings, etc.

Don't bet on it. Recently, a Slovakian government opened on-line voting to name a bridge over the Morava River. Seventy-five percent of the populace came up with the same choice.

And that's why the new span over the Morava River will be known to posterity as Chuck Norris Bridge.

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# AG BRIEFS

## Canola yields disappointing

Canola growers across much of western Canada are reporting generally disappointing yields.

Neil Townsend, Director of Market Research with the Canadian Wheat Board, says that while the crops looked good in the field, yields are lower.

Townsend suspects disease is to blame.

The board has lowered its canola production estimate to 14.7 million tonnes and Townsend says the estimate will likely drop further.

## Expert says swine flu will show up in Canada

A flu expert with the B.C. Centre for Disease Control says there may not be enough testing going on in Canada to find swine flu cases.

Dr. Danuta Skowronski says that while authorities say the disease isn't detected in Canada, she says most people recognize it's only a matter of time until it is.

The United States has reported the first known death caused by the new swine flu that has been jumping from pigs to people.

The Public Health Agency of Canada reiterated Friday that there have been no cases detected in this country.

## Residents hope to save bridge

A group of residents in a Manitoba community are trying to save an 85-year-old bridge that once belonged to a local dairy farmer.

Several of the residents of Whitmouth are dairy farmers, too, and say they don't like the 11-kilometre detour they have to make since the bridge is a problem for shipping their milk.

The original owner donated the bridge to the local municipality, but the municipality decided it wasn't worth maintaining after it was damaged by flooding in 1997.

The group has so far raised close to \$250,000 on

their own but they need almost five times that amount.

## NAFTA could hinder food production

A Canadian agronomist argues the North American Free Trade Agreement could devastate our ability to produce food.

Wendy Holm says that's because the deal costs us our sovereign rights over resources like water.

She says it's already becoming a problem in Alberta, where farmers compete with foreign oil extraction companies for the province's limited water resources.

Holm argues we could make a good argument for protecting our water resources with a couple of minor amendments to NAFTA.

She says Canadian politicians and negotiators misled the public when the deal was signed by telling us water was not at risk.

## Small town theatres facing financial crunch

Many small-town movie theatres across Canada are facing a financial crisis as the industry moves from film reels to digital distribution.

Souris, Manitoba has come up with a fundraising solution where they sold tickets for an outdoor screening.

Proceeds go towards buying a digital projector for the town's Avalon Theatre.

The projector costs \$80,000, and so far the fundraising campaign over the past five months has raised about half of that.

## Potatoes pilfered in B.C.

Farmers in Richmond, British Columbia are boiling mad after discovering someone has been pinching thousands of pounds of potatoes from their fields.

Farmer Bill Zylmans says he's long-battled fast-fingered berry pickers and has had the occasional pumpkin pilfered around Halloween.

But in this potato harvest, it appears an area the size of a football field has already

been uprooted, which he estimates amounts to more than 22-hundred kilograms of spuds worth around five thousand dollars.

Zylmans says his neighbors have experienced similar crop thefts.

Mounties say they will step up patrols in agricultural areas and deploy all-terrain vehicles aiming to catch the culprits.

## Winter wheat seeding underway in Manitoba

Winter wheat seeding

is underway in southern Manitoba, particularly in the eastern and central regions.

Pam de Rocquigny, a cereal crop specialist with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, says that research has shown seeding between August 25 and September 10 is the optimum time for getting good yield and quality.

She cautions growers against seeding too deep, despite dry conditions in many areas.

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It was back to school for students in Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba last week. Here students Charlie and Maci play on the monkey bars at MacLeod Elementary School in Moosomin.

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- 2005 Chevrolet SSR 6.0L, auto, leather, fog lights, r. boards, alloys, tinted glass, blue, 80,000 km..... \$25,999
- 2008 GMC Sierra 1500 5.3L, auto., leather, pewter power folding ext. mirrors, tow pkg., tinted glass, 81,000 km..... \$191<sup>23</sup>b/w'
- 2011 Dodge Ram 2500 6.7L, auto diesel, tow pkg., bench seat, keyless entry, sat. radio, white, 46,342 km.... \$339<sup>82</sup>b/w'
- 2007 Dodge Ram 1500 5.7L, auto, box liner, tow pkg., tinted glass, alloys, white, 127,852 km, Sask Tax Paid ..... \$179<sup>23</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Chevrolet Avalanche 5.3L, auto, bucket seats, fog lights, r. boards, silver, 110,490 km, Sask Tax Paid..... **Just Arrived**
- 2010 Ford F150 5.4L, auto., silver, bucket seats, sat. radio, MP3 player, tinted glass, 97,715 km, Sask Tax Paid ..... **Clearance**
- 2007 Ford F150 5.4L, auto, DVD, MP3 player, tow pkg., alloys, tinted glass, dark stone, 93,773 km, Sask Tax Paid..... \$175<sup>21</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 5.3L, auto, white, box liner, r. boards, tow pkg., 81,271 km, Sask Tax Paid ..... \$190<sup>11</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Dodge Ram 1500 5.7L, auto, leather, black, tow pkg., box liner, 71,512 km, Sask Tax Paid, premium unit..... \$192<sup>63</sup>b/w'
- 2010 Ford F350 SD 6.4L, auto., diesel, white, box liner, tow pkg, fog lights, dual airbag, 96,045 km, Sask Tax Paid... \$26,900
- 2010 Dodge Ram 3500 6.7L, auto, diesel, white, bucket seats, r. boards, tow pkg, sat. radio, 100,436 km..... **Just Arrived**
- 2009 Toyota Tacoma 2.7L, manual, silver, bucket seats, tow pkg., box liner, 40,786 km, Sask Tax Paid, ..... \$189<sup>61</sup>b/w'

## SUVS

- 2009 Ford Explorer 4.6L, auto, leather, black, tinted glass, sunroof, tow pkg., 126,297 km, Sask Tax Paid ..... \$209<sup>21</sup>b/w'
- 2009 Chevrolet Equinox 3.4L, auto, black, spoiler, sat. radio, sunroof, 101,526 km, Sask Tax Paid..... **Just Arrived**
- 2010 Dodge Journey 3.5L, auto., leather, black, roof rack, tinted glass, traction control, 48,900 km, Sask Tax Paid... \$166<sup>10</sup>b/w'
- 2009 Toyota Venza 3.5L, auto, leather, blizzard pearl, nav. system, tow pkg, traction control, 74,367 km, Sask Tax Paid..... \$234<sup>16</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Ford Escape 3.0L, auto., silver, fog lights, tinted glass, traction control, 122,000 km, Sask Tax Paid..... \$129<sup>23</sup>b/w'
- 2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee 3.7L, auto., silver, MP3 player, remote start, tow pkg., 111,476 km, Sask Tax Paid..... **Clearance**
- 2008 Chevrolet Equinox 3.5L, auto, leather, silver, sunroof, roof rack, spoiler, traction control, 105,168 km..... **Just Arrived**
- 2004 GMC Envoy 4.2L, auto, leather, burgundy, roof rack, tinted glass, sunroof, tow pkg, 182,178 km, Sask Tax Paid..... \$7,900
- 2001 Ford Escape 2.0L, auto., green, intermittent wipers, CD, keyless entry, 61,629 km..... **SOLD**
- 2009 Dodge Journey Backup camera, 2.4L auto, blue, r. rack, alloys, tinted windows, 55,351 km, Sask Tax Paid **Very Clean**

## VANS

- 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan 3.3L, auto., red, roof rack, tinted glass, traction control, 117,017 km..... \$187<sup>63</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan 3.3L, auto, red, MP3 player, new tires, DVD, r. rack, 126,221 km, middle seats swivel, rear heat, Sask Tax Paid..... \$174<sup>23</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan 3.3L, auto, red, MP3 player, roof rack, tinted glass, 108,561 km, Sask Tax Paid..... \$179<sup>60</sup>b/w'
- 2008 Chevrolet Uplander 3.9L, auto., On Star, roof rack, keyless entry, gold, 74,915 km, Sask Tax Paid..... **Just Arrived**
- 2012 Dodge Grand Caravan 3.6L, auto., silver, CD, traction control, tinted glass, dual air bag, 39,702 km..... \$199<sup>52</sup>b/w'
- 2012 Dodge Grand Caravan 3.6L, auto, charcoal grey, sat. radio, traction control, dual air bag, 38,670 km..... \$199<sup>52</sup>b/w'

## CARS

- 2010 Dodge Challenger 5.7L, auto, leather, blue, spoiler, sunroof, sat. radio, 52,700 km, Sask Tax Paid, Got a Hemi! **Must See**
- 2004 Chevrolet Epica 2.5L, auto., lichen green, spoiler, dual air bag, h. mirrors, driver air bag, 148,400 km ..... \$5,900
- 2007 Ford Fusion 3.0L, AWD, auto., leather, black, fog lights, sunroof, traction control, 172,000 km ..... \$7,900
- 2010 Chrysler 300 3.5L, auto., leather, black, MP3 player, sunroof, nav. sys., tinted glass, 36,760 km..... **Just Arrived**
- 2011 Nissan Altima 2.5L, auto., grey, sunroof, tinted glass, traction control, MP3 player, dual air bag, 10,778 km..... \$191<sup>65</sup>b/w'
- 2010 Honda Civic 1.8L, auto., leather, black, fog lights, MP3 player, spoiler, sunroof, tinted glass, 60,532 km..... \$174<sup>61</sup>b/w'
- 2007 Dodge Caliber 2.4L, auto., black, sunroof, tinted glass, traction control, keyless entry, 88,257 km ..... **Just Arrived**
- 2009 Dodge Caliber 2.4L, 6 speed manual, leather, red, MP3 player, spoiler, sunroof, traction control, 26,746 km \$199<sup>61</sup>b/w'
- 2006 Saturn Ion 2.4L, black, spoiler, MP3 player, tinted glass, traction control, 80,258 km ..... **Just Arrived**
- 2010 Ford Focus 2.0L, manual, silver, fog lights, CD, keyless entry, dual air bags, 18,550 km..... \$129<sup>23</sup>b/w'



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### History restored

Members of the Rocanville and District Museum Committee along with hobbyist Robert Bryce spent Sunday, Sept. 9 restoring a turn of the century steam engine to working order. The repair procedure was the first of its kind allowed in Saskatchewan, and if successful, could pave the way for future repairs of the old engines. Look for the full story in the October issue of Plain and Valley.

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MYRON WIEBE

# Second draw for moose hunting this fall

To reduce the increased moose population in southern Saskatchewan, the Ministry of Environment held a second draw for moose hunting. An additional 350 licences were allocated in an August 28 draw.

Licences were allocated in Wildlife Management Zones 4, 6, 14, 17, 19, 20 to 30, 34, 35, 37, 40, 41, 44 to 47, 54 and Saskatoon Wild-

life Management Zone. An emphasis was placed on areas with a high number of moose. These licences will bring the total licences issued for southern farmland wildlife management zones to 3,000 in 2012, up from 2,195 in 2011.

"Increased numbers of moose in the southern half of the province has brought these animals into

closer contact with populated areas, creating a risk to residents and animals," Environment Minister Ken Cheveldayoff said. "We have found a balance between protecting the public, managing the moose population, providing opportunity for hunters and protecting the long term sustainability of moose in our province."

Hunters did not need to apply or reapply to the Big Game Draw. Hunters who applied in the May 2012 draw to hunt moose but were not successful were eligible for selection in the supplemental draw, based upon their original application and zone selection.

Hunters drawn on August 28 were notified by mail in early September.

Due to the late timing of this draw, anyone selected will be able to withdraw their application and still maintain their pool status for next year's draw.

It is estimated there are 50,000 moose in the province with 10 per cent of the population located in southern Saskatchewan. Efforts to reduce the moose population in southern

Saskatchewan are intended to minimize the risk of vehicle/moose accidents and other related issues, such as property damage.

Vehicle operators across Saskatchewan are reminded of the need to drive cautiously and alertly to avoid wildlife particularly from dusk to dawn when deer and moose are often more active.

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**Proud moment**

Mayor Don Bradley cut the ribbon to officially open Moosomin's new Motel 6 on Wednesday, Sept 5. From left are Irwin Prince, President and Chief Operating Officer of Realstar Hospitality, Mayor Don Bradley, and members of the Tesar family, who own the Moosomin Motel 6—President and Chief Executive Officer Josef Tesar, Josef Tesar Junior, and Krista Tesar. (Missing: Jessica Tesar-Valois)

"There is no better place to do business than this community," Moosomin Motel 6 owner Josef Tesar told the crowd at the grand opening of the new motel last Wednesday, Sept 5.

"I've been involved here for over a year now, spending time with many people, it's a great community, you've got great people, it's safe—I can't believe this town."

Tesar—who is originally from the Czech Republic but has been in the hospitality industry in Prince Albert for three decades—said he looked at business opportunities around the world before deciding to build in Moosomin.

"We built a time-share hotel in Cabo San Lucas (in Mexico.) We made our money, and I moved on. Then we sold the Ramada Hotel (in Prince Albert) and we wondered where are we going to build next?"

"I said why don't we build again in Cabo? It's a nice place to live. Then I said to Josef (Junior) why don't we look at Dubai? The economy was good, there are lots of opportunities there, but it's maybe a little bit too far, and the sun is too hot. So we didn't choose that."

"Then over the last couple of years we've gone to a few other places, especially to Rio, and I was interested in building a Ramada in Rio de Janeiro. Nice place to live, lots of beautiful women."

"But we did not build there."

"Then I went to Czechoslovakia, and my buddy owns about 40 hotels in the Czech Republic and he said, Josef, let's build a Ramada in the Czech Republic. Well, I didn't do that, he did."

"And last year, we decided we had to build, so we said to Josef Junior let's take a road trip around Saskatchewan. So we went to Regina, we went to Saskatoon, and then we took a trip across southern Saskatchewan and looked at lots of small communities, and you know what? We chose Moosomin not only because it's a central location for the area and everything that's happening here, potash mining, oil exploration, and you have the number one highway, and a great community, so there was no better place to choose."

Tesar pointed out that the hotel is staffed by people from around the world.

"We have people who have moved here from the Philippines. Our general manager, Adel Asouti, is Egyptian, and has moved here from New York, we have people from China, my maintenance guy is from Honduras, we have people from the Ukraine working for us."

He pointed out that workers from different countries were involved in the construction of the hotel. "I would come here and on the first floor you can hear the ghetto blaster, guys are



**"This is the first Motel 6 in Canada to incorporate state-of-the-art leading-edge technology, environmentally friendly systems."**

jumping around and doing the stucco, and they were from Quebec. French music all over the place. I would go to the second floor, there's a Mexican crew, Spanish music. On the third floor, guys are putting in hardwood floor, they are from Toronto, and they are Columbians."

"I was unloading the furniture, and the guys helping me were Korean. There were East Indians installing the furniture, and their foreman is from Mexico, and I am from the Czech Republic. This is not only a Canadian hotel, but it is truly an international hotel."

Mayor Don Bradley cut the ribbon to officially open the new hotel. "It's a pleasure for me to do these kind of tasks," he told the crowd. "It's a great, great facility and a great addition to our community and the area."

"This is one of my last duties and it almost brings a tear to my eye because I'm so proud of our community and the people in it."

Irwin Prince, president and Chief Operat-

ing Officer of RealStar Hospitality—which is building the Motel 6 brand across Canada—said he wasn't exactly familiar with Moosomin when the town was first proposed as a location for a Motel 6.

"When I first met Josef in Prince Albert four or five years ago we sat down and talked about hotels and where to develop hotels, and then one day Ron (Grant) called me and said what do you think about Moosomin?"

"Where's Moosomin? We have about 150 hotels across the country. If we don't have a hotel there then typically I don't know where it is on a map. So Josef and Ron said you've got to look at Moosomin. It's a developing town. It really is becoming a hub. You've got a hospital coming in, you've got medical people coming in. You've got a great area, and a great base, with not a lot of quality room supply in the market. You have my attention."

"It takes a lot of vision to look at a

piece of dirt and say, 'you know what? I can build something here. I can employ people in the local community in that field. And I think I can make money doing it, and I think I can add something to the community doing it.' It's investing in the community, it's bringing employment to the community, and that takes a lot of guts, because anyone can write a cheque, but to be successful, they've got to hire the right people, they've got to find the right location, they have to do everything just right to be successful. And I think what you're seeing here today is the start of a hugely successful hotel in Moosomin."

He said the new motel is the first of its kind. "Not only did Josef build our prototype, but he went two or three steps beyond. This is the first Motel 6 in Canada to incorporate state-of-the-art leading-edge technology, environmentally friendly systems. That's above and beyond, this takes it one more step."

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Kim Poole photo

## Harvest 2012 nearly complete

This harvest photo was taken on Edward Jaenen's land between Moosomin and Fairlight. He had four combines on the go, and one person baling straw on the Aug. 18 weekend.



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