

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba
October 2020 • Volume 13, Number 10

Candidates off and running in 2020 provincial election

Nominations have closed for the 2020 Saskatchewan provincial election, and there are four candidates nominated in the three southeast Saskatchewan ridings—Moosomin, Melville-Saltcoats, and Cannington.

Both the Saskatchewan Party and the NDP have nominated 61 candidates—one for each riding in the province.

The Green Party has nominated candidates in 60 ridings—including the three local ridings—and the Progressive Conservatives have nominated candidates in 31 ridings—including Moosomin and Melville Saltcoats.

The Buffalo Party has nominated 17 candidates across Saskatchewan, including Cannington.

The Liberal Party has nominated only three candidates across the province, none in the three local ridings.

Following are the final nominations for each of the three local constituencies:

Moosomin

Steven Bonk - Saskatchewan Party

Ken Burton - NDP

Marjorie Graham - Green Party

Frank Serfas - Progressive Conservative Party

Steven Bonk won the 2016 election in the Moosomin riding with 72.3 per cent of the vote. The NDP was in second place with 14.5 per cent of the vote.

Polling site 338canada.com currently projects that Bonk will win in Moosomin in the 2020 election with 74.7 per cent of the vote, with the NDP second and the Green Party third.

Melville-Saltcoats

Warren Kaeding - Saskatchewan Party

Bonnie Galenzoski - NDP

Jack Powless - Green Party

Trevor Ratti - Progressive Conservative Party

Warren Kaeding won the 2016 election in Melville-Saltcoats with 72.7 per cent of the vote. The NDP was second with 21.8 per cent.

Polling site 338canada.com currently projects that Kaeding will win in Melville-Saltcoats in the 2020 election with 70.5 per cent of the vote, with the NDP second and the Progressive Conservative Party third.



Steven Bonk was the first candidate to file his nomination papers at the Moosomin returning office for this election.

Cannington

Daryl Harrison - Saskatchewan Party

Dianne Twietmeyer - NDP

Jaina Forrest - Green Party

Wes Smith - Buffalo Party

The Saskatchewan Party won the 2016 election in the Cannington riding with 84.4 per cent of the vote, and the NDP was second with 8.8 per cent of the vote.

Polling site 338canada.com currently projects that Harrison will win with 84.4 per cent of the vote, the NDP will be second, and the Buffalo Party will be third.

Voters go to the polls October 26.

Saskatchewan has lowest unemployment rate, Manitoba second lowest Sask., Man. have lowest unemployment

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

With much of the economy fully reopened following Covid-19 shutdowns, Saskatchewan has the lowest unemployment rate in Canada, followed by Manitoba with the second-lowest rate.

Statistics Canada released September unemployment figures on Friday, October 9. They show Saskatchewan with an unemployment rate of 6.8 per cent, an improvement on August's 7.9 per cent, which was also the best in the country. StatsCan's figures released Friday show

Manitoba just behind Saskatchewan with an unemployment rate of 7.0 per cent, an improvement on Manitoba's 8.1 per cent unemployment rate in August.

By contrast, the unemployment rate for September was 9.5 per cent for Ontario, 10.4 per cent for New Brunswick, 11.7 per cent for Alberta, and 14.8 per cent for Newfoundland and Labrador.

"These numbers are a sign that our economy did not get hampered to the extent that other jurisdictions did from Covid-19," Steve McLellan, CEO of the Sas-

katchewan Chamber of Commerce, told the World-Spectator Friday.

"Many of our businesses are open and are bringing people back, and I think it's a testament to the kind of work ethic and business mentality we have in the province that says 'if we can get back to work safely, let's do it.'"

"There is still some consumer work to be done, to get people more comfortable out and about to support our local businesses."

"The bottom line is this is good news. While we feel for those who are not work-

ing, we applaud the fact that the trend is going in the right direction.

"We need to keep spending money. That's what drives jobs. As we see the federal and provincial grant dollars change, businesses need to see more earned revenue, so we as consumers need to get out there and spend. Let's use this time to take on those projects, and get the economy going, because the only way this is going to be sustainable is if businesses are seeing more earned revenue through the cash register, not government grants."

HILLBERG & BERK
NEW HILLBERG & BERK SPARKLE BALL
LAPIS

30% off
Derek Alexander
Ladies Leather
Wallets
50% off
Select Fashion
Jewelry

**NEW FALL
GIFTWARE**
ARRIVING ALL THE TIME
COME SEE OUR SELECTION

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR
FULL-LINE OF SERVICES!**

- Custom Design
- Professional Goldsmithing
- Watch Repair
- Watch Batteries & Straps
- Engraving Services
- Full Gold Repair Services
- Custom Lasering
- Sublimation
- Trophies & Awards

Discover...

Kassie's JEWELRY & GIFTWARE

630 Main St.

306.435.2977

Moosomin, SK

JUST ARRIVED!

JUST ARRIVED!

Blaze & King Wood Stoves



PRINCESS PE 32

BLACK DOOR. CLASSIC, LEG OR PEDESTAL BASE AVAILABLE

- 555,510 BTU's
- Efficiencies 86.3% - 80% (as listed by EPA)
- Burn Time: up to 30 hours on low
- Heat area: 1500 - 2500 sq. ft
- Maximum log size: 20" (16" recommended)
- Emissions (grams/hour): .4g/hr (in 2020 maximum allowed is 2.0 g/hr)
- Firebox size: 2.91 cu. ft.
- Dimensions: width 28", height 33", depth 31"
- Weight 435 lbs. (depends on base)
- Flue diameter: 6"

FULL PEDESTAL
MSRP: \$4315.15

OUR PRICE \$3299⁹⁹

LEGS OR CLASSIC
MSRP: \$4168.53

OUR PRICE \$3199⁹⁹

WETT inspections available

Please call for appointment



SIROCCO 20.2

CATALYTIC WOOD STOVE

COMES WITH LEG KIT, BLACK DOOR WITH GLASS

- Heats 900 - 1,500 Square Feet
- 20 Hour Low Burn Times
- Thermostatically Controlled
- 1.8 Cubic Foot Firebox
- Max Heat Input 293,079 BTUs
- 83% LHV Efficiency (77% HHV)
- 30,407 BTU's/h constant output for 8 hours
- Up to 16" Log Length
- EPA Emissions 1.3 gr/hour
- CO Weighted Average 0.13%

NOT EXACTLY AS SHOWN
MSRP: \$2994.93

OUR PRICE \$2199⁹⁹



6" IMPERIAL POLYSWEEP CHIMNEY BRUSH

\$24.99

FOR WOOD STOVE



WE PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL CHIMNEY CLEANING!



ASHFORD 30 BLACK CAST IRON WOOD STOVE

- Heats 1,100 - 2,400 Square Feet
- 30 Hour Low Burn Times
- Thermostatically Controlled
- 2.75 Cubic Foot Firebox
- Max Heat Input 447,760 BTUs
- 86% LHV Efficiency (80% HHV)
- 38,507 BTU's/h constant for output 10 hours
- Up to 18" Log Length
- EPA Emissions 0.8 gr/hour
- CO Weighted Average 0.14%

MSRP: \$4043.94

OUR PRICE \$3299⁹⁹



BOXER 24

COMES WITH DOOR WITH GLASS

- 311,344 BTU's
- Efficiencies 83.2% - 77% (as listed by EPA)
- Burn Time: up to 20 hours on low
- Heat area: 800 - 1800 sq. ft
- Maximum log size: 22"
- Emissions (grams/hour): .9g/hr (in 2020 maximum allowed is 2.0 g/hr)
- Firebox size: 2.3 cu. ft.
- Dimensions: width 30.125", height 39.5", depth 26.8125"
- Weight 500 lbs. (depends on base)
- Flue diameter: 6"

MSRP: \$3270.54

OUR PRICE \$2799⁹⁹



DURAVENT PREMIUM FOR WOOD AND GAS APPLIANCES

CONTACT GLASSER'S TV SERVICE FOR PRICING

WETT CERTIFIED FOR SALES

ALL WOOD STOVES INCLUDE FAN KIT • DOWN PAYMENT REQUIRED

Glasser's TV Service

OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M. • MOOSOMIN, SK • (306) 435-3040
WWW.GLASSERSTV.COM • WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GLASSERSTV

Local candidates look at economic development

BY ROB PAUL
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Saskatchewan provincial election will be taking place October 26. Both the Saskatchewan Party and NDP have candidates nominated in Moosomin, Melville-Saltcoats, and Cannington so far. The World-Spectator spoke with each candidate about economic growth and development with a focus on how they can continue to help bring businesses to their constituency, the impact of Covid-19 on small local businesses, and the importance of keeping seniors in their home communities.

Moosomin Steven Bonk, Sask Party

Moosomin's Saskatchewan Party candidate, Steven Bonk, says the best way to help attract businesses to rural communities in Saskatchewan is to make it easier on them with less government obstruction.

"This is something that the Saskatchewan Party takes very seriously," Bonk said. "It's something we believe strongly in. By reducing taxes and regulation, trying to reduce the footprint of government, and making it easier for businesses to get ahead and prosper, I think that's the best way that we can attract new businesses and keep businesses sustainable in our constituency."

With some local businesses struggling through the pandemic, Bonk thinks one of the best ways to help them through these times is to step back and allow them to focus on their business rather than have government overstep.

"The job of government is to make sure that we have regulations in place to protect the public," he said. "But also not have onerous regulations where we're actually impeding business or causing harm to business. That's why I think the people of Saskatchewan, particularly this area of Saskatchewan, just want to be able to run their businesses and live their lives without undue government intrusion. I think that's one of the foundations of the Saskatchewan Party."

With the effort put in over the last few years to improve home care and develop long-term care facilities, Bonk believes rural communities are continuing to grow for both young families and senior residents.

"I don't see it as one or the other," he said. "We're doing everything we can to attract young families and keep young families here in Saskatchewan because they're our future, they're our greatest resource. At the same time, our seniors are the people who built this province and built our communities. We have the utmost respect for them and we're trying to keep them in their communities as long as possible. To do that we've increased the amount of long-term care

space in Saskatchewan, greatly over what it was in the NDP days. We're continuing to build long-term care centres. For example Grenfell, which was promised for years under the NDP, the Saskatchewan Party is now bringing that to fruition."

Moosomin Ken Burton, NDP

Ken Burton, NDP candidate for Moosomin, says the best way to continue to bring businesses to the area is to work closely with the community leaders.

"We're going to be announcing our platform soon and it will certainly cover the importance of new local businesses," said Burton. "The first thing we've got to do is identify what's needed in the constituency and you get that from working with your local people, councils, and other people involved in the community. With them we can identify what is needed."

With a possible second wave of Covid-19 coming, Burton says small businesses need the federal government to lean on to push through potential revenue loss.

"We're going to have one (a second wave of Covid-19). I don't know if we'll have it in Saskatchewan, but we'll feel the impact across the borders" he said. "Federal contributions and encouraging federal contributions is our biggest role here in Saskatchewan. They need to fund the EI and extend the rental subsidies for local businesses—they need federal money to offset businesses' revenue loss."

There's been shortfalls in rural communities with support for seniors, Burton said. He wants to see more invested into home care and hiring at medical



From left, Sask Party candidate Steven Bonk will be running for re-election in Moosomin, Daryl Harrison is running for the Sask Party in Cannington, Wes Smith is running for the Buffalo Party in Cannington, and Warren Kaeding of the Sask Party is running for re-election in Melville-Saltcoats.

facilities as well as travel options to larger centres where they may need medical treatment.

"I'm a senior citizen at 65 and often older people in the community need more services than the younger generation," he said. "Health care in particular is huge. We have to ensure that we have available health care to people who can't travel easily outside of their community. Otherwise they're going to be moving to bigger centres like Regina or Brandon. Centres where there are services, particularly diagnostic services, that are available. We have to have these types of services available in local communities. That's one of the things we lack in this constituency. Over and over again this is an issue."

"We're seeing our local hospitals close because we don't have access to lab technicians, X-ray technicians, and nurses. We have to fund these services and ensure there are people available that are willing to move to the rural areas to do it. Right now we're seeing significant problems in Broadview and Wolseley with the shortfalls around lab techs. That's one thing that needs to be dealt with

to keep seniors in local communities.

"We also need to have services that allow them to get diagnostic services if they have to go to the city," he said. "I drive an awful lot of people into the city for different tests and treatments. I think SITC buses would be a good solution to the problem. A lot of people are unable to make the trips to the city alone because of age or conditions that won't allow them to drive themselves."

Melville-Saltcoats- Warren Kaeding, Sask Party

Melville-Saltcoats Saskatchewan Party candidate Warren Kaeding points to communication with communities as the biggest factor in attracting new business to the area.

"We need to continue

to engage with the local communities to determine what they've got and what they're looking for," said Kaeding. "We need to encourage them to get out and have discussions with industry and support them however they may come to us with proposals and ideas. We might be able to do small local encouragement or we may need to go to cabinet and determine what we may need to do at that level to encourage business to come to the province overall."

Covid-19 has shone a spotlight on the importance of supporting local business and Kaeding hopes people understand that all businesses in small communities need that local support going forward.

"It's an interesting dilemma" he said. "How do we support our local businesses? I would say we need to continue to talk about our small businesses.

We need to promote and support them whenever we get the opportunity, whether it's buying gas at the local convenience store or buying locally the best we can to support everyone in the community.

"So often though, people overlook the big box stores or the big chains and say, 'well that's really not local.' I'd really like to remind people that there's local ownership if it's a franchise, there's local people behind each and every business regardless of how big or small they are in the community. I think they all need our support." No matter the demographic, Kaeding says, communities and government need to work together and focus on providing the best environment for residents including services for seniors to be able to continue to live in their homes.

Continued on page 7

BIG LOU'S LUMBER

DOORS WINDOWS & MORE!
We have you covered for all your insulation needs.
While quantities last.



BIG LOU'S LUMBER
Monday - Saturday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
405 SUMNER ST. • ESTERHAZY, SK
306-745-2600 306-745-2332

PHARMASAVE®

Wellness & Mobility Centre

TWILIGHT

COMFORT THAT'S PATENTED.™

BY GOLDEN

Orion with Twilight

The world's first three-position power recliner with Twilight Technology!

The Orion recliner allows for new positions called "Lounge" and "Rejuvenate" that no other three-position recliner can offer. These new positions offer a new level of relaxation! Think of it as a power recliner combined with a Broda Chair.

Up TV Lounge Rejuvenate

FREE DELIVERY

Within a 100 km radius of Moosomin

Main Store 624 Main Street Showroom 601 Carleton Street
Moosomin, SK • 306-435-4330
www.pharmasave.com/moosomin-wellness



CO-OP **Borderland** MOOSOMIN HOME CENTRE

Something *Exciting*, Something *New*
 is coming to Borderland Co-op Home Centre in Moosomin!

Bring your ideas to life in our new *Design Studio*

- Concept Development
- Space Planning
- Material & Product Selection
- 3D Modelling

From idea to completion, we are here every step of the way!



Stop in to check out our manager's specials and in-store clearance items!



WIN A HOME CENTRE GIFT CARD

and consultation with Tricia Piper, Design Specialist
GET YOUR BORDERLAND CO-OP PASSPORT STAMPED TODAY!

VALUE: \$500
 CONTEST ENDS OCTOBER 31, 2020



BORDERLAND CO-OP MOOSOMIN HOME CENTRE

1100 Park Avenue
 Moosomin, SK
306-435-2642

Auditor General finds Manitoba needs to do more to ensure safe water

BY ROB PAUL

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

An investigation by Manitoba's Auditor General Tyson Shtykalo, found that the province's Department of Conservation and Climate needs to be doing more to ensure the safety of drinking water in Manitoba. The entirety of the auditor general's findings are in the report, Provincial Oversight of Drinking Water Safety.

The audit found the department's processes for licensing and monitoring drinking water systems did not adequately address safety risks. The audit also found the department had weak strategic planning and performance measurement processes for overseeing drinking water safety.

"The people and organizations that supply drinking water to Manitobans must ensure that water is safe to drink," Shtykalo said. "While Manitoba has not had any major outbreaks of waterborne diseases recently, the department needs to remain vigilant and do more to minimize the risk of problems in the future."

Shtykalo found that 20 per cent of known water systems in Manitoba didn't have an operating license. A licence outlines what a system operator must do to meet regulatory requirements, including the water quality standards they must meet and the frequency of testing required. Most of these unlicensed systems were testing drinking water, but not at the expected frequency.

"There were definitely some concerning findings in our report," he said. "The fact that there were water systems identified but not licensed—many hadn't been for several years—is concerning. The time it took for systems to be licensed and the number of expired licenses was certainly troubling."

"We looked at licensing, monitoring, and performance planning, and on the monitoring side we had several issues with their monitoring process and following up adverse tests.

"That compounded with the lack of automation and any kind of robust IT system to assist them in their monitoring is concerning."

"Finally, one of the more concerning findings is how far the department has fallen back on operator certification," he said. "Several systems are operating out there without a certified operator."

Although there's yet to be any issues from the water systems operating without licenses, Shtykalo says it increases risk to the consumers if water systems aren't correctly following all regulations.

"It's hard to say for sure," he said. "Risk is always increased when the appropriate controls and processes aren't in place."

"The gaps identified during our audit show there's an ongoing vigilance that's necessary to make sure that the water provided to Manitobans is safe. I think our recommendations in the report will only help to improve the safety of drinking water and ensure that the safety is maintained."

The audit consisted of checking every public and semi-public water system overseen by the department in Manitoba, which means vastly different situations from system to system, Shtykalo said.

"The first thing to put things into perspective, what we looked at was the water systems that are under the responsibility of the department," he said. "When we talk about water systems, we explain in our report, we're looking for what are called public water systems and semi-public water systems."

"This pretty much runs the gamut for the water systems—from the city of Winnipeg's water system, which is enormous, to the smaller semi-public water systems, which could just be a seasonal water system operating in a campground, to several smaller water systems in northern communities."

"Another example would be if you have a restaurant that's hooked up to its own private well, because they're serving the pub-



Manitoba's Auditor General
Tyson Shtykalo

lic, it's called a semi-public water system and would be covered under this."

In recent years the department has been identifying more water systems throughout the province which has, in part, led to more unlicensed systems says Shtykalo.

"What happened was, several years ago the department realized that there were a lot of these unlicensed semi-public systems," he said. "They put quite an effort into identifying them. Once they were identified, they were left with quite a backlog of systems that weren't licensed. The thing about the licenses are that they're operating licenses and they set out the rules that the public system needs to be operating under—the types of testing, the frequency of testing, the reporting requirements back to the department."

"Without these operating licenses actually laying out all the testing requirements what we saw was a lot of them doing more ad hoc sampling, but perhaps not with the frequency and type of testing necessary."

Shtykalo says an estimated half of known water systems in the province did not have a certified operator.

"Although many of these systems were very small, it is important that all water systems, no matter the size, have an opera-

tor who has received appropriate training and understands the system and safety requirements," he said.

The audit found the number of licensed drinking water systems in Manitoba nearly doubled over five years, but the number of staff assigned to license and monitor these systems decreased.

It also found more work was required to bring non-compliant water systems into compliance with provincial regulations, the report says.

"What's required of the department is to license and monitor on an ongoing basis these public and semi-public water systems," he said.

"We did identify that there was an increased number of these identified systems and their staffing did go down, but it's up to the department to handle that and that's where we think a strong strategic planning process is necessary."

"That way the department operates in some areas on a more risk-based process and implements some IT systems and automated systems so they're getting more better information quicker and they're able to use that information to assist them in their monitoring and following up on adverse tests."

"There's different things the department can do, but the responsibility lies with the department to ensure that they're meeting their mandate."

It's the departments responsibility to ensure these water systems are following regulations, but Shtykalo doesn't believe it's negligence and says with the recommendations from the audit the department will be able to get back on track and improve their processes.

"I think the reason that there are more water systems being identified is because they were doing their job and making a large effort to identify them," he said. "There are a few things that might complicate the process. For example, we put in our report that some of these semi-public systems are rather unique. They may be a water system in a hunting lodge far up north or a cottage water co-op that's providing water that's not even meant to be consumed."

"They don't have specific operating licenses for those unique types of systems. One of our recommendations is that the department put a priority in developing policy and regulations so that they can license these. The department to their credit is working towards this and we're hoping the recommendations we're making will help them expedite that process."

Continued on page 34

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property described below will be received by:

Meighen Haddad, LLP • P.O. Box 397, Melita Manitoba • R0M 1L0
Attention: Karen Beauchamp

PROPERTY:

NW ¼ 27-2-29 WPM EXC ALL MINES AND Minerals AS SET FORTH IN DEED NO. 53516B0

- Approximately 130 acres cultivated with potential to expand and 30 acres pasture
- Dugout with spring fed water source
- Fenced around the quarter and pasture separately fenced

CONDITIONS OF TENDER:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on October 21st, 2020.
3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$2,500.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
4. Outgoing tenant has access to and use of grain bin situated on quarter until June 30, 2021.
5. Person whose tender is accepted will be allowed access to do fall field preparation.
6. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. The closing date of the sale shall be December 1, 2020 on which date the Vendors shall provide a registerable Transfer of title to the Purchaser and the Purchaser shall pay the balance of the accepted tender. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit or acceptable arrangements for payment have not been made, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until December 1, 2020 and acceptable arrangements for full payments are made following acceptance of tender.
4. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any Transfer.
5. Land is in the Torren's Title system.
6. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2021

For further information contact Gary Middleton at 204-634-2354

MH Meighen Haddad
LAW FIRM

101c

Businesses and franchises owned by your family, neighbours and friends need your support.

Visit TogetherWeStandSK.ca to learn more about how you can help rebuild.



Brought to You by Your Chamber of Commerce

Movie theatres returning with Covid-19 restrictions

BY ROB PAUL

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As the summer weather fades and leaves change, there's less fun to be had outside. With Covid-19 throwing a wrench in many people's plans this year, the return of movie theatres provides a nice getaway option for a night.

Movie theatres can offer a few hours to enjoy entertainment and ease all the added stress of the last few months.

Although theatres have to follow Covid-19 rules, the size of them allows for natural spacing and the emphasis has been put on cleaning protocols while still allowing for concessions to operate.

Moosomin Community Theatre

The Moosomin Community Theatre will be re-opening after Thanksgiving and in the meantime they're preparing for the return by implementing Covid-19 specific restrictions.

"We're opening after Thanksgiving so we're just working on the Covid-19 stuff more or less," said committee member Jason Sheppard. "Every second row is going to be closed off and different things like that just to make sure everybody keeps their space."

If anybody was worried that the Covid-19 restrictions would limit capacity at the theatre to a detrimental extent, Sheppard says not to fret.

"We can have 150 max," he said. "It's not going to be like, 'oh my gosh we can only have 20 people!' It's really not too bad. Just a few changes, but not much."

Sheppard expects the re-opening to go well with everybody understanding the new normal in 2020 with Covid-19.

"Pretty much 90 per cent of it is making sure people are spaced out and we're on top of cleaning," he said. "We



The Moosomin Community Theatre was set to open after Thanksgiving weekend with Covid-19 restrictions in place.

just have to monitor people keeping their distance and that the more touched areas are sanitized two or three times a night.

"We just need to be aware of community transfer so if somebody does have it and they come to town we're doing everything we can."

As for concessions, people will be able to get anything they would on a regular theatre night, just with some extra spacing between the concessions and the customer.

"We're still going to do our normal concessions," he said. "We've just got to put a table in front of the concessions so we can keep that six-foot distance between people ordering. We're still going to offer popcorn, drinks, and chocolate bars like we would in a normal time."

With most people looking for something to do with Covid-19 impacting regular recreation, Sheppard thinks the theatre is a nice way to get people out to do something this fall.

"It's going to be pretty much normal just with extra cleaning," he said. "The thing is around here too people are more relaxed and wanting to go out and do things because there's not many cases around here. Most people aren't too worried and 99 per cent of people at the theatre are local anyway."

"The big thing is giving them something to do, people keep asking when we're opening. People were worried because there's not much for movies coming out, but there really still is and we're picking the ones that look good and people will enjoy. Bring in movies and people will come because they want something to do. The main thing is giving them the option with the weather getting colder too."

Maryfield Auditorium

The Maryfield Auditorium re-opened on September 11 and things have been going well with some slight Covid-19 adjustments says committee member Lorraine Fidelak.

"We're running at one-third capacity, so 94 seats," said Fidelak. "We're lucky to have a theatre that has 312 seats. We haven't hit full capacity yet, but it's nice to have that availability. There's a lot of people who have missed movies for sure."

Covid-19 restrictions have changed the way the theatre operates to some extent to ensure there's not different groups coming into contact, but Fidelak says people are understanding of the new rules.

"We have put up signage to tell people what we would like them to do," she said. "We ask them to physically distance, we've roped off the lobby so there's a row for coming into admission, and then if there's just two of them and not a lot of people in the lobby we will serve them concessions even though it's roped off."

"If there's a group of people and other people are in the lobby then we ask the group to go upstairs and have one person come down to the concession and place the order for everyone. For the most part it's been running fairly smoothly. We have every second row roped off in the middle of the theatre and every third row on the outside."

With the way the concessions are set up at the Maryfield Auditorium, there hasn't been any problems with serving popcorn and drinks to movie goers.

"It's all been good," she said. "We sell canned pop and bottled water so refilling isn't an issue and we don't refill bags of popcorn. That has helped and because of that there hasn't been issues with concessions. We did have to make the popcorn seasoning off limits."

Fidelak says with everybody used to following Covid-19 rules in everyday life, people are respectful of the protocols at the theatre.

"People have definitely been understanding," she said. "They're more aware and cautious. We do have hand sanitizer out and each night the theatre and lobby areas are cleaned with disinfectant on the counters and handrails, any highly touched areas."

"The seats are disinfected too. It's a little bit more work with the cleaning, but it's a good plan to keep it safe. We tried our best to make sure we're meeting all the protocols."

"We usually run with one community volunteer and two committee members but presently we're running with three committee members per movie. We just didn't want people to feel they should be coming to volunteer if they don't feel comfortable. We figured it would be easier to run with just our own committee until at least Christmas instead of asking for volunteers."

The theatre has only been open a month, but Fidelak says it's been a popular spot with people excited to get out and do something.

"It's a good experience," she said. "At the first movie it was a good crowd—it was a Spongebob movie—and lots came the second night. Obviously they were missing the theatre experience."

SOUTH EAST CORNERSTONE
Public School Division #209

NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT OF POLL

Whereas a poll is not required pursuant to *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* for the office of:

Board Member - South East Cornerstone School Division No. 209 for Subdivision Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

I hereby give public notice that no voting for the said office will take place and that the following persons are elected by acclamation:

Carol Flynn	Subdivision 1
James Vermeersch	Subdivision 2
Jim Henderson	Subdivision 3
Tami Scott	Subdivision 4
Audrey Trombley	Subdivision 5
Jennifer Wilkinson	Subdivision 6

Dated at Weyburn, SK this 8th day of October, 2020.

Shelley Toth, Returning Officer

Introducing the world's first truly tailored hearing experience



Imagine a hearing solution tailored to you.

The all new Beltone Imagine™ is a hearing aid that's unique to each user. This groundbreaking hearing aid technology uses your individual ear anatomy to deliver sound to the brain, so you can hear things exactly how nature intended. Its revolutionary design helps increase confidence in the most challenging sound environments.

Start your **90 Day TRIAL** of the latest technology.

SAVE up to **30% OFF** Premium hearing technology.

Call for your **FREE, no-obligation hearing screening & hearing aid demonstration today!**

Call Today! Toll Free **1-(855)-857-8251**

Beltone www.beltone.ca

Plain & Valley

REGIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

• CONCRETE •

CONCRETE RESTORATION

REPAIR | RESTORATION | SEALING

Floors • Driveways marty@concreterestore.ca
Steps • Patios 306-645-2777 (OFFICE)
Bin Foundations 306-435-0900 (CELL)

www.concreterestore.ca

• FINANCIAL •

SHARON (SHERRY) TALMAN
CPA, CGA
PROFESSIONAL CORP.

Taxes • Financial Statements
Farm, Business and Personal

sharontalmanprofessional@sasktel.net

306-743-1234

215 Kaiser Wilhelm Ave., Langenburg, Sask

Local candidates look at economic development

Continued from page 3

"We always talk about how it takes a community to raise a child," he said. "I would say it takes a community to support its residents, whether they're young or older adults. I think it's important we continue to encourage communities to provide services to keep our older adults engaged and make sure they're appreciated for their participation, work, and abilities they have and make sure we've got environments that are welcoming to older adults as well as for young people.

"There's municipal elections coming up and I would say that's going to be the challenge that they have in front of them. How do we make our communities welcoming for everyone? From people that are within the province, from within the country, and outside the country. How do we make our communities welcoming and create an environment that they can succeed in and raise a family with confidence in each of our communities? Support is the focus."

Melville-Saltcoats Bonnie Galenzoski, NDP

NDP candidate in Melville-Saltcoats, Bonnie Galenzoski, thinks focussing on programs that assist businesses is the best way to help bring them to small communities in Saskatchewan. "The NDP's plan is to bring back start-up loans for small businesses," Galenzoski said. "That's one of the things we're looking at. Also, just investing more in people, investing in home care to train more people for home care to offer more services to allow for more people to live in rural communities, and just trying to get business back to small communities."

Home care is the best way to help keep senior residents in their communities says Galenzoski, and she believes the province must invest more into it.

"My father is in a home, so that's one of the things that really is important to me," she said. "We're looking at investing more in home care to keep people at home longer. Even in our care facilities we're looking at creating higher standards to make sure that our seniors are being looked after. But not only does investing in home care help seniors stay home longer, it can also keep them close to family which is so important as we age."

Cannington Daryl Harrison, Sask Party

Oil and agriculture are the heart of rural communities says the Saskatchewan Party's Cannington candidate, Daryl Harrison, and he thinks promoting those industries

is the best way to attract new business.

"Our constituency consists of an oil and agriculture base," Harrison said. "Most of the businesses are related to one or both of those industries. That's the attraction to southeast Saskatchewan, but certainly there's tourism and other avenues as well. But agriculture and oil will be our mainstay here for years to come and that's what attracts people."

With guidelines in place for small businesses to safely operate during the pandemic, Harrison thinks as long as the rules are followed businesses will be able to stay open.

"I think as long as the public health guidelines are followed, our businesses can remain opened and can continue to adapt," he said. "If they're a retail business they've developed ways to conduct their sales and deal with their customers in safe ways within the public health guidelines."

"We certainly don't want to shut them down, they've got to be able to survive through this. Dustin Duncan and Scott Moe announced today, a 10 per cent savings on your SaskPower bill. That will obviously help families out month-to-month."

The most important factor in keeping senior citizens in their homes and around their family is ensuring rural communities have consistent access to home care, says Harrison. "Home care is a big part of allowing seniors to remain in their own homes and ensuring they're receiving the care they need," he said. "Being able to have that independence to live in the home they grew up in and raised their family in is important. That's certainly a driving force behind the importance of home care and having them come in to be taken care of while having family close by to help out."

Cannington Wes Smith, Buffalo Party

Cannington Buffalo Party candidate Wes Smith believes less regulation and lower taxes are the path to economic growth in rural Saskatchewan.

"We're looking at the long-term future of our province and what jobs and industries we can bring to our rural economy to keep our rural communities viable. There needs to be more encouragement for small businesses to be able to start up and flourish without government intervention and red tape," he says.

"Simpler tax laws would go a long way to encouraging businesses. Just let people go out and do the work without having the government there for every step of the way, which might slow them down or hold them back or discourage them."

He believes it's important to keep younger people and

older people in small communities.

"For older people, part of our plan outlines an elimination of taxes for anyone over 70, so that should help them keep more of their own money in their own pocket, and help keep them in their communities."

"For younger people, keeping them in small communities means having jobs for them. It means getting our resources to market, being competitive in Saskatchewan. A lot of our young people move out of the province to get jobs, but we want to encourage them to stay here."

"We need to be proud of what we do. We have one of the cleanest and best environmental records on the planet. To think that we can't have our clean coal plants in Estevan running and take advantage of the carbon capture system that we are so proud of in Saskatchewan, and to think we can't also integrate individual investment in products like solar with net metering, which we used to have. We had some new companies getting into solar and doing well and employing young people. I firmly believe these sectors can work hand-in-hand to be successful."

Cannington Dianne Twietmeyer, NDP

Cannington NDP candidate Dianne Twietmeyer says the best way to bring business to her riding is to keep projects provincial. How does she think economic development can be promoted in the area? "I can't speak to that," Twietmeyer said. "I'd have to consult Ryan Meili and other people for what they might be thinking for this riding. I know that they really would like to make sure that infrastructure projects go to Saskatchewan companies. That would probably be the biggest thing and also the climate plan, which is to have new and previous actors in the energy industry develop new clean energy, especially with an emphasis on the search for geothermal energy that provides sustainable clean energy for the province."

Twietmeyer thinks the best way to help senior residents is to invest in better home care options.

"This is something that came from Ryan Meili recently, he talked about more support for home care in helping senior citizens stay home."

"These community living places where seniors can live with other seniors without being in long-term care homes. Most small communities lift up seniors that way, but having that commitment to having home care for seniors to stay home is a wonderful idea."

Follow the World-Spectator each week or www.worldspectator.com to keep up on Saskatchewan election news. Saskatchewan voters will go to the polls on Monday, October 26.



ZAYLIE

FURNITURE • BEDDING • APPLIANCES

Why would you travel to the city in high traffic shopping areas when you have these reasons to shop local!

5 Reasons

OUR CUSTOMERS LOVE TO SHOP AT ZAYLIE

<h3 style="font-size: 2em; color: gold;">- 1 -</h3> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">CUSTOMER SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We take care of you all the way!</p> 	<h3 style="font-size: 2em; color: gold;">- 2 -</h3> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">DELIVERY SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Professional delivery and setup as well as take away</p>	<h3 style="font-size: 2em; color: gold;">- 3 -</h3> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">RELAXED SHOPPING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Come feel the relaxed shopping atmosphere and no-pressure sales!</p>	<h3 style="font-size: 2em; color: gold;">- 4 -</h3> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">LARGE SHOWROOM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Large showroom full of unique and one-of-a-kind pieces!</p>	<h3 style="font-size: 2em; color: gold;">- 5 -</h3> <p style="font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">INFORMED STAFF</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We have a knowledgeable staff with great insight to interior design</p>
--	--	--	---	---



815 BROADWAY AVE. • 306-435-2154 • MOOSOMIN, SK

<p style="font-size: 1.2em;">HOURS OF OPERATION</p>	<p>MONDAY - FRIDAY 10 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.</p>	<p>SATURDAY 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.</p>
<p>FINANCING AVAILABLE</p> 		

USask researchers' in vitro fertilization successful with baby bison

'It's a rare privilege to welcome newborn bison calves into the world. It's even more rare when those calves are the fruit of your labour.'

By LANA HAIGHT

"I'm thrilled. It's very cool to actually see something that I was able to start from an egg and then an embryo, and actually get a calf out of it. It's very rewarding," said Miranda Zwiefelhofer, a graduate student in the Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) and a member of the research team headed by Dr. Gregg Adams (DVM).

In early July, two Wood bison calves were born at USask's Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence's specialized livestock facility, southeast of Saskatoon. The bison calves are the first to be born from frozen in vitro embryos produced from immature eggs that were collected from live bison.

Adams' team is refining protocols for advanced reproductive techniques to be used with bison in the wild. Zwiefelhofer focused on determining the ideal age and stage of development for an embryo to be frozen in order to result in a successful pregnancy.

"We can make a large quantity of embryos, but only some are capable of producing a bison calf," she said.

Although 500,000 bison can be found in national parks and on commercial farms throughout North America, they are a "near threatened" species, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List. Rare and isolated bison genetics are locked away in remote locations. Adams and his team are determined to preserve these valuable genetics through reproduction.

Zwiefelhofer's project started in the summer of 2019 when she and others in Adams' team collected eggs from 32 bison cows, using minimal handling methods including sedating the bison and using field darts to deliver treatments.

Zwiefelhofer then moved from the field to the lab. First, she grew the eggs to maturity and fertilized them with frozen-thawed semen and produced 75 in vitro embryos. Then, she

observed the embryos for several days as the single cell divided into two and then four and so on until the cells became compact and a cavity formed. With different embryos growing at different rates, they were frozen in liquid nitrogen at different stages of development (from morulas to expanded blastocysts) and on different days after fertilization (seven to nine days), all critical pieces of information for Zwiefelhofer's research.

In October 2019, the research moved out of the lab and back to the animals. Zwiefelhofer selected embryos based on the various stages of development and the age when they were frozen. She gradually thawed the ones she deemed to be of the highest quality. The



The two new bison calves, named Skeeter and Mo, born from frozen in vitro embryos.

team transferred embryos to 28 bison cows. When examined 30 days later, five cows were pregnant. Throughout pregnancy,

three cows lost their calves. The two bison calves born were the result of morulae frozen seven or eight days after fertilization.

Like an expectant parent, Zwiefelhofer was on baby watch for days before the calves were born.

"We knew it was coming. We could see the mothers' udders starting to fill up and getting really pink. We made sure to drive by every 12 hours starting about a week before they were born," said Zwiefelhofer, who named the calves Skeeter and Mo.

Not only are the new calves the first bison to be born using immature eggs collected from live bison, they are only the third and fourth calves to be born from frozen in vitro embryos.

"This is a pretty big deal. That we have two calves and originally had five pregnancies shows these

technologies really do work. Freezing and thawing the embryos is the difficult part. We could use fresh embryos and get a higher pregnancy rate, but to transport embryos in a biosecure manner, they need to be frozen," said Zwiefelhofer, who is working toward earning a PhD.

With this latest research, scientists have new tools in their toolbox for ensuring the survival of pure genetics of wood and plains bison herds that are scattered throughout North America, she said.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund contributed funding for this research.

AFTER 16 SEASONS YOU'VE STILL GOT SOME TRICKS UP YOUR SLEEVE.

Even though you might only get about 40 chances to grow, it's never too late to start something new. This year, get ahead of growing weed concerns by diversifying your crop with an option you can depend on — DEKALB® soybeans. With the biggest lineup of Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® varieties, DEKALB soybean seed is the perfect addition to any farm. And it's all backed by the innovative power of Bayer.

THE SEED FOR EVERY SEASON

DEKALB.ca | 1 888-283-6847 | @DEKALB_Canada | @Bayer4CropsCA | #AskBayerCrop

**To contact
Plain & Valley
call
306-435-2445**

Visit us online at
www.plainandvalley.com

Bayer CropScience, LP is a member of Excellence Through Stewardship® (ETS). Bayer products are commercialized in accordance with ETS Product Launch Stewardship Guidance, and in compliance with Bayer's Policy for Commercialization of Biotechnology-Derived Plant Products in Commodity Crops. Any other Bayer commercial biotech products mentioned here have been approved for import into key export markets with functioning regulatory systems. Any crop or material produced from these products can only be exported to, or used, processed or sold in countries where all necessary regulatory approvals have been granted. It is a violation of national and international law to move material containing biotech traits across boundaries into nations where import is not permitted. Growers should talk to their grain handler or product purchaser to confirm their buying position for these products. Excellence Through Stewardship® is a registered trademark of Excellence Through Stewardship. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready 2 Yield® Technology contains genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate. Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® soybeans contains genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate and dicamba. Glyphosate will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Dicamba will kill crops that are not tolerant to dicamba. Contact your local crop protection dealer or call the technical support line at 1 888-283-6847 for recommended Roundup Ready® Xtend Crop System weed control programs. Bayer, Bayer Cross, DEKALB and Design®, DEKALB®, Roundup Ready 2 Xtend® and Roundup Ready 2 Yield® are trademarks of Bayer Group. ©2020 Bayer Group. All rights reserved.

APAS releases election priorities

BY ROB PAUL
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With the provincial election coming up, the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan have released their election priorities for the agricultural sector. The set of proposals are designed to get candidates from all political parties to implement ways to best support the agricultural sector into their platforms.

"Agriculture has ended up being a major driver of the economy during Covid-19," said APAS President Todd Lewis. "While many other sectors have slowed, agriculture has actually performed better. But farmers can't be the backbone of the economy without the right government policy."

The proposals put together by APAS cover what they see as the most impactful issues plaguing modern producers in major areas like infrastructure, environmental stewardship, resource development on farmland, business risk management, and changing demographics.

"We're focussing on some big issues," Lewis said. "Improving rural infrastructure like internet, cell service, and natural gas is urgent, as is committing to public research and fixing business risk management programs so they actually work for farmers. These are just a few of the major challenges to agriculture that we need all the candidates to acknowledge."

APAS has sent their list of proposals to every registered political party in Saskatchewan and will be tracking their responses.

"Our hope is to see these recommendations represented in party platforms," Lewis said.

APAS election priorities

Investment in science and infrastructure to grow the economy:

- Close the digital divide between urban and rural Saskatchewan by ensuring that all the rural residents have access to affordable, secure, reliable, and high-capacity internet and cellphone service.
- Improve access to natural gas and three-phase power for agricultural uses through incentives and cost-sharing programs.
- Invest in transportation infrastructure by ensuring adequate budget for road, highway and bridge maintenance while supporting the viability and expansion of Saskatchewan short line railways.
- Ensure Saskatchewan builds on the success of APAS' public model for agricultural research by continuing to commit public dollars to fund plant breeding, crop development, extension initiatives, and other R&D activities that grow the sector and enhance profitability of producers.

Improving risk sharing:

- Improve AgriStability for the remainder of the current federal-provincial agreement (expires 2023) by making enrolment flexible, enhancing coverage levels, and eliminating the Reference Margin Limit.
- Make plans to to replace or supplement AgriStability after the current federal-provincial agreement expires in 2023, by setting aside money and making a real plan to develop new margin protection and insurance tools.
- Modernize crop insurance through changes to yield coverage calculations and premium-setting methodologies.
- Work with the federal government to enhance the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program by permanently sharing the cost of premiums with producers and expanding insurance options to other livestock sectors.

Stewardship and the environment:

- Recognize environmental goods and services and leverage agriculture's contributions to the fight against climate change by: finalizing a "Made-in Saskatchewan" carbon credit/offset framework that rewards Saskatchewan producers for carbon sequestration efforts by 2021 and improving Farm Stewardship and Environmental Farm Plan programs to recognize and enhance the value of environmental practices on farms.



APAS President Todd Lewis hopes each provincial parties platform addresses APAS' priorities.

- Increase investment in water management initiatives to support flood and drought mitigation, including: financial support for organized water management through the creation of Conservation and Development Area Authorities (C&Ds) and other local water management boards to improve land use efficiency while reducing risks of downstream flooding and increase investment and support for community irrigation and water retention/distribution projects to mitigate drought risk.

Resource development on farmland:

- Strengthen landowner protections by conducting a thorough review of the Saskatchewan Surface Rights legislation and the role of the Surface Rights Arbitration Board to identify and address gaps.
- Develop well clean-up and reclamation programme that encourage responsible development by ensuring that successful applicants' municipal taxes and landowner lease agreements are in good standing as a precondition of grant approval.

Growing opportunities:

- Apply beginning farmer "lens" to all agricultural policy decisions, particularly with respect to business risk management programs and recommendations for the next policy framework.
- Work with APAS and other farm organizations to improve provincial and federal tax incentives to help beginning farmers access land and farming opportunities.
- Develop training programs and support to encourage the development of the agricultural labour force.
- Enhance vital health and education services in rural Saskatchewan.

APAS President Todd Lewis

With the upcoming provincial election, APAS President Todd Lewis thought this would be the perfect time to shine a spotlight on some of the top priorities in the

agriculture industry that need to be addressed over the next few years to continue the growth of Saskatchewan.

"We certainly lobby year round on these kind of topics and quality ideas," Lewis said. "Provincial policies do affect agriculture, and agriculture is the huge economic driver in the province so there's no better time than an election cycle to talk about these policies. For instance, some of the ones we put out, like business risk management review programming, has been under review by the federal and provincial government for the last three or four years. They've been reviewing the different parts of business risk management, be it AgriStability or AgriInvest or crop insurance.

"It's all very important to Saskatchewan producers on both the livestock and the grain side. I think going forward in the next mandate there will be another five-year program put together between the federal government and province.

"I believe it comes up in 2023 so it'll be in the next government's mandate to renegotiate the program going forward. It's important to talk about it now and hopefully get into the new parties platforms how they see these programs and what improvements are needed.

"Another important topic is the infrastructure availability, be it internet or cell service or even natural gas or three phase power," he said. "We need that to grow our industry here in the province. With the internet and cell phone availability it's become more important with Covid-19 because there's so much business learning going on and people working from home. It's really shone a light on how poor the service is in many parts of the province and it's important we talk about what parties would bring forward with the next government over the next few years to improve the service.

"We're going to need to see some concrete ideas come forward on how we're going to see the service improved. That's another example of a policy that really affects producers province wide."

Lewis says it was important to get APAS' agriculture priorities out early to see how each political party will address them in their platforms and he's confident there will continue to be progress on these issues.

"There's no better time than election to speak about these kinds of topics," he said. "It's not something that gets fixed overnight, but at the same time we need to be lobbying and pointing out the ideas and solutions by identifying the problem. I think on a lot of these issues we have seen progress, with cell service for instance we have new towers being built by SaskTel and things like that. That's an example of continued improvements and we just need to continue pushing for accelerated improvements.

"We are fairly confident that the government and politicians are aware of these issues and it's just important now that it's brought to the forefront. Even on the telecommunication side, the federal government has programs and anything we can do to see the province and federal government working together on this problem is an example we'd like to see of good cooperation on both levels of government."

Continued on page 15

To contact Plain & Valley call 306-435-2445

Pinnacle
PLUMBING & HEATING

Licensed Plumbers & Gas Fitters
Heating & Air Conditioning
171-7th Ave. N. - Virden, MB
204-748-1788
info@pphmb.com

Interest-bearing portion now at prime less 0.75%

YOU HAVE ENOUGH ON YOUR MIND.

Put it at ease with an Advance Payments Program cash advance.

Get the farm cash flow you *need* and the control you *want* to sell at the best time and the best price. Our experienced team makes it easy to apply. Call 1-866-745-2256 or visit ccga.ca/cash

50+ Commodities

\$100K Interest-free

\$1M Maximum

WEATHER TECHNOLOGY REPAIRS

CASH FLOW

MARKETS SAFETY TRANSPORTATION TRADE

CANADIAN CANOLA GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Programme de paiements anticipés

Strong Saskatchewan



RE-ELECT

Warren Kaeding
MELVILLE-SALTCOATS

RE-ELECT

Steven Bonk
MOOSOMIN

ELECT

Daryl Harrison
CANNINGTON



saskparty.com

Authorized by the Business Manager's for Warren Kaeding, Steven Bonk, and Daryl Harrison

 **Scott Moe** *and the*
Saskatchewan
Party

Sheering sheep on the Hanlin farm

BY DONNA BEUTLER

When it comes to sheep, Tim and Jen Hanlin of the Whitewood area have been in the business for the past 13 years.

"We bought our first 15 ewes 13 years ago," Jen said. "Our flock numbers have gone up and down over the years," she added, saying that they have had as many as 275 but presently have 175.

The Hanlins are busy both on and off the farm and raising four children, Tristan 19, Sam 14, Sydney 12 and Delaney 10. Both Jen and Tim work off the farm as well with Jen working part time for PIC as well as running a professional photography business. Tim works in the oilfield and also runs his own farrier business. The Hanlin family also raises livestock guardian dogs.

Jen said their planned shearing day earlier this year didn't materialize until August but with the whole family working together, along with sheep shearer Cliff Metheral, the job got done and Jen, a professional photographer, was able to have her camera on hand to get a few pictures of the crew on hand, including Sue, the dog.

The Hanlins are very dependent upon their Collie who is used, as Jen says,



Delaney Hanlin (10) packs wool into wool bags during a busy sheep shearing day at the Hanlin farm near Whitewood.



Cliff Metheral shears sheep at the Tim and Jen Hanlin farm on an August 2020 sheep shearing day. Jen and Tim are assisted by their children as well as Cliff during the annual event.

"for everything." Sue gathers and sorts in the pens and makes the Hanlins' lives so much easier.

The night before shearing, the Hanlins are busy setting up for the next day. The ewes are pulled off pasture so their tummies are empty for shearing day.

Shearing day happens once a year at the Hanlin farm and the wool is shipped off. The cost of shearing is covered by what they get when they sell their wool.

"We average about 1.6 lambs per ewe by weaning time," Jen explained of the sheep. "They can be very productive and can wean more than a ewe's own body weight in lambs." In comparison to cattle, they can run about six ewes to one cow.

Jen says one of the things she likes about raising sheep and working with sheep is that she doesn't have to worry about the kids getting hurt when helping (as compared to

large livestock like cattle). This was especially important to the Hanlins when their children were younger.

It is important to shear the sheep because without the regular shearing of their wool from their bodies, a sheep's ability to regulate their body temperatures is impeded.

As for the downside to sheep-raising, Jen lists predators and fencing as the top challenges.

With shearing done for

this year, the Hanlins will gear up for next year's lambing season and next year's shearing day!

Grain growers say ag concerns not addressed in Throne Speech

Following the September 23 Speech from the Throne, the Grain Growers of Canada (GGC) said they are disappointed that many of the pressing needs for Canada's agriculture industry were left unad-

ressed by the federal government.

Earlier that week, the Grain Growers launched its own Speech from the Throne, outlining six priority areas for Canada's agriculture sector that re-

quire immediate attention, in the hopes that this messaging would be reflected in the throne speech.

These areas included: Business Risk Management programs; agricultural science and innovation; crop health; trade access; carbon tax exemptions; and cellular service and connectivity in rural areas.

"Our goal with the Speech from the Throne was to provide the government with clear and specific directives for what our industry needs right now to drive an economic recovery and benefit all Canadians," Nielsen explained.

Continued on page 15

Yorkton Auction Centre
 Planning on selling some Equipment or having a Farm Auction?
 Need an appraisal on assets?
 Give our Sales Manager a call today!
 Trench Guenther: 306-621-4739

www.yacauctions.com

Box 144 • Medora, MB • R0M 1K0
Ph: 204-665-2384
Cell: 204-522-5410 • Cal Vandaele
www.vandaeelseeds.com

GRAIN BUYING AND CONTRACTING

- Rye (all grades and varieties)
- Flaxseed: Brown & Golden
- Peas: Yellow, Green & Maple

FARM PICKUP AVAILABLE!

- CGC Bonded
- Call us for top dollar before you market your grain

**For pricing and information contact:
 Cal Vandaele "The Rye Guy"**

GROWING AGRICULTURE
 2020 Saskatchewan Provincial Election Forum

The provincial election is on October 26.
From October 19 to 25, tune in to Growing Agriculture on AccessNow TV and RealAgriculture.com.

Agricultural producers and political candidates will discuss the top issues for Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers. *Hosted by Shaun Haney of RealAgriculture.*

Watch on AccessNow TV

October 19-21 4:30-6:00 pm | 9:30-11:00 pm
October 22-25 7:00-8:30 pm

Watch on RealAgriculture.com
 October 19-25

APAS.ca/growingagriculture

PRESENTED BY:

SPONSORED BY:

Visit Plain & Valley online at www.plainandvalley.com

Farmland values influenced by many factors

For most farms, farmland is the biggest asset, and in recent decades, land values have appreciated steadily, making it a great investment. In many cases, the increase has contributed more wealth to the farm than the income derived from the production.

Beginning farmers wonder how they'll ever be able to afford to buy land. Retiring farmers wrestle with how to transition the farm to the next generation when so much value is in the land base. Everyone wishes they could know what farmland values will do in the future.

The annual FCC Farmland Values Report tracks and highlights average changes in cultivated farmland values—regionally, provincially and nationally. Using a system based on benchmark farm properties across the country, it provides important information to help producers manage risk and make informed business decisions.

Over the past decade, the biggest increases in the national value of farmland came in 2011 to 2014, at over 14% in each of those years. In 2013, the increase was more than 22%.

Since 2015, national increases have been more modest with 2019 pegged at 5.2%. However, the FCC Farmland Values Report recorded a great deal of variability across the country. While Alberta had a 3.3% increase in 2019, Prince Edward Island's farmland prices increased by 22.6%.

The variation in prices within a specific region can be huge. For instance, in B.C.'s Okanagan region, 2019 farmland prices ranged from a low of \$9,500 to a high of \$163,800 an acre. The value range represents 90% of the sales in each region and excludes the top and bottom 5%.

Price variation within a region comes from different use options and suitability, parcel size, quality and location. The FCC report highlights the factors affecting prices in each region.

Supply and demand

Land values follow the laws of supply and demand. A shortage of available land in a region (low supply) and many farmers interested in buying land (high demand) are factors contributing to higher prices.

Since farmland prices in almost all regions of the country have steadily increased for many years, there is sometimes an assumption that land prices will never decline. However, land prices fell in many regions from the early 1980s to the early 1990s due to low farm gate returns and record-high interest rates.

Interest rates

Interest rates have hovered near record lows since 2010. Low interest rates favour increased farmland values.

With low interest rates, mortgage pay-



ments are more affordable, allowing buyers to pay a higher land price as long as they have the down payment and can demonstrate repayment ability.

Low interest rates also make land an appealing investment compared to investment bonds or GICs (Guaranteed Investment Certificates).

Outside investor influence

Non-farmer investors influence land prices, particularly in scenarios where they anticipate a strong return on investment. However, in most land markets, the main factor is competition from farmers looking to expand their operations.

When investors own a significant amount of land in a region, they can impact the land rental market. Local producers usually end up farming the land even though they don't own it.

Relationship between prices, rental rates and farm income

Land prices and cash rents for land are both influenced by the farm revenue generated from that land. However, prices and cash rents can sometimes move in opposite directions, and the relationship between the two can be very different in different regions.

Consider land that's selling for \$3,000 an acre and is cash renting for \$100 an

acre. The rent provides an annual return of 3.3% before the payment of property taxes.

Now consider land with a value of \$10,000 an acre with a cash rent of \$200. That's an annual return of just 2% before property taxes.

For an investor, the annual return is more attractive on the lower-priced land in this example. Of course, an investor would also consider which property has the most significant opportunity to increase in value.

The bottom line is that land prices, cash rents and farm revenue will tend to move together over time. But there are periods when one of these variables may not match the pattern of the other two. Market adjustments can take time, and past relationships in these variables can evolve based on the outlook of the farm economy.

The productive value of land

You'll sometimes hear someone proclaim, "That land is so expensive that it will never pay for itself." The net farm revenue you can derive from a parcel of land may not make the mortgage payment on its own. Revenue from other land or off-farm revenue can be required to afford that new parcel of land.

Does that make buying land a bad deal? There are two revenue considerations with land—the revenue from what you produce on the land and the wealth generation if the value of land continues to appreciate.

As a farmer, you can be cash poor while being asset rich. Revenue and cash flow can be a struggle while your net worth continues to increase courtesy of the land you own.

expensive in relation to the income it generates, a price-to-revenue ratio is often used. Analysts take the average farmland price per acre in a region and divide that by the average expected receipts per acre.

To calculate the expected receipts, a standard crop rotation is assumed, and the average crop prices and average expected yields are used.

There's no "ideal" value for the ratio as the mix of crops, the region and the outlook for crop revenues all influence. According to FCC analysis, the price-to-revenue ratio has been rising since 2014 and is now above its historical average. That means affordability has been declining relative to farm income, and that land is expensive from a historical standpoint. But this is not necessarily indicative of future land price declines. The higher ratio can be sustainable if buyers and sellers believe in stronger future growth in farm revenues, continued low interest rates, etc.

Making land purchase decisions

While passion is commendable, it's unwise to let emotion govern farmland purchase decisions.

If you're a field crop producer, you need access to fields, and you can either rent the land or own it. Most producers have a combination of both.

Farmland has always appeared too expensive, but waiting for prices to drop has been an unsuccessful strategy for many decades.

Farmland often carries an emotional attachment, particularly if it's land that has been in the family for many years. While passion is commendable, it's unwise to let emotion govern farmland purchase decisions. Be clear on your short and long-term goals and objectives and crunch the numbers for a detailed financial analysis.

When is farmland overpriced?

To determine if land is becoming more

FOR SALE

SUTTON-HARRISON REALTY
AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER BROKER

Subdivision Complete

CAN BE SOLD SEPARATELY OR AS PACKAGE DEAL

20-3-27 W SW 1/4, MELITA, MB

MLS#: 202006949 **150 ACRES**

150 acres of great land (130 cultivated acres) only 1/4 mile from elevator & fertilizer plant. Peterson grain is also close by and just across the highway. This farmland last grew beans, Rye, and canola have also proven profitable on this farmland. 60-70 bushels per acre on most crops and sometimes up to 100 bushels per acre in from certain areas of this farmland.

20-3-27 W SW, MELITA, MB

Includes HOME & MECHANICS WORKSHOP
Makes A Great Hobby Farm / Horse Ranch

MLS#: 202006809 **10 ACRES**

This property is ideal for a hobby farm, raising livestock and farming. The current owner has also run his mechanics business out of the large workshop for years with lots of work and clients he would pass on. The home is located on 10 acres with insulated chicken coops, a barn (30 x 24) great for horses with a full loft and access to water & electrical.

call or text for more details

306.539.4376

Brandie Yurkiw

REALTOR®

brandiey@sutton.com
BRANDIESELLSHOUSES.CA

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

Reach 28,000 households when you advertise in Plain and Valley!

Call 306-435-2445 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net



Combines standing ready, moments before taking off 221 tonnes of canola from 230 acres. That comes roughly to 41 bushels an acre.

Harvest of Hope grows 221 tonnes for those in need

BY VICTOR VAN DER MERWE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Anyone that has lived on the prairies for even a few months know just how important this time of year is to farmers. The effort and investment of the whole growing season comes down to a few weeks of harvest.

With a hint of dust in the air at harvest time, kicked up by combines across the area and overflowing grain trucks overflying, it is hard not to be grateful and hard not to feel lucky to live in a place where the harvest has been good.

Not everyone in the world is this lucky. Kyle Penner and the volunteers that gathered together in a field north of Moosomin on Saturday, September 19, know this and that is why they took time away from their land to come and work the 230 acres set aside for the Moosomin Harvest of Hope.

All proceeds from the seventh annual Harvest of Hope will go to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank to support their goal of ending global hunger.

"The Moosomin Harvest of Hope really represents what the Canadian Foodgrains Bank has always done, since its

inception, which is largely around people in the Canadian prairies. They were able to be generous to those who do not have enough food in other parts of the world, to those that are struggling. That can sometimes be because of disaster, and sometimes it is the result of situations that are really difficult for families to overcome in developing nations. Now you have Canadian farmers' support and lots of other people and businesses that want to contribute to help end hunger," said Rick Block, Regional Representative for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Why the Canadian Foodgrains Bank?

Kyle Penner who is a project leader for the Harvest of Hope, feels that the Canadian Foodgrains Bank makes a real difference.

"The Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a fantastic organization with a track record of wanting to help people. I've become and stayed involved for three reasons. The first reason is that I have family involved in another Foodgrains Bank project in another part of the country and have seen other examples of what can be done when a community comes together. It's happening here too, with all of our private and corporate sponsors getting and staying behind the project. The second reason is recognizing the local impact we can have on a global scale.

"A few years ago a representative from Lebanon came to Moosomin to talk about what our fundraising was being used for at that time. We were helping feed something like 30,000 refugees per month who had been displaced from Syria due to the civil war. I think it's amazing that doing the things we are good at, like farming, and giving up a small portion of the plenty we have here in Canada, we can help make that kind of an impact on the other side of the world," said Penner.

His third reason has to do with the multiplication provided through the partnership of the Foodgrains Bank and the federal government. "Where else can you get your investment of time, energy, and resources leveraged up to 4:1. It's an amazing charity with good connections that makes a real difference," said Penner.

Within three hours, the combine harvesters produced 221 tonnes of canola. That comes roughly to 41 bushels an acre.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank has about 220 growing and community projects each year. Last year, together they raised \$6.5 million. In Saskatchewan alone, there are 24 growing projects and 23 in Manitoba this year.

The Moosomin Harvest of Hope has raised almost \$360,000 since it started back 2013.

Conservation Agriculture

The Foodgrains Bank is not just providing emergency food assistance to those who need it, Block talks of helping local farmers in other parts of the world get the most out of their own piece of land and how to grow more and better food.

"There is a program called Scaling up Conservation Agriculture in east Africa that, as of last year, have trained now over 65,000 families within the whole network and region. There's lots of smaller partner organizations that are helping to extend that training and in a nutshell, farmers in Saskatchewan and across the prairies really get it, because we transitioned from a traditional heavy tillage system which is where you grew a crop year and then you just had summer fallow another year and you were just always tilling your land and losing carbon and losing organic matter. We were "mining the soil." Nowadays with continuous cropping, which does require inputs and being very astute in terms of the soil fertility, you are protecting the soil and you are cycling nutrients more fully in the system. That whole idea is modified and adapted to the context of a small holder farms in Africa, but the idea is similar. Instead of heavy mechanical tilling or even if you are using hand tools, instead of turning your soil so much it is really trying to minimize the amount of soil that is disturbed. The idea is keeping a mulch over your soil, and in the tropics trying to keep the soils cooler is actually a benefit, and that requires rotating crops as well. With that kind of (tilling) system, if you grew the same crop year after year, you would come into too many issues with disease and pests, so it requires this idea of crop rotation. Which dovetails well into the importance of understanding nutrition," said Block.

Continued on page 19

Southern Saskatchewan

Cleanfarms 2020 Unwanted Pesticides & Old Livestock/Equine Medications Collection

Farmers! Got unwanted pesticides or livestock/equine medications?

Safely dispose of unwanted or obsolete agricultural pesticides and livestock/equine medications—**no charge!** Take them to the following locations on the dates noted between **9 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

Check for Event Locations & Dates here:

CARLYLE October 28 Precision Ag 306-453-2255	ESTEVAN October 29 Richardson Pioneer 306-634-2342	ITUNA October 27 Nutrien Ag Solutions 306-795-3606	MAPLE CREEK October 28 Richardson Pioneer 306-662-2420	SHAUNAVON October 29 Pioneer Coop 306-297-2662
CENTRAL BUTTE October 28 Hawk's Agro 306-796-4787	ESTON October 26 Emerge Ag Solutions 306-962-4132	LEADER October 27 G-Mac's Ag Team Inc. 306-628-3886	MOOSE JAW October 26 Moose Jaw Co-operative Association Ltd. 306-692-1661	SOUTH DAVIDSON October 29 Richardson Pioneer 306-567-4778
CEYLON October 30 Ceylon Pulses Ag 306-454-2245	GRAVELBOURG October 27 Hawk's Agro 306-648-3110	LEWVAN October 29 Synergy AG 306-789-9493	MOOSOMIN October 27 Sharpe's Soil Services Ltd. 306-435-3319	SWIFT CURRENT October 30 Pioneer Coop Agronomy Center 306-778-8705
CORONACH October 30 Richardson Pioneer 306-267-2100	INDIAN HEAD October 28 Nutrien Ag Solutions 306-695-2311	LUMSDEN October 30 Synergy AG Services 306-731-1200	RAYMORE October 26 Cargill 306-746-2055	WHITEWOOD October 26 Richardson Pioneer 306-735-2626

• Next Cleanfarms collection in this area in fall 2023.
 • COVID social distancing measures may be in place.
 • For collection dates in Northern Saskatchewan or elsewhere in the Prairies, go to: cleanfarms.ca/materials/unwanted-pesticides-animal-meds/

Cleanfarms.ca
info@cleanfarms.ca @cleanfarms

cleanfarms 10 YEARS

Given the current situation, please call ahead to collection sites for instructions on delivering empties.

Because farming is ESSENTIAL

DR. Robert Kitchen MP
Souris-Moose Mountain

1-866-249-4697

www.drrobertkitchen.ca

APAS releases election priorities

Continued from page 9

One of the main priorities for the agriculture industry is ensuring young farmers continue on as producers and Lewis says meeting APAS's priorities will help keep the industry growing and help it diversify with more demographics.

"I think it's a big picture topic (keeping young farmers in the agriculture industry)," he said. "Even tying it back to internet service. The way things are evolving now it's no longer a luxury to have good service, it's a necessity. We end up with young producers with young families having to consider where they're going to live in this province. There's parts of rural Saskatchewan where it's very difficult if you have school aged children that have no access to the internet.

"It's pretty difficult to have your kids in school without internet anymore. Even at the university level we've seen examples where students can't take their distance learning on the farm and have to move to a larger centre so they have internet availability.

"It's a big picture problem trying to keep producers interested in continuing on the farm or taking over the

farm. Our livestock industry certainly needs to see young people come in and be interested in raising cattle and continuing to maintain the cow herd.

"I think those are more examples that if we have good policy and good economic activity we'll be able to attract young people," he said. "The best way to attract young people is to have a strong and vibrant industry and government policy certainly impact that."

APAS' priorities tie into one another and compliment each other, said Lewis, and by addressing them it will help Saskatchewan move forward economically after Covid-19.

"A strong and health industry is the best way to attract investment and people," he said. "That's why it's so important to address these policies during an election and speak about agriculture. That's why we put these policy ideas out there and see where all the parties sit so we can have a conversation about it during the election.

"As I said, agriculture is a big part of the economy in this province and a real major driver. Saskatchewan is positioned well as we come out of Covid-19 and continue with the recovery of the province. Our province can do

very well in the recovery phase and agriculture can help lead that recovery."

The key reason APAS released their election priorities was to continue the conversation on these issues in agriculture and push for the provincial government to make changes to help Saskatchewan's biggest industry.

"We're looking at if some of these quality ideas get put into provincial platforms for all the parties," he said.

"We're just hoping we'll end up with a good robust discussion about these policies during the election time. Producers look forward to seeing the replies from the different parties and hopefully we see some results with these ideas working their way into party platforms. That's why we put this out before the writ, this is when platforms and strategies are being put together.

"It was important to get these ideas out on the table now so politicians can have a look at it as they're campaigning.

"It's certainly going to be a different election with the way the Covid-19 restrictions impact it, but we're looking forward to the discussion of these topics as the election plays out."

Grain growers say ag concerns not addressed in Throne Speech

Continued from page 12

"We are disappointed that so little attention was paid to addressing the challenges facing our sector."

During the Speech from the Throne, it was stated that, "[the] Government will recognize farmers, foresters, and ranchers, as key partners in fight against climate change, supporting efforts to reduce emissions and build resilience."

GGC said it is pleased with this statement as the organization has consistently shared with the government that farmers wish to be part of the solution.

Unfortunately, the Grain Growers said this sentiment has not been reflected in the recent conversations that the group has had with the government.

"From consultations on carbon offset protocols to the criteria for the proposed Clean Fuel Standard, we have not felt that our perspective has been acknowledged," said Nielsen.

"We hope that today's message sets a new tone going forward as we are more than willing to step up and play a role in addressing climate change."

Going forward, GGC will work closely with federal and

provincial agriculture ministers to ensure that Canada's agriculture industry remains top of mind, Nielsen added.

"Although we are disappointed today, we will continue to do what we always do—advocate for Canadian farmers."

One bright spot was the indication by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau that 'improving rural connectivity' will be a priority for this session of parliament.

"COVID-19 has highlighted more than ever how critically rural areas need improved cellular wireless, internet connectivity, and broadband access," Nielsen said.

"The cutting-edge tools available in today's agriculture world, which help us reduce inputs and produce more crops on less land, are only as good as the connection they have."

FOR SALE
SMALL SQUARE WHEAT STRAW BALES
SMALL SQUARE GRASS ALFALFA HAY BALES
Doug Chapman 204-748-2162
Viriden, MB

Doug's Mobile Service Ltd.
SAFETY INSPECTION & REPAIR SHOP
 Full line of Truck/Trailer Parts
 Hwy. #3 East • Melita, MB
(204) 522-8451
 FREIGHTLINER ASSOCIATE PARTS DEALER

BEST BUYS IN USED EQUIPMENT

MFD TRACTORS

2016 X7.660 McCormick, 1,700 hrs., 160 hp	
MFD loader & grapple	\$120,000
2012 TTX 190 McCormick MFD 520x42 rear tires, loader & grapple	\$120,000
2011 Puma 140 Case IH w/loader	\$115,000
2006 DX45 Case IH, 45 hp, hydro.	\$23,000

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE

1999 9220 John Deere 4WD, new tires 20.8 x 38	CALL
1998 9350 Case IH 4WD	\$80,000
1996 9370 Case IH 4WD, complete motor overhaul	\$85,000
1991 9270 Case IH 4WD, motor recently overhauled, new tires	\$75,000

COMBINES

2005 8010 Case IH with pick up	\$125,000
2006 2388 Case IH with pick up	CALL
2007 7010 Case IH duals, pick up	\$165,000
2008 2588 Case IH with pick up	CALL
2011 7120 Case IH with pick up	\$176,000
2012 9120 Case IH with pick up	\$196,000
2012 Gleaner S77 w/pick up	\$185,000
2013 9230 Case IH with pick up	\$295,000
2013 8230 Case IH with pick up	\$285,000
2013 8230 Case IH with pick up header	\$266,000
2015 9240 Case IH with pick up header	\$345,000
2018 8240 Case IH duals, pick up	CALL

COMBINE HEADERS

2010 2162 40 ft Case IH header/transport AAFX adapter	\$40,000
2012 35 ft 8020 Case IH Auger FLEX header used very little	\$35,000
2013 40 ft FD 75 MacDon flex header, Case IH adapter	\$65,000
2015 40 ft 3162 Case IH TERRA FLEX Draper Header	\$45,000
2017 40 ft MacDon FD75 Draper Header, Transport Cross Auger & Case Adapter	\$75,000

SEEDING

2013 68" 3320 Bourgault with liquid fertilizer kit, Bourgault seed cart, duals and bag lift	CALL
2011 50 ft. 12" spacing Seed Hawk tool bar w/6000 cart, dual wheels, auger, bag lift	\$225,000
2010 60-12 Seed Hawk tool bar 12" spacing w/400 Seedhawk cart duals, 2 fans, auger, seed & fertilizer kit	\$165,000
2010 6612 Seed Hawk toolbar 12" spacing w/400 plus Seed Hawk seed cart, 2 fans, seeded fertilizer kit	\$165,000
2010 Seed Hawk 66, 12" spacing, seed and fertilizer dist. plus 2 NH3 onboard 1750 Anhydrous tank w/5440 seed cart	\$160,000
2009 66" Seed Hawk, 12" spacing w/800 seed cart conveyer & bag lift	\$160,000

CULTIVATORS

37ft 5600 Case IH Cultivator with 4 row Degelman harrows	\$20,000
--	----------

HAY CONDITIONER

2010 16 ft. 1476 Heston hay conditioner	\$22,000
---	----------

MOWERS

2016 Schulte 15 ft rotary mower w/XH1500 walking axle	\$24,000
2014 Schulte 15 ft rotary mower w/XH1500 walking axle	\$22,000

A.E. CHICOINE Farm Equipment Ltd.
Storthoaks, SK.
306-449-2255

1995 Case Corporation
 Case IH is a registered trademark of Case Corporation.

CASE II
 AGRICULTURE

BELOW FACTORY DIRECT PRICING!
NOW AVAILABLE SNAP LOCK HIDDEN FASTENER METAL ROOFING
Structural Steel Dealer
 Now selling Septic/Holding Tanks

#1 Grade Coloured	85¢/sq. ft.
B Grade Coloured	79¢/sq. ft.
B Grade Galvanized	75¢/sq. ft.
Multi Coloured Mill Ends	45¢/sq. ft.

COLOR SALE! ORANGE
72¢/sq. FT.

B Grade 4x8	7/16 Ranch Board	\$22.95/Sheet
-------------	------------------	---------------

NOW SELLING SCREWPILES
 Call us now for best selection of lengths & colours!
 Ask us about Fuel Allowance

FOUILLARD STEEL SUPPLIES LTD.
 ST. LAZARE, MB
1-800-510-3303
www.fouillardsteel.com

Providing organic certification within Manitoba and Saskatchewan



CONTACT US
Phone: 204.567.3745
Website: www.opam-mb.com

GGC make 'Speech from the Combine'

BY ROB PAUL
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Prior to the federal government's Speech from the Throne, the Grain Growers of Canada (GGC) released their own "Speech from the Combine," a video asking for government support for Canada's grain industry in order to drive the post pandemic recovery.

In a seven-minute video from GGC Chair Jeff Nielsen—who made the speech from his farm in Olds, Alberta—the Speech from the Combine outlines six priorities that require immediate attention in order to help position the agriculture industry for success.

The six requests of the federal government are to provide effective Business Risk Management programs, support science and innovation in agriculture, support crop health, help improve trade access, provide carbon tax exemptions, and improve cellular service and connectivity in rural areas.

From his combine, Nielsen walked through why, more now than ever, Canada must support the agriculture industry through the pandemic recovery continues.

"2020 has been tough, Canadians across our country have felt the impact of Covid-19, but as a farmer I'm a natural born optimist and I know the clouds are going to clear," Nielsen said.

"We can recover from this and Canada's agriculture industry is uniquely positioned to drive our economic recovery in the months and years ahead. In rural communities, where farmers live, there is a general rule, when someone needs help we all show up no questions asked. Right now our community is Canada. Farmers want to help and we are eager to help, we just need the federal government to set us up to do so."

With the unpredictability of the agriculture industry, Nielsen and the GGC are asking for the federal government to consider implementing more modernized Business Risk Management programs that fall in line with the current state of farming.

"There are six main areas in which Canadian grain farmers need immediate support right now," he said. "And we along with other farm organizations have clear and direct feedback on how you can support us. Farmers love their jobs but sometimes we face circumstances beyond our control. That is when we need Business Risk Management programs to give us a hand up, not a hand-out. AgriStability is currently the best Business Risk Management program to support farmers impacted by these uncontrollable factors, including weather, trade disputes, and transportation challenges. The program's current parameters were put in place at a time when farm incomes were higher and trade barriers were lower, that's no longer the reality and as a result many farmers simply can't use the program today. We, along with a number of other farm organizations, feel the program should reflect the current realities of farming. We have one clear ask for the government, immediately restore program coverage to 85 per cent of historical reference margins and remove the reference margin limit."

For the agriculture industry to continue to grow in Canada, Nielsen says the government must invest in opportunities to develop innovative ways for farming to advance and reach its potential here.

"Science and innovation are critical to maintaining the profitability, competitiveness, and sustainability of our

"We are all looking at you, our elected leaders, to restore certainty and peace of mind to our daily lives and sustainability to our economy, a privilege we have long enjoyed and come to expect in this wonderful country. The agriculture sector is ready to help you do this, we have already shown up. We are ready to work and thrive, so let's get started together."

—Jeff Nielsen

sector, but Canada is lagging behind" he said. "Already we're seeing U.S. and Latin American farmers access new tools and technology before us. Plant breeding innovations can help us increase productivity and sustainability, improve crop nutritional value and quality, combat pests and disease, and enhance food safety. We have the potential to be a leader in this area, but we need a regulatory environment that creates a clear and predictable pathway for investments needed to ensure this innovation comes to Canada. We also need a commitment to make up for the year of fuel trials that were lost due to Covid-19. And to privatize agricultural research now and into the future. We are asking that you modernize the regulations to enable innovation in plant breeding, pave the way for investments in new technologies that will benefit farmers, consumers, and the environment, such as gene editing, and increase funding towards Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada research."

For Canada to continue to be seen as one of the best crop producing countries and uphold its reputation going forward, Nielsen says the government needs to invest in the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA).

"As farmers we rely on the Pest Management Regulatory Agency to approve products to maximize our growing potential, protect the health of citizens and our environment, and protect Canada's reputation for delivering safe high quality crops to the world. However, in the next 10 years, the annual number of PMRA projects involving pesticide re-evaluations will triple, exceeding the existing capacity and resources. We need assurance that our government will provide the necessary support to ensure PMRA can keep doing its job and ensure that we have the tools available to do ours. We also need to ensure that our agencies can generate accurate data going forward to protect the health of people and the environment and our global reputation for safety and scientific accuracy. We are asking that you provide adequate funding to the PMRA to keep up with their increasing workload and establish a Pan-Canadian Water Monitoring Program under the purview of the PMRA, to ensure access to accurate data."

Lack of regulation in free trade agreements have hurt the market in the agriculture industry and Nielsen says to ensure Canada is benefiting from them they must focus on proper implementation of the agreements.

"In order for our industry to thrive, we need to diversify and expand markets for Canadian grains, pulses, and oilseeds," he said. "For many years Canada embarked on an ambitious free trade agenda, which has resulted in the creation of many free trade agreements over the past de-

cade—including the comprehensive economic and trade agreement (CETA) with the European Union. However, the success of those agreements has been mixed. CETA, which holds much promise for agri-food exporters, continues to fall short. We need you, our legislators, to stand up for free trade and ensure proper implementation of our existing free trade agreements, our bottom line depends on it. We are asking that you provide adequate funding within Global Affairs Canada to ensure that trade agreements such as CETA are properly implemented."

Nielsen says the carbon tax is only punishing farmers who have no other options for cropping drying despite their efforts to make major advancement in reducing emissions in recent years.

"In recent years a carbon tax has been rolled out directly affecting farmers using propane and natural gas to dry their grain," he said. "To date, there is no alternative energy source available to do so. Meaning the tax will not encourage a transition to lower carbon options as it's intended to do. Instead it just unfairly penalizes farmers. Furthermore, farming conditions in recent years have required above normal use of grain dryers, meaning higher costs for farmers at a time when their profit margins are already very thin. As farmers, one of our main goals is to ensure our land is sustainable for generations to come. We have adopted many practices in recent decades that promote lower carbon emissions and now we're looking to you, our government, to recognize the work we have done in this area and not penalize us unfairly. We are asking that you immediately pass legislation to exempt all on-farm fuel from the carbon tax."

The lack of internet and cell service in rural Canada has long been an issue in the agriculture industry, and Nielsen says the pandemic has put an exclamation on an issue that's overdue in being addressed.

"Rural connectivity has long been an issue for the agriculture sector, but Covid-19 has highlighted more than ever how critical rural areas need improved cellular and wireless internet connectivity and broadband access," he said. "Agriculture is developing new innovative tools every year to reduce inputs and produce more crops on less land, however, those tools are only as good as the connectivity we have. We need major investments in infrastructure for high-speed internet in homes, and just as importantly, cell and internet signal availability in farmers fields across the country. We are asking that you expedite the new national target, set out in Budget 2019, to deliver high-speed internet to every Canadian home and business. We are all looking at you, our elected leaders, to restore certainty and peace of mind to our daily lives and sustainability to our economy, a privilege we have long enjoyed and come to expect in this wonderful country. The agriculture sector is ready to help you do this, we have already shown up. We are ready to work and thrive, so let's get started together."



Heartland Livestock Services
Box 340 • Virden, Manitoba • Tel: 204-748-2809
Fax: 204-748-3478 • E-mail: hls.virden@hls.ca
TOLL FREE: 1-888-784-9882

- OCTOBER 2020 -		
19	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
21	FULL	Presort Charolais Feeder Sale 10 a.m.
26	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
28	FULL	Presort Angus Feeder Sale 10 a.m.
30	Friday	Special Yearling & Calf Sale 9 a.m.
- NOVEMBER 2020 -		
2	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
4	Wednesday	Presort Charolais Feeder Sale 10 a.m.
9	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
11	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale 10 a.m.
16	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
18	Wednesday	Presort Angus Feeder Sale 10 a.m.
20	Friday	Bred Cow Sale 11:30 a.m.
23	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
25	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale 10 a.m.
27	Friday	Bred Cow Sale 11:30 a.m.
30	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
- DECEMBER 2020 -		
2	Wednesday	Regular Feeder Sale 9 a.m.
4	Friday	Bred Cow Sale 11:30 a.m.
7	Monday	Butcher Sale 9 a.m.
8	Tuesday	No Border Charolais Sale
9	Wednesday	Regular Feeder Sale 9 a.m.



Integra Tire Auto Centre
Darren Schlamp • 306-697-2856
Junction #1, 47 Hwy • Grenfell, SK
grenfell@integratire.com

NEW FACTORY RIMS AND TIRES

JD 4038 12 Hole 870/70R38 Samson \$13,200	JD 4045 800/55R46 Samson \$23,500	650/65R38 Tires and Rims Samson \$10,500 Michelin \$14,000 For Case & JD Sprayers
---	---	---

2020 WINTER MAIL-IN REBATES

UP TO \$70 IN REBATES BFGoodrich OCTOBER 1 - DECEMBER 15, 2020	UP TO \$100 IN REBATES Firestone AUGUST 31 - NOVEMBER 1, 2020
UP TO \$100 IN REBATES GOODYEAR SEPTEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 31, 2020	UP TO \$100 IN REBATES BRIDGESTONE OCTOBER 5 - DECEMBER 13, 2020
UP TO \$100 IN REBATES Continental OCTOBER 1 - DECEMBER 14, 2020	UP TO \$100 REBATE HANKOOK OCTOBER 19 - NOVEMBER 27, 2020
\$50 REBATE MICHELIN TIRES OCTOBER 15 - DECEMBER 15, 2020	UP TO \$70 IN REBATES TOYO TIRES SEPTEMBER 19 - DECEMBER 15, 2020



KELLN SOLAR
Rocky Meadow Ranch/Garry Grose
has taken over as a dealer for Kelln Solar
from former dealer Carl Driedger.
Portable • Remote Summer
Winter Solar Water Systems for livestock!
Call for pricing on solar systems,
wind generators, aeration, service
and repair on all makes and models.
Welwyn, SK • 306-435-7973 (C) • 306-733-4421 (H)



STOKER COAL FOR SALE
I am presently moving coal
into SE Saskatchewan and
all areas of Manitoba.
For more information contact:
Larry Gould • Reston, MB
204.877.3882
204-522-6067 (CELL)
e-mail: lgould@mymts.net

LIVESTOCK PRICES	JANUARY 2020 FORECAST \$/CWT	ACTUAL JAN.-SEPT. \$/CWT	FORECAST NEXT 6 MONTHS	5-YEAR AVERAGE	FORECAST OF THE NEXT 6 MONTHS RELATIVE TO 5-YEAR AVERAGE
Alberta fed steer	\$155	\$141	\$147	\$161	➔
Alberta 550 lb steer	\$228	\$223	\$227	\$242	➔
Alberta 850 lb steer	\$193	\$179	\$187	\$199	➔
Ontario fed steer	\$148	\$143	\$145	\$155	➔
Ontario 550 lb steer	\$218	\$222	\$224	\$234	➔
Ontario 850 lb steer	\$190	\$182	\$188	\$172	➔
Ontario market hog	\$81	\$76	\$73	\$80	➔
Ontario feeder hog	\$141	\$111	\$114	\$114	➔
Manitoba market hog	\$78	\$73	\$72	\$77	➔
Manitoba feeder hog	\$134	\$100	\$117	\$137	➔
Isowean \$/head	\$53	\$37	\$38	\$51	➔

Arrows indicate a higher price (➔), moderately higher (➔), neutral (➔), moderately lower (➔), or lower (➔).

Table 1: Improved livestock prices expected in the next six months.



FCC Ag Economics will update its projections about profitability across three Canadian agriculture sectors (red meat, dairy and grains, oilseeds and pulses) throughout October. We'll describe what has happened in 2020 to-date and what to monitor over the next six months.

2020 red meat outlook update: Expect livestock prices to improve

BY LEIGH ANDERSON, FCC AG ECONOMICS

In our February 2020 Red Meat Outlook, we identified five factors likely to impact profitability:

1. African Swine Fever's (ASF) disruption of livestock and meat markets
2. Trade tensions' influence on agri-food markets
3. Robust global and domestic red meat demand
4. Growth in U.S. beef and pork production
5. The global economic impact of coronavirus

Recap of the first nine months

The first nine months of 2020 have been a rollercoaster ride for both the pork and beef sectors. The year started with great optimism due to reduced red meat supplies stemming from ASF. Optimism was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic. Outbreaks at processing plants significantly reduced capacity, resulting in a large backlog of animals, approximately 130,000 head of cattle and 150,000 hogs by May 2020. The disruption led declining farm-gate prices through the first half of 2020 and higher prices at grocery stores.

Significant reductions in the backlog of animals and strong demand for proteins have driven the rebound in farm-gate prices. Yet, average livestock prices through the first nine months remain below our January forecast (Table 1).

Chart showing livestock prices expected in the next 6 months. Sources: Statistics Canada, AAFC, USDA, CanFax,

CME Futures, and FCC calculations.

Trends to monitor in the next six months

Our revised price forecasts for Q4 of 2020 and Q1 of 2021 indicate prices will improve for most livestock categories. Prices are projected to be within 10% of their 5-year average price, except for Manitoba isowean and feeder hogs. This would be a large improvement from our July 2020 update. There are several reasons why prices are likely to improve over the next 6 months.

1. U.S. production

The pandemic led to reductions in overall U.S. production estimates. The latest USDA numbers indicate that U.S. beef production could decline -0.4% in 2020, compared to a 1.2% growth projection in January. U.S. pork production is projected to increase 2.2% in 2020, down from the 4.5% growth estimate at the beginning of the year.

2. ASF and global pork supplies

Our January 2020 prediction that ASF would be the story to watch in 2020 is playing out. While China has begun to rebuild its hog herd, reports suggest China has now culled 100 million hogs and essentially depleted its pork storage stocks. Furthermore, strong export demand to China has also reduced U.S. cold storage stocks of pork, which will support North American hog and cattle prices.

The presence of ASF was also recently reported in Germany. Several Asian countries, including China, South Korea and Japan, have placed a ban on German pork imports. While the ban is temporary, expect increased North American pork exports to China as Germany has been the third-largest supplier of pork to China. Lean hog futures have risen between 5%-13% following its discovery.

3. Re-opening of economies

While we are projecting prices to improve over the next six months, a second wave of COVID-19 is emerging. COVID-19 cases can slow the re-opening of the Canadian economy, limit foodservice sales disrupting agri-food supply chains.

The September OECD economic projections indicate a swift recovery after the pandemic's initial shock, which has lost momentum since then. World GDP is expected to contract by 4.5% in 2020 and rebound 5.0% in 2021. The economic recovery for top destinations of Canadian red meat follows a different pattern. OECD forecasts suggest a slower recovery in the U.S., Japan, Mexico and South Korea. China is a notable exception: growth is expected to dip to 1.8% in 2020 from the 6.5% annual growth observed in recent years. But it could rebound by 8.0% in 2021.

China's overall impact on global agricultural markets cannot be understated—a faster economic recovery should benefit the Canadian red meat sector.

Available from The World-Spectator

Hand Sanitizer Touchless Dispensers with Steel Stands

AVAILABLE IN WHITE OR BLACK

■ Can be filled with any product: Gel, Liquid or Soap.

■ Built-In Bottle holds around 1000 sprays



Stand with
Dispenser

\$299

Dispenser
Only

\$145

ALSO AVAILABLE:
20L Pails of Hand Sanitizer for refills

\$320


(\$16/L)

THE WORLD-SPECTATOR

306-435-2445
world_spectator@sasktel.net

CHIPLESKI

TRANSPORT



Five trucks to serve your local and long distance hauling of grain and fertilizer

Serving Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta

Call Ian at 204-773-6777

Russell, MB

NANCY
MOOSOMIN, SK.

Not even a global pandemic could stop this amazing woman and mother from hitting the streets in her local community and personally raising \$1125.00 for the Crohns and Colitis Canada Gutsy Walk.

She proved that every \$20 donation makes a difference and ended up 1st in Saskatchewan and 8th in Canada for individual fundraisers.

With a son that has Crohn's disease she has been one of Saskatchewan's top fundraisers for years! She is truly one of the most selfless people I know.

Her dedication to her fundraising is only matched by her dedication to the Riders as a die hard fan and season ticket holder!

TYLER
ESTERHAZY, SK.

Coach Tyler has continued his tireless work to support the community football team!

Leading the town's field restoration project, Tyler provided parents and players with timely information as well as continuing to operate an essential business—he has worked endlessly for the program.

With uncertain times surrounding us, he has stayed positive, in helping those around him!

Rider Nation and SaskTel shine light on two local 'Everyday Heroes'

BY VICTOR VAN DER MERWE
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The pandemic may have meant the cancellation of the 2020 CFL season, but it did not mean the end of Rider Nation.

In partnership with SaskTel, the Saskatchewan Roughriders took this time to spotlight who they call "Everyday Heroes."

"2020 has been an interesting year for everyone and the Riders in particular," said Miriam Johnson Director of Marketing with the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

"Normally we are talking a lot about our team and we didn't have that opportunity anymore. So, we took a step back and thought about what are the Roughriders to this province? Yes, we are a football team but we are more than football in Saskatchewan. The one thing the Riders do is, they bring people together. We as brand said, how do we use this time, the strength of our brand and our partners to still bring people together and showcase some of the greatness that is still happening in this province regardless of whether we are playing or not. So, when we were in that mindset, the concept of showcasing fans of ours that are going above and beyond making their communities better, and not just in Regina and not just in Saskatoon, all around Saskatchewan. How do we use Rider Nation to tell stories of the goodness that is still happening in a really tough time. SaskTel came on board and we

went out and asked people to nominate people from their communities and let them tell the stories of the good that is around Saskatchewan. We got to tell stories from all across the province," said Johnson.

Two of these "Everyday Heroes" came from Southeast Saskatchewan recently.

Nancy Apskrum from Moosomin, has raised over \$10,000 this year for the Crohns and Colitis Gutsy Walk. "It is a real pleasure to work with Nancy as she fundraises in the community of Moosomin.

"She is so well organized and consistent in her requests for support year after year, that she has created great relationships with individual donors and business supporters, and we know these donors continue to generously support her efforts year after year.

"Not only does Nancy fundraise for Gutsy Walk, but she has also been the driving force behind registering dozens of businesses with our GoHere washroom access program in Moosomin and supporting communities, and she even volunteers to help out at events when she can.

"She's also raised awareness about Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis across Saskatchewan with her fundraising efforts, and that helps other Gutsy Walk participants, too.

"All of this helps drive our mission to fund world-class research into the causes and treatments for inflammatory bowel disease.

"It's a cause that Nancy believes in wholeheartedly, and for many years she has rallied Moosomin to join her in helping us with our mission.

"She's a wonderful and passionate example for other Gutsy Walk participants, for patients, and for caregivers of patients," said Carol-Lynne Quintin Crohns and Colitis Development Co-ordinator, Saskatchewan.

Tyler Metz from Esterhazy also received the title of Everyday Hero.

"He actually got a group together and restored the football field out in Esterhazy. While everyone was waiting around to see what was going to happen, he lead the charge and put the time into that project for the community," said Johnson.

"These types of things are not why I do this. The response from it has been phenomenal, so many well wishes, I just feel it is a very positive thing," said Metz.

Although this program was started because of no football season, Johnson thinks it could become a mainstay with Rider Nation.

"This is a brand new program. We feel as a brand that we still have a responsibility to bring people together and use our brand's strength to shine a light on the goodness. I think there is definitely life for this program moving forward. Being able to show our everyday heroes is certainly something we want to make sure is continuing in 2021," said Johnson.

RME

BOURGAULT

BOOKING PROGRAM

15% OFF

ALL BOURGAULT INDUSTRIES PARTS
WHEN ORDERED WITH DEPOSIT BY NOVEMBER 30, 2020.

RME MOOSOMIN | 1604 Park Ave. | 306.435.3866
ROCKYMTN.COM

RME 2021 RED SEAL INSPECTION PROGRAM

RED SEAL CERTIFIED
DEPENDABLE - UPTIME - GUARANTEED
RME 2021

PLAN FOR MAXIMUM IN SEASON UPTIME
WITH THE MOST THOROUGH EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS AVAILABLE

RME'S FACTORY TRAINED TECHNICIANS HAVE EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO OEM: DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS • SERVICE BULLETINS • SOFTWARE UPDATES • PRODUCT UPGRADES

NOT ONLY ARE WE DEPENDABLE - WE GUARANTEE IT!

OPTIMUM GUARANTEE LEVEL 1
See your local Service Sales Manager for full details.

PRIORITY SERVICE GUARANTEE LEVEL 2
See your local Service Sales Manager for full details.

BOOK EARLY FOR MAXIMUM DISCOUNTS

10/20/30/40/50 Flagship Combine \$1,199 Reg \$1,890	80/88 Combine \$799 Reg \$1,485	4WD Tractors \$899 Reg \$1,080	QuadTrac \$999 Reg \$1,285	SP Windrowers \$499 Reg \$650
Sprayer A Drawbar \$749 Reg \$1,015	Sprayer B Low Lift \$949 Reg \$1,285	M/W/D 2WD Tractors \$399 Reg \$610	Hay Forage Tractors \$399 Reg \$500	Skid Steers \$299 Reg \$450

10% PARTS AND OFF SERVICE
ON ALL REPAIRS PERFORMED BY RME AS A RESULT OF THE RED SEAL INSPECTION.

1 YEAR WARRANTY
ON PARTS AND LABOUR FOR ALL SERVICES PERFORMED AS A RESULT OF THE RED SEAL INSPECTION.

WITH YOUR RED SEAL INSPECTION AND REPAIRS:**

- SAVE UP TO 50% OFF EQUIPMENT WASH AND DETAIL.
- ADDITIONAL 25% DISCOUNTED RATES. With multiple unit bookings.
- RECEIVE \$200 OFF AFS CONNECT FARM & FLEET PACKAGE. Includes monthly, install and one-year subscription.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT | **CASE II AGRICULTURE** | **CNH INDUSTRIAL GENUINE PARTS**

@RMEHQ RMEHQ /RockyMountainEquipment ROCKYMTN.COM

© 2020 Rocky Mountain Dealerships Inc. All logos and designs are trademarks of their respective companies. *When inspection is completed between October 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. Inspection must be booked by December 31, 2020. **See dealer for details.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank trying to be good stewards

Continued from page 14
The Canadian Foodgrains Bank is committed to ending global hunger, and part of that commitment is nutrition education.

"Sometimes the talk of helping to end hunger boils down to just growing more food. We sometimes say in many parts of the world the answer is not just eating more corn. In some ways it is energy but it doesn't have the nutritive value that healthy bodies require. We (Canadians) are privileged to have a plethora of food. So the emphasis is on not just more food, but also better food, more nutrient dense food and crop rotation is really kind of helped offer that kind of opportunity" said Block.

How it works

Rick Block, Regional Representative for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank explained a bit about how the money raised by growing projects like the Harvest of Hope is put to use in places that have food insecurity.

"Two-thirds (of our budget) is really geared towards alleviating hunger in the immediate sense through emergency food distribution or food assistance, but the other third, is used for upstream work. The Foodgrains Bank work within communities and in areas where there still is a very significant food insecurity. We do work in communities where people haven't had to flee and there isn't an immediate disaster, but hunger exists. It is really important to work with those families and within those communities to help build more resilience to fight against hunger," said Block.

Once the grain from the Harvest of Hope is sold, it goes into one of the Foodgrains Bank's accounts.

"The Foodgrains Bank really is an association of 15 agencies, kind of a co-operative structure, and whether you are an individual donor or a growing project group, donors have the freedom and right to designate to whichever agency they would like it to go. There is a 16th account and that is a general account because there are times where people (who donate) like to say, I just want it to go generally. Within the Foodgrains Bank we have a very rigorous framework to help decide how agencies share resources that go to the general account. Now in the instance of the Harvest of Hope, the group decided they want to support the Canadian Baptist Ministries (CBM), who have worked in numerous parts of the world. One would be Lebanon, one is in Rwanda and I believe in Kenya. The resources that Moosomin Harvest of Hope generated goes into the CBM's account. CBM has their projects that they deal with overseas," said Block.

The CBM then decides where they feel the need for the money is greatest and the government matches the money they send at a 4:1 rate. "There are people on the ground



Kyle Penner, project leader of the Moosomin Harvest of Hope, thanking volunteers before the harvest starts

that represent CBM and represent local partners. The Foodgrains Bank has a 96 per cent efficacy in

terms of the dollars going to the designated people in terms of what the original project plan was. That is



Grain trucks standing by to receive the 221 tonnes of canola that was harvested off of 230 acres that breaks down to 41 bushels per acre.

really high. We have a really good track record in that regard," said Block.

He feels it is the unique structure of the Foodgrains Bank that makes them so efficient.

"We are this association of church-based agencies, each of whom has their own individual networks on the ground and what

that means is that there are trusted relationships there and that allows for accountability. That allows for the entire chain, each of the links is strong. It allows us to work in a very effective way," said Block.

He also says the success of the Foodgrains Bank has a lot to do with love. "Part of the idea of the Christian

response to hunger is love. We are bound by virtues of friendship and ties that go deep to our member and partner organizations in the various countries and to smallholding farmers. We want to be diligent with resources we acquire and we want to be good stewards of that," said Block.

AFTER 39 SEASONS THERE'S STILL ROOM TO GROW.

You might get about 40 chances to grow your next best yield, and with mounting pressure from insects and disease maybe it's time to increase your yield with a new crop. DEKALB® corn seed is designed with superior genetics and powered by Bayer, so you can add diversity and peace of mind to your crop.

THE SEED FOR EVERY SEASON

DEKALB.ca | 1 888-283-6847 | @DEKALB_Canada | @Bayer4CropsCA | #AskBayerCrop

Bayer CropScience, LP is a member of Excellence Through Stewardship® (ETS). Bayer products are commercialized in accordance with ETS Product Launch Stewardship Guidance, and in compliance with Bayer's Policy for Commercialization of Biotechnology-Derived Plant Products in Commodity Crops. Any other Bayer commercial biotech products mentioned here have been approved for import into key export markets with functioning regulatory systems. Any crop or material produced from these products can only be exported to, or used, processed or sold in countries where all necessary regulatory approvals have been granted. It is a violation of national and international law to move material containing biotech traits across boundaries into nations where import is not permitted. Growers should talk to their grain handler or product purchaser to confirm their buying position for these products. Excellence Through Stewardship® is a registered trademark of Excellence Through Stewardship. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready® 2 Technology contains genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate. Glyphosate will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate. Bayer, Bayer Cross, DEKALB and Design™, DEKALB®, RIB Complete™, Roundup Ready 2 Technology and Design™, Roundup Ready®, SmartStax™ and VT Double PRO® are trademarks of Bayer Group, LibertyLink® and the Water Droplet Design are trademarks of BASF. Used under license. Herculex® is a registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC. Used under license. ©2020 Bayer Group. All rights reserved.



RENN Grain Baggers

Add grain storage when and where you need it.

- ▶ Unload trucks and grain carts at the same time
- ▶ Integrated folding infeed auger for transport (RGB 1016T)
- ▶ Integrated folding transport (RGB 1220)



RENN Bag Unloaders

Durable, high-capacity grain bag unloaders with onboard bag roller.

- ▶ Hydraulic ratcheting bag collection drive
- ▶ Large Collapsible Hydraulic Plastic Collection System – Recycle ready
- ▶ Unload 9', 10' or 12' grains bags



Manure Spreaders

Engineered for the long haul and designed with endurance in mind. Every one of the 21 H&S Manure Spreader models is quality built. We have the machine to fit your operation.



Jiffy Bale Processors

- ▶ Unique rocking cradle design handles all types and shapes of bales
- ▶ Process 1 large square bale or 2 round bales at once (model 978)
- ▶ Available in Left or Right hand discharge models (927, 928)



RENN Mill Center Inc. has a corporate policy of continuous improvement and development; therefore models and specifications are subject to change without any advance notice.

RENN Mill Center Inc., RR#4 Lacombe, AB T4L 2N4

RENN Mill Center manufactures RENN Mill and Jiffy Products and is the exclusive Western Canadian distributor of H&S agricultural equipment and Ideal Post Pounders.

Call the factory to find your local dealer.

TEL: 403-784-3518 | www.renmmill.com

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

October 2020 • Page 21

Tax and regulatory regime for potash:

Saskatchewan falling behind in competitiveness

Editor Kevin Weedmark recently spoke with Tyler Hopson, Public Affairs Manager with the Mosaic Company, about the competitiveness of Saskatchewan's tax and regulatory regime for potash.

How important is the potash to Saskatchewan's and Canada's economy?

It is a big industry and it is very important to Saskatchewan's economy.

Canada at the moment is still first in global potash production but there are other countries that are catching up to us pretty quickly and have the potential to overtake our production numbers.

Potash contributes over \$5.5 billion to Canada's GDP every year.

We know that for every direct job in the potash mining industry there are at least two jobs in the supply and service sectors that support the industry. The potash industry pays approximately a billion dollars in wages every year, so they're some pretty big numbers.

When it comes to Mosaic doing a project like K3 for instance in Esterhazy, what sort of factors are weighed when you decide whether to do an investment of that size?

Well, I think you've got to look at it from a lot of different view points as broadly as you can—the ore body itself, the geological aspects, are important—the particular grade of potash that you're dealing with and the amount of the resource—but you have to think about it from other points of view too as well.

What does the transportation system and the logistics look like for getting products from the mine to where they need to go?

What is the labor pool and availability of people to come and work at a new mine?

Then costs overall for operating is another big factor. You need to know the tax structure that's in place and any pending or potential regulatory changes.

The ease of getting project approvals done can be another factor that companies look at—whether is it going to take three, five, 10 years to get the project for all the approvals—those things all start to matter when you look at it as a total picture.

What are the advantages in Canada compared to other jurisdictions and what are the disadvantages right now?

Canada has lots of advantages. One advantage is the ore body and the quality of our mineral reserves. In the case of potash and lots of different minerals, the quality of the ore and the amount of the reserves are very good. We have ample supplies.

We have hundreds of millions of tonnes available to us, so that is a real advantage. We have overall a stable operating environment, and as far as the people side we've got great schools, great training institutions, and so we know that we're getting talented people to work here.

We've been doing some research over the last few years at Mosaic. As we've been talking about environmental issues and trying to evaluate things like reducing greenhouse gas emissions we know that Canada already has some of the lowest rates of greenhouse gas emissions, as far as potash production goes.

We have a green environment and we are working to make that even better as we navigate programs the federal government has created to help us reduce emissions even further, and I think in Saskatchewan and probably most of the country there's more and more expectation that companies give back to communities. It's not really optional to do that sort of thing. You need to be invested in communities and contributing to the causes that communities care about, so I think we've always done a pretty good job of that at Mosaic and lots of other companies in the mining sector do too. So those are some of the advantages.

What would be some of the disadvantages?

One would be transportation—getting our products from the mine to where they need to go. Saskatchewan is a land-locked province so we have long distances to travel from mines to ports.

That can add significant cost of production for companies. Mines in other parts of the world may be closer to some of the major markets that we export to, like India, Brazil, China, and they may have cheaper options or more reliable options available to them.

For the last few years we've seen fairly regular service



interruptions in railway service, whether it's poor winter weather or strikes or blockades.

There have been a number of factors that make it hard to predict and can add time and add cost to getting products where they need to be—so that's one disadvantage.

Continued on page 34

Left: The continuous pour on the south headframe at K3, part of the \$3 billion expansion of Mosaic Esterhazy's K3, was completed Friday, September 4—three days ahead of schedule. At 380 feet, the north headframe at right in the photo is the tallest structure in Saskatchewan.

Producing more potash in Canada is better for the world—and you.

- ✓ Fewer emissions
- ✓ More jobs
- ✓ Billions of dollars for our economy

Yet, one-sided **Canada** only extra costs are making it increasingly difficult to compete with our global rivals.



Scan the QR Code with your mobile phone to visit the website

It's time to dig deeper. 

→ Learn more at [timetodigdeeper.com](https://www.timetodigdeeper.com)

Fundraiser for former Rocanville resident Bob Wilkie

BY ROB PAUL
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER
 Bob Wilkie has been a mainstay in the Rocanville community for years. He was the town foreman for over a decade before retiring in early 2020.

After retiring, Wilkie and his wife Norma decided to move to Teulon, Manitoba to be closer to their daughter this summer. Shortly after making the move, Wilkie was diagnosed with pancreatic and liver cancer.

He's currently receiving treatment as he battles for his life.

In Wilkie's time living in the Rocanville community he was known for his sincere kindness and big smile.

Before moving, he and his wife had an impact on friend Kyla Fingas who has known them for years.

Upon finding out about Wilkie's diagnosis, Fingas wanted to do something to lend a helping hand in a hard situation.

She decided to set up a fundraiser to help Bob and Norma.

Donations can be made at any Conexus Credit Union branch or mail donations can be sent to Conexus Credit Union PO Box 519, Rocanville, SK, S0A 3L0.

Contactless donations can be made by e-transferring to bobnormadonations@gmail.com.

For anybody wanting to send well wishes and words of comfort to Bob and



Bob Wilkie was recently diagnosed with cancer. Donations can be made to support Bob and wife Norma.

Norma, they can do so by emailing bobnormadonations@gmail.com.

Fingas says it was a no-brainer to do this for the Wilkies because it's what they would do for others in the community

they've been a part of for over 30 years.

"I've known Bob and Norma for years and wanted to do something to help them out," said Fingas. "I thought opening up an account for people to send donations

to at Conexus would be the best way to do it."

Wilkie is the type of person that makes people feel good when they're around him and Fingas says he deserves to feel the love and support of others during this battle.

"Bob's fantastic," she said.

"He's very caring and my husband and I have known him for years and we wanted to do what we could to help him out."

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Fingas says the best way to show support to the Wilkies during this time is a donation and a message to show how much people care about them.

"After talking to a mutual friend we thought maybe this was a good way we could help out," she said. "Seeing as how we can't do meals for them or other things you might do for somebody going through this because of Covid-19, we thought this would be a good option to show support."

Rocanville is one of those small towns where people rally together when others are in need and the fundraiser for the Wilkie's reflects that.

"I think this is pretty typical of a small town community wanting to help out somebody who's going through a tough time," she said. "This is just what came natural to us to help somebody who deserves it."

PrairieLand TAXIDERMY
 31 RAILWAY AVE. PIERSON, MB

TOLL FREE 1-866-449-4738 or 204-634-2203
 Text Only 204-264-0184
 prairielandtaxidermy@gmail.com
 WWW.PRAIRIELANDTAXIDERMY.COM

BIG GAME

REPLICA FISH

CALL TOLL FREE BEFORE DELIVERY

HIGG Electric
 204-748-1753

Give us a call for all your Residential, Commercial and Industrial Electrical and Line Locating needs.

Serving Southwest Manitoba and Southeast Saskatchewan for 40 Years!

HIGG Electric
DIRECTIONAL DRILLING LTD.
 270 COMMONWEALTH DR.
 Virden, MB • info@higgelec.com

McMillan MOTOR PRODUCTS
 ...experience the difference!

www.mcmillanmotorproducts.net
 HWY #48 | KIPLING SK | 306-736-2518

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

THE ADVANTAGES:

- 150+ Point Inspection
- Manufacturer's Warranty
- 24hr Roadside Assistance
- Exchange Privilege

<p>Tim Dew timdew.mmp@gmail.com Cell: 306.736.8624</p>	<p>Cindy Hoffmann choffmann7646@gmail.com Cell: 306.736.7646</p>	<p>Austin Vargo vargoaustin40@gmail.com Cell: 306.605.9240</p>
---	---	---

Sask allows smaller oil and gas facilities to opt in to provincial climate change strategy, opt out of federal carbon tax

BY VICTOR VAN DER MERWE

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER
The Government of Saskatchewan's climate change strategy, Prairie Resilience has reduced the threshold requirements of carbon dioxide equivalent from upstream oil and gas production facilities, to allow smaller facilities to opt in to the provincial plan and opt out of the federal carbon tax.

The goal is to not just help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions but to also maintain a competitive economy in Saskatchewan.

In 2019, through the Prairie Resilience strategy, the provincial government introduced performance standards that are required for facilities that emit at least 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in the province.

By signing on with the Prairie Resilience strategy, these facilities were exempt from federal carbon taxes.

However, owners of some facilities that did not meet the 25,000 tonnes of CO2e that wanted to opt into the strategy and facilities between 10,000 and 25,000 tonnes of emissions.

"Since the regulations and voluntary registration were introduced, 66 large emitting facilities and 24 aggregates containing more than 10,000 individual facilities are now registered in the program and must comply with provincial climate change legislation," Environment Minister Dustin Duncan said.

"These facilities generate 13 per cent, or approximately 10.3 million tonnes, of total provincial emissions and are expected to reduce that portion by a total of 10 per cent by 2030. We also expect many new companies to register aggregate upstream oil



Minister of Environment
Dustin Duncan

and gas facilities as part of the most recent amendments

The new amendments allow small producers to opt in to the system.

"We allowed for companies that have facilities that produce between 10,000 and 25,000 tonnes to voluntarily opt in to our system if they wanted to, and then there was no coverage for facilities that emit zero to 10,000 tonnes," said Duncan.

Amendments were made to allow for voluntary registration for facilities in the

upstream oil and gas sector wishing to combine emissions into an aggregate facility, for a combined 10,000 tonnes of CO2e.

In July 2020, government directed that the emissions threshold for voluntary registration be lowered from 10,000 tonnes CO2e to zero tonnes CO2e for upstream oil and gas aggregate facilities.

"Since the regulations and voluntary registration were introduced, 66 large emitting facilities and 24 aggregates containing more than 10,000 individual facilities are now registered in the program and must comply with provincial climate change legislation," said Duncan.

"These facilities generate 13 per cent, or approximately 10.3 million tonnes, of total provincial emissions and are expected to reduce that portion by a total of 10 per cent by 2030. We also expect many new companies to register aggregate upstream oil and gas facilities as part of the most recent amendments."

Registration in the program also protects those facilities from the federal carbon tax. Instead of paying the increasing federal price per tonne of GHGs, the companies must reduce the intensity of their emissions from 2019 onward, or comply through one of the three following provincial mechanisms:

Saskatchewan Technology Fund. Emitters may choose to pay into a new technology fund should they not reduce their emissions intensity as per the legislated schedule. The fund will be administered by Innovation Saskatchewan. Money from the fund will then be allocated to successful projects that drive innovation and reduce GHG emissions at regulated facilities, through a competitive and criteria-

based application process.

Best performance credits. Best performance credits will be generated by regulated facilities that reduce emissions beyond what is required in their performance standard. The design of the performance credit program will incentivize GHG emissions reductions for regulated emitters. The Ministry of Environment developed the necessary standards to implement a best performance credit system in fall 2020.

Carbon offset program. The Ministry of Environment held initial engagement on Saskatchewan's offset program in 2019, but postponed further engagement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ministry is currently re-evaluating the means through which meaningful engagement may take place while ensuring the health and safety of staff and participants. Further engagement on offsets will continue over the next year. In the meantime, the ministry will continue to develop proposed offset protocol including agricultural soils sequestration, enhanced oil recovery, composting, landfill gas, and opportunities for regional and/or national alignment.

"The new threshold to the output-based performance standards will enable many smaller oil and gas producers to be covered by provincial registration and protect them from the federal carbon tax, which will save them millions of dollars.

"Our provincial standards are designed to achieve real GHG emission reductions, while at the same time protecting competitiveness and limiting carbon leakage and investment flight to jurisdictions with lower regulatory standards," said Energy and Resources Minister Bronwyn Eyre.

CASH IN ON THE SPOOK-TACULAR SAVINGS!

<p>2018 KEYSTONE BULLET COLT 171RKCT</p>  <p>Rear bike rec. hitch, solar prep, s/stel appliances, all LED lighting, air cond., spare tire, & plenty more!! Weighs 3,009 lbs.</p> <p>\$23,825 ONLY \$77 BI-WEEKLY <i>*with 0 down payment!! OAC</i></p>	<p>2020 GLACIER ICE HOUSE A164RD</p>  <p>Cedar interior, 30K BTU furnace, dual pans, HDMI hookups, 3 burner range/oven, LED lights, air cond., awning rope light, vinyl wood plank flooring, full size lift up bed, microwave & more!! 2,815 lbs. Steps up to 7-Year round use!</p> <p>\$34,900 ONLY \$115 BI-WEEKLY <i>*with 0 down payment!! OAC</i></p>	<p>2018 KEYSTONE LAREDO SUPER-LITE 290SRL</p>  <p>Elec. awning, solar panel prep, backup camera prep, automatic elec. leveling system, free standing dinette, 15k a/c, two-8cf fridges, second a/c kit, ext. ladder & shower, free standing dinette and chairs, tri-fold sleeper sofa.</p> <p>\$50,900 ONLY \$169 BI-WEEKLY <i>*with 0 down payment!! OAC</i></p>
<p>PRE-OWNED INVENTORY TRAVEL TRAILERS</p> <p>2019 GRAND DESIGN IMAGINE 2250RK slide, fireplace 34,900</p> <p>2018 ROCKWOOD 2504S Mini slide, bunks 29,500</p> <p>2013 OUTBACK 277RL two slides, loaded 24,900</p> <p>2013 OPEN RANGE 331BHS two slides, bunks, out kitchen NO GST 29,500</p> <p>2007 JAG 25' fiberglass, sofa slide 7,995</p> <p>2005 CHEROKEE 28A handyman special 2 slides, bunks 8,750</p>		
<p>FIFTH WHEELS</p> <p>2019 AVALANCHE 332MK 3 slides, auto level, washer/dryer 72,900</p> <p>2018 AVALANCHE 37SRD 5 slides, washer/dryer NO GST 71,500</p> <p>2016 HIDEOUT 299RLDS 2 slides, rear living 27,500</p> <p>2015 MONTANA H. COUNTRY 350BH 4 slides, two baths, bunks NO GST 52,500</p> <p>2008 SPORTSMEN 41K toy hauler 3 slides, 12' garage, loft, loaded 34,900</p> <p>2004 SPRINGDALE 249BH handyman special 7,995</p> <p>2002 LAREDO 27RL fiberglass, large slide 11,900</p> <p>1997 WILDWOOD 22CB nice condition 6,900</p> <p>1997 COACHMEN 275RK no slide, rear hitch 8,995</p>		
<p>Stop in or call now and order your new unit with the options you want!! Let's celebrate a New Year by taking delivery of your new RV in 2021!!</p> 	<p>2021 SUZUKI KING QUAD 400</p>  <p>Shaft drive, 4 stroke, front independent suspension, high/low sub transmission, start in gear system, reverse system allowing you higher RPM's to get out of the mud quicker when needed.</p> <p>\$8,495 ONLY \$84 BI-WEEKLY <i>*with 0 down payment!! OAC</i></p>	<p>2020 COLGAR 7 X 14 + 6' EXTRA HEIGHT</p>  <p>81" interior height, ramp opening height approx. 79". Walls, floor, ceiling are all 16" on centre, 3/8" walls, 2 side wall air scoops, interior & exterior LED lights, white ceiling liner, 4 - 2,000 lb. d-rings, screwless exterior and more</p> <p>\$8,095 ONLY \$79 BI-WEEKLY <i>*with 0 down payment!! OAC</i></p>

All payments are plus taxes



Highway 9 North Carlyle, SK www.carlylerv.com

RICK SCHRIENER 306-577-8623 RON MACK 306-577-1548 SANDRA MITCHELL 306-577-8813

COMPARE OUR PRICES! If you would like to come in and view an RV or any other item, we are still practicing social distancing. We look forward to serving you. Our parts and service shop is open and taking bookings for all your SGI RV Repairs as well as any RV, ATV, Motorcycle, Boat and Golf Car service needs!



Nutrien Rocanville mine marks half a century of production

September 25, 2020 marked 50 years from the day the first train car load of potash left the Rocanville potash mine. The Nutrien Rocanville mine is an important part of the economy of southeast Saskatchewan.

'We are feeding the world through potash and agriculture'

Plain and Valley editor Kevin Weedmark spoke with Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce CEO Steve McLellan about the 50th anniversary of the Nutrien Rocanville mine. Following is the full interview:

It was 50 years ago when the first rail car of potash left from the Rocanville mine. How important was that first moment, the start of that mine?

That is an interesting question. Obviously a lot of work went into getting the mine built and getting to that point.

But now we look at the legacy of that moment and all the good that 50-year-old mine has done. It's amazing. There are people whose livelihoods have been made by that mine, and we see second and third generations working there. We see the taxes that have been generated by the employees and the company itself, the people in different parts of the world who have eaten better because of the contents of those rail cars.

Everything about it is simply outstanding and we can sometimes be a bit complacent about potash as we can be around our ag sector—but we are feeding the world through potash and agriculture and we can't take that for granted nor should we. This is a good time to stop and reflect it and celebrate it a little bit because that was a big day 50 years ago. Without that first car of potash, nothing else would have come after.

How important is the potash industry to Saskatchewan?

I think it is absolutely fundamental. As a matter of fact there is an argument that we should be taking it more seriously. A couple years ago in the provincial budget there were some surprises for the sector without sufficient consultation in terms of their tax and royalty structure, and I think it was unfair.

I think we should be looking at that as an opportunity to build more jobs, to build more communities around those mines, and of course for every mine worker there is a contractor that is doing work on those places too—it's not just the direct



First potash produced at Rocanville

It was September 25, 1970 when the first railcar load of potash was produced at Rocanville.

mine jobs that are critical. We should be sitting down and saying 'listen what can we possibly do as the people in this province to help you ship more potash because we've got lots more than we will ever use. Decades, and hundreds of years of supplies—what could we possibly do to get more out there, to take advantage of the fact we have it?'

How much of a contribution do you think the potash industry has made to Saskatchewan over the last half century? How different of a province would this be if we didn't have that entire industry?

That's interesting to think about. It's hard to imagine the scale of the contribution to this province. The full direct contribution to tax alone, the number of jobs, the number of high schools that have been built with those tax dollars, the number of college educations that have been paid for, the number of universities that have been paid for with the tax revenue that goes through the province to the universities. We would be a whole different province without potash. We would not be as

strong. We would not be as well trained. The contributions of Nutrien to the communities that they're in and the province generally is amazing. We see their logo everywhere and it's because they're committed to the province—and that is the visible dollars. The invisible dollars are the tax revenues that have paid for hospital wings without putting a logo in front. We would be a whole different place without them.

What do you see as the future of the potash industry in Saskatchewan?

I think it is very bright if we do it right. If we take it seriously. The companies are exceptional. The people that work in and run those companies are the best in the world and the product that we have is the best in the world, and our capacity to get it to where it needs to go is the best in the world. The problem we have and the only stumbling block I would argue in keeping us from getting more volume out of the province is the fact that our regulatory environment—federal and provincial—is not working as hand-in-hand with the

sector as we would like to.

We've added new environmental requirements that make no sense for the potash sector. We've charged royalty rates that may not make sense when we have an excess of supplies as we do underground. So we're taking the industry for granted and charging them things that make no sense when we could make more money as a province by simply saying 'hire more people, keep all the mines open' and those taxes will generate much more collective benefit. We've got the wrong attitude toward that sector.

The federal and provincial governments look at potash and say 'well they can't move because this is where the potash is,' whereas those companies indeed have reduced some of their investment because it is more expensive to do business here and there are more jurisdictions in the world starting to get their potash out of the ground without the environmental, labor, and human rights requirements that we have here. The potash companies in Saskatchewan perform at the highest level. We're taking them for granted and we shouldn't be.

What does the province need to do to ensure a strong future for the potash industry?

They need to go to the table with the companies with a blank sheet and say 'what can we do to get you twice as busy as you are now?'

That means more people working in the mines. It means more products being shipped and more people in the world eating better because of it.

With that sort of a clean slate attitude they can start to invest in the future of this province. It's not like the companies don't want to pay any taxes or don't want to play by any environmental or human rights rules—that's not the case, but they need an open book and that's the opportunity we haven't taken, haven't give them.

Instead of that, what do we do? We surprise them the day before the provincial budget with some new costs, which is again taking them for granted.



We'd like to congratulate Nutrien Rocanville on 50 years of potash industry success!

306-743-2290

Langenburg, SK
prymeconstruction.com

Congratulations to Nutrien Rocanville on 50 years of meeting the growing needs for our Agricultural and Industrial businesses in Saskatchewan and worldwide

DR. ROBERT KITCHEN MP
Souris-Moose Mountain



1-866-249-4697 • www.drrobertkitchen.ca

Resource Minister says Rocanville mine important to Sask

Plain and Valley editor Kevin Weedmark spoke with Saskatchewan Energy and Resource Minister Bronwyn Eyre about the 50th anniversary of Nutrien Rocanville. Following is the interview.

It was September 25, 1970 that the first potash was produced at the Rocanville mine. From your perspective how important was that moment for the potash industry and for Saskatchewan?

It was very important and happy birthday Rocanville! What a facility! It was the beginning of production at what would become one of our premier potash mines. Nutrien has said that the expanded mine is the company's largest, lowest cost potash facility, it was the last new potash mine for almost five decades until of course K+S came to town, so it's really quite significant. Roughly 10 per cent of the global potash market originates from Rocanville. That's pretty amazing.

Overall how important do you think the potash industry is to Saskatchewan?

Well of course it's pivotal and it is part of mining of course which is so important, such a major economic driver. Exploration spending last year in the province was over \$200 million.

The mining sector generated \$7.4 billion in sales. So very, very important as a sector in the province and an essential driver.

The safety response, the operational response through Covid-19 most recently allowed the sector and the potash mines certainly to operate through the pandemic. Potash kept going as you know pretty seamlessly—northern mines not so much, although they've come back online in the uranium and gold. But because the potash mines could keep on going through the pandemic it really helped stabilize things and certainly helped to buffer some of the economic impact on the province.

Just in terms of potash generally, we have the largest industry in the world. It accounts for roughly one-third of global production, so it is very, very important to the province.



Saskatchewan Energy and Resource Minister Bronwyn Eyre

Overall how would you quantify how the potash has contributed overall to the province of Saskatchewan in the last 50 years?

It really started what one could call the green revolution when science and technology began to realize some of the potential benefits of commercial fertilizers on crop yields and on crop quality. The Saskatchewan potash sector has helped farmers all over the world improve their crops.

We're feeding the world's growing population and so it has become a vital part of the world's food security and obviously a very essential sector in the province. There has been more than \$20 billion invested in new potash mines since 2005, also in mine

expansions in the province, and that really has propelled the economy forward and it is one of the reasons that we here in Saskatchewan weren't as impacted by the 2008 recession as other jurisdictions. The industry has also stayed relatively stable and resilient through the recent pandemic.

What do you see as the future in the potash industry in Saskatchewan?

As demand for food continues to increase with world population growth and diets shift toward better quality foods in developing countries and developing economies, potash is pivotal to serve that growing demand for what is a vital crop input.

Saskatchewan will certainly be pioneering new methods of production that can lead to better production efficiencies and better competitiveness certainly in addition to the mine expansions over the last decade and the development of our first new mine with K+S in over 45 years. There is interest in the development of new mines from other companies, including international mining giants—BHP and Rio Tinto—so lots of promise, lots of room for growth and a really important arm of our economic stability in the province and growth.

Do you think there is anything the provincial government needs to do to ensure a strong future for potash in the province?

Certainly we recognize that the mining companies that are operating in the province are global leaders in innovation, also in social and environmental responsibility.

We have to be sure that regulation and policy are always well tailored to the sector so it can be as competitive in global markets as it can be and allow us all as people in Saskatchewan and as Canadians to benefit from what they do best.

I think we have to make sure that we continue to advocate for our strong sectors in energy and resources. We've been dealing a lot lately with raising awareness around the clean fuel standard for example, which has an impact on mining—a very clear impact on mining. Some of these micro issues

that we can address really impact when we're talking about competitiveness. The clean fuel standard for example focuses hard on switching to electricity for transportation and heating. That doesn't take into account the more carbon intensive nature of power generation in this province when you compare it to hydro and nuclear powered grids in other provinces, and our mining companies of course have to transport over much greater distances which already adds to cost.

Some in the potash industry are saying they think this is an inappropriate time for the government to review the entire regulatory and tax regime that they operate under because they are seeing more of the competitors come to the field from places like Russia and Belarus which don't have the same costs as Canada. Do you believe this is the time for that kind of review?

Well the review in 2015 was paused. It was put on hold because there were weaknesses in the commodity and it wasn't the right time to go forward, and right now the review of potash royalties remains on hold.

We in Saskatchewan have introduced significant investment incentives which potash producers certainly benefit from.

We're always looking at regulatory regimes, tax regimes for the minerals produced in the province, just to make sure that it does remain as competitive as it can be with other producers' jurisdictions.

Periodically we make adjustments when they're appropriate, but let's not forget that the potash royalty and production tax system in the province has attracted over \$20 billion in expansions and new mine construction in the last 12 years.

We have the highest royalty and potash profit tax structure. We collect the most revenue in the world—higher than jurisdictions such as Israel, Belarus and Russia, so it is always a balance in terms of making sure that the people of Saskatchewan of course benefit from what is produced, and it is a fine balance always, but we believe it is a stable, strong one at the moment.

**Congratulations
on 50 years,
Nutrien Rocanville!**



Celebrating 100 Years

SASKATCHEWAN
CHAMBER of COMMERCE



**Fast Trucking would like to
congratulate Nutrien Rocanville
on 50 years of operation!**

*Congratulations on being an
industry leader in our province!*



CARNDUFF | ESTEVAN | SWIFT CURRENT

www.fasttruckingservice.com

Ten first-year medical students participate in Rural Week

Despite the many challenges Covid-19 has presented this year, Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) was able to host a scaled down version of 'Rural Week' in late summer.

Normally, Rural Week—held in partnership with the Manitoba Health Care Providers Network—occurs in late May. However, with provincial public health orders in place, as well as challenges from a logistical and organizational perspective, the educational initiative for first-year medical students from the University of Manitoba's Max Rady College of Medicine was pushed back.

Gradually, as health orders changed, sufficient coordination allowed for an abbreviated version to take place within PMH region from August 18-20. There were two first-year medical students in each of the communities of Dauphin, Hamiota, Neepawa, Ste. Rose and Russell.

Rural Week provides an opportunity for students to get first-hand experience and exposure to not just rural and northern medicine, but rural and northern life. It is an opportunity for participating communities to showcase themselves and promote the opportunities and benefits of rural and northern medicine.

In Neepawa, the recruitment committee met with students when they arrived, showed them an available apartment (located at Neepawa Medical Clinic) and toured them around the community. The students also got a chance to go on a hike at one of the area's hiking trails followed by a barbecue generously hosted by Dr. Poettcker and attended by most of Neepawa's physicians.

Besides the community tours, students had a chance to participate in clinical education stations, spend some time within hospitals and shadow physicians at medical clinics.

Participating in Russell, Alyssa Kidd who hails from Winnipeg, indicated Rural Week was the highlight of her first-year of medical school.

"We had the pleasure of shadowing some fantastic clinical teachers, Dr. Rola and Dr. Honiball. They were incredibly engaging in all the clinical cases in which we were involved," she said. "They answered all questions and gave us the opportunity to speak to—and examine—patients, which allowed my confidence to grow. I even got to trim my first suture tails; my hands were shaking so bad I thought I would end up nicking the patient!"

In Dauphin, Jake Yuriy relished the opportunity to take part in many domains of rural practice within his hometown.

"I was able to work in Dauphin's beautiful new Emergency Room, attend clinic, rounds at the local care homes, covered obstetrical call, and spent some time in the Operating Room (OR)," he said. "I think the absolute highlight of rural week was assisting during a surgical procedure.



Alyssa Kidd



Jake Yuriy

Scrubbing in and 'participating' in my first procedure as a member of an OR team was an incredible experience that I won't forget!

Prairie Mountain Health sincerely thanks all of the preceptors in participating sites for sharing their time, knowledge and expertise. PMH also thanks community members and leaders for assisting with tours and special interest events which took part in various communities.

Both Alyssa and Jake say they were grateful to participate in the initiative and plan to continue considering the many possibilities associated with rural medicine.

See below for a more detailed list of questions and answers provided by the two medical students.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH ALYSSA KIDD AND JAKE YURIY

1) How did you find the experience/initiative in general?

Alyssa Kidd: Rural Week was the highlight of my first year of medical school!

Jake Yuriy: I was grateful to even have a Rural Week in light of Covid. I appreciate that Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) both had limited time to accommodate a new Rural Week while also respecting public health directives. Despite that, I had a whirlwind of valuable experiences across many domains of rural practice. Rural Week 2020 helped solidify the possibilities of rural medicine.

2) What are some of the things you ended up doing during your time in the community and within clinical settings?

AK: During our time in Russell, we were treated to an endearing tour of the town (from Brent the local pharma-

dist), a beautiful boat ride on Lake of the Prairies (by David, the funeral home director and Bonnie a retired nurse). We had an exciting night around the back areas with Terry Jackson and her daughter Shannon, which included learning about the agricultural industry, a cone from Connie's and seeking shelter in some very kind locals' house during a tornado warning. We had the privilege of being involved in the care of patients ranging from those having their first well-child check-up to those receiving compassionate palliative care, those receiving their weekly outpatient dialysis to those having their first chemo treatments, motor vehicle accidents to combine lacerations, and everything in between.

JY: I was able to work in Dauphin's beautiful new ER, attend clinic, round at the local care homes, covered obstetrical call, and spent some time in the OR.

3) Were there some things you ended up doing as part of Rural Week that you didn't expect or anticipate?

AK: We had the pleasure of shadowing some fantastic clinical teachers, Dr. Rola and Dr. Honiball. They were incredibly engaging in all the clinical cases we got to be involved with. They were so willing to answer all the questions we had and had a lot of trust in us allowing us the opportunity to speak to and examine patients, which allowed my confidence with my skills to grow. I even got to trim my first suture tails; my hands were shaking so bad I thought I would end up nicking the patient!

JY: I think the absolute highlight of rural week was assisting during a surgical procedure. Scrubbing in and 'participating' in my first procedure as a member of an OR team was an incredible experience that I won't forget!

4) Did your experiences coincide with what you thought working in rural medicine/rural settings might look like?

AK: Having grown up in the city, I'd always idealized small towns for the close-knit communities they harbour; Russell was affirmative to this thinking. Everyone, from the nurses, physicians, aids, admin, and all other clinical staff were so accommodating and dedicated to their work, it was apparent they truly cared about the wellbeing of their community.

JY: I went in expecting to see a lot of variety in patients, cases, and acuity. I was not disappointed!

5) What might be some of the key takeaways from the experience?

AK: I had always thought rural practice was something I was interested in. With this experience, seeing the diversity of practice, and the kindness of those in the community, it moved to the top of my list by a long shot!

JY: Practicing rural medicine as a family physician can be almost anything you want to make it. I got to see family physicians practicing long-term care, acute care, family clinic, obstetrics, and assisting in surgeries.

Practicing rurally does not mean practicing alone, either. My preceptors were always with residents or other colleagues, and knew how to find help if they needed it.

6) I take it you had great preceptors and community hosts... anything to pass along in that regard?

AK: Thank you so much to everyone mentioned above for being so welcoming; to Marg Fraser, Abbey Vorlicek, and Leanne Cheyne for planning these incredible few days for us; and to those who put the effort in to making rural week happen this year in such uncertain times. This was an experience I'll always remember and I'm just so grateful!

JY: I'm actually from Dauphin, so I got to be my own community host and show my classmate around my hometown!

7) Anything else you might want to add about your future goals, education, aspirations... ?

JY: Sure, I guess I will share a little bit of history on myself: Although I was born and raised in Dauphin, I actually went to University of Saskatchewan for my first degree. While living and studying in Saskatoon, I learned how important my rural roots were to me and decided early on that I wanted to return to a rural area to practice medicine. At University of Saskatchewan I researched the effects of hospital closures on rural communities, and this shaped my desire to be an advocate for rural residents' health needs.

Obviously, I'm back in Manitoba now for medical school and am currently one of the co-presidents of the Rural Interest Group. I hope to someday return to Dauphin and establish a family practice.

WE DO CUSTOM HOMES

PICK YOUR PLAN
.....
CHOOSE YOUR Cabinets Countertops Flooring
.....
CHOOSE YOUR OPTIONS

SRI HOMES

1-844-525-4006 • info@wattersonhomes.com
Monday-Friday - 9 am - 5 pm

Visit Plain & Valley online at www.plainandvalley.com

**SAVE
THE DATE!**

Annual
**TRUCKLOAD
SALE**

NOVEMBER 15 - 22

Ladies Night Out November 12th!
OPEN UNTIL 9 P.M.

**SPECIALS ALL
WEEK LONG!**



Today's
ENTERPRISES LTD.

FURNITURE & ELECTRONICS
27 Railway Ave. Redvers, SK
306.452.6309



Visit us on Facebook!

Today's

ENTERPRISES LTD.

FURNITURE & ELECTRONICS
 27 Railway Ave. Redvers, SK
 306.452.6309



Visit us on
Facebook!

Shop Local

FOR ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS
NEEDS! HUGE STOCK OF
TOYS FOR ALL AGES!

- Home Decor, Wall art,
Plants & Floral, Clocks &
Shelving, Mirrors
- Wide variety of Bedding,
Cooling & Bamboo Pillows,
Weighted Blankets, Sheets,
Mattress protectors ,
bed in a bag & throws
- Traegers, Pellets, Spices
& Grilling Accessories
- TVs, Sound systems,
Security systems
- Cell phones
& Accessories

LADIES NIGHT

NOVEMBER 12

- LADIES SPECIALS
- FACEBOOK SPECIALS
EVERY HOUR
- DRAW PRIZE FOR 1/2 OFF
ANYTHING IN THE STORE!



We have something for everyone! Your small town store with big city appeal!

The price of peace & quiet...



SaskTel 6 Hour Data Pass

\$5 | Unlimited
Canada-wide

The extra data you need,
when you need it.

Today's
ENTERPRISES LTD.

Furniture & Electronics
27 RAILWAY AVE. REDVERS, SK
306.452.6309



Virден Theatre Productions heads outside

In past years, Virден Theatre Productions has certainly built a presence in the Westman area with elaborately polished productions such as an innovative version of *The Sound of Music* in 2015, Gershwin's fresh and dazzling *Crazy for You* in 2016, the unforgettable *Mamma Mia* in 2018 and last year's hilarious hit, *Elf the Musical*. Over the years their audiences have really grown, spanning large distances across Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

This spring, the theatre company had to audition remotely for the new musical *Matilda* and the talented cast began the relatively new adventure of *Zoom* rehearsals to make a start at learning the songs and creating characters. This fall brought more uncertainty, so the company felt the most promising possibility to enable performers to showcase their work would be to host an outdoor event next summer. And so, the concept began....

In the second week of June 2021, the company is planning to do their production outside at Brandon's Festival Park, the beautiful new amphitheatre that was built at the Discovery Centre. Co-director of *Matilda*, Dean Munchinsky, had this to say: "We have considered summer theatre for a long time and the current Covid situation has forced us to think outside of the box, and at this point, we couldn't be more excited. Who knows, there is definitely the possibility that this venture could become an annual project covering two weekends each summer in Westman."

The company is prepared to roll with any restrictions that will be in place next summer, as things are quite hard to predict. They have a team already dreaming elaborate sets and all the extra technical needs this huge project will entail. Production team member Laura Wright had this to say: "Michelle is always coming up with new and innovative ideas, and this Rainbow Stage-like experience will be an exciting experience for Westman audiences next summer."

The committee wants to be sure to let Westman know that they haven't abandoned their beautiful Aud Theatre, just giving her a rest in the interest of safety. They want to assure their followers that the Aud will be alive again with the magic of local musical theatre and they certainly look forward to that day and the unique camaraderie always formed in the nooks and crannies of this historic building, both on stage and off.

The cast is centred by the extraordinary Nyah Perkin of Souris in the title role of *Matilda*. Nyah was cast in Rainbow's Stage's *Wizard of Oz* this summer, a production that of course was cancelled. She also recently filmed in Winnipeg for an upcoming Hallmark movie. Producer/Director Michelle Chyzyk said, "Nyah is extraordinary. She could definitely garner consideration for this role in a professional production. She inspires all of us."



"Matilda" Producer-Director Michelle Chyzyk and Co-Director Dean Munchinsky discussing Festival Park.

Homegrown talent Todd Plaisier promises to be memorable as the nasty Agatha Trunchbull, and he is looking forward to sharing the stage with his talented son, Tristan. The roles of *Matilda*'s miserable parents will be played by local businessman and co-director Dean Munchinsky and Brandon rock goddess Mariah Phillips. Susan Martens teaches private piano and voice in Virден and she is excited to take on the role of *Matilda*'s lovely teacher, Miss Honey. This truly extraordinary cast also includes well-known Westman talents such as Karen Chrest, Rob Lovatt, Marla Fontaine, Emilie Blaikie, Greg Kirk, and Darrell Corbel. Of course, we can't wait to see Joey Simms (last year's *Buddy the Elf*) appear as Rudolpho, Mrs. Wormwood's passionate ballroom dance teacher. The teenage performers range from

ages twelve through nineteen and hail from six different Westman communities. Seven of them were slated to tour with what would have been the 2020 Westman Youth Choir. These fine young people will play such a very large part in this imaginative show.

So, in these challenging times, Virден Theatre Productions gives you something to look forward to. Mark your 2021 calendars for June 9-13.

In the words of *Matilda*,
*Just because you find that life's not fair
 It doesn't mean that you just have to grin and bear it.
 If you always take it on the chin and wear it,
 You might as well be saying you think that it's okay.
 And that's not right.
 You have to put it right*

Theo Fleury Mental Health Gala pushed to May 15, 2021

BY VICTOR VAN DER MERWE

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

PJ Gillen School in Esterhazy was planning to host a gala fundraiser for their new Outdoor Wellness Classroom on May 23 of this year. Due to the pandemic, they have moved it to next year, May 15.

"We are raising money to build an outdoor wellness classroom. Mental health awareness is huge in our society nowadays among adults and children. It gives them a place to go to during school where they can start learning outside the classroom walls. They can start learning with their hands. We are going to have little garden plots and a greenhouse and we are going to have fruit trees in a little orchard. We will also have a covered outdoor learning area with picnic tables where they can sit under. We are also going to have writing easels and sidewalk chalk so they can play hopscotch. We also brought in reading cubbies," said Traci Denbrot, a board member on the PJ Gillen SCC.

There will be seven of these reading hutches and each one will focus on one of the seven sacred teachings of the First Nations.

"The kids can sit in these cubbies and

they can read books or just relax. We all need vitamin D from sunshine. We find that a lot of kids don't get what they need from sports and playing outdoors on the playground and sometimes you just need a place to go and relax. We are also going to have a sandbox where the kids can play in, because you learn with your hands the best," said Denbrot.

The reading hutches have already been built, but due to COVID-19 restrictions and other obstacles, the construction of the outdoor classroom was postponed.

"It was supposed to take place this past summer, but with everything going on, it was pushed back, but our whole school believes it is really needed to help kids deal with mental health in a different way," said Denbrot.

When it came to choosing a speaker for the gala, former professional hockey player and advocate for mental health, Theo Fleury, seemed a perfect choice.

"Theo Fleury feels very strongly about mental health, and he grew up around here and with this being such a hockey community, we thought that it would be an awesome way to raise funds for it," said Denbrot.

The idea for the outdoor classroom was first brought up in 2019.

"It was brought up last year at an SCC meeting and our Principal (Kelsey Shields) said that this fits in perfect," said Denbrot.

It was also Principal Shields that suggested Fleury as a possible speaker.

"She said, what if we can bring Theo Fleury in and do a Gala to raise funds for it and then we ran with the idea," said Denbrot.

Although a loan was secured to start construction on the space, the PJ Gillen SCC hopes that the \$120,000 needed to complete the project can be raised at the gala.

"We are hoping to raise the majority of the funds through our gala and the sponsorship from companies in our area. We don't want to do 20 little raffles and draws. We figured we can get one big event that everybody looks forward to and try and raise the majority of the funds there," said Denbrot.

The pre-COVID-19 idea was to have the space ready for when kids came back to school this fall.

"We were hoping to have it already built

so that when the kids came back this fall, they had something very exciting to come to, and we took out a loan, but the builders got pushed behind, so everything got put on hold when COVID-19 happened, but it (construction) will begin next spring if not this fall," said Denbrot.

Sponsorship packages are available for the project.

"We have different sponsorship packages. We don't just want your money, we want you to come and enjoy the evening with us. So, if you wanted to be a \$1,500 sponsor, which is a gold sponsor, you actually get four tickets to the event and you get your tax receipt. We want people to come to the event, we want people to come listen to Theo Fleury and see how important mental health is," said Denbrot.

For Denbrot and the organizers of the event, this gala is about raising money and awareness.

"There are so many people out there who don't even realize that they have a bit of a mental health problem, until they actually hear somebody talk about it. We want to recognize it in our community," said Denbrot.



COMING SPRING 2021
 ALL NEW
 HEAVY EQUIPMENT
 OPERATOR PROGRAM

For more information e-mail
 HEO@southeastcollege.org



For more information or to register, visit www.southeastcollege.org or call 1-866-999-7372

New Stockholm Lutheran Church gets exterior renovations

By VICTOR VAN DER MERWE

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The small Gothic church stands proud, just east of Highway 9, and just south of the village of Stockholm, Saskatchewan. People have been gathering at this church to worship for over 100 years and although this church is more than a century old, it is actually the "new" church on that site.

"The first Swedish settlers arrived in this area in 1886," said George Ohnander a councillor on the church board.

He explains how the church came to be the structure it is today.

"The first Swedish Lutheran congregation was established in the New Stockholm colony at the home of Eric Hammerstrom on October 3, 1889. The charter roll shows the names of 98 men, women and children who declared their intention to become members of a Lutheran congregation," said Ohnander.

A site for the New Stockholm graveyard and church was to be selected two years later.

"The land was owned by Canadian Pacific Railroad. It was decided to ask the government for 40 acres of land to exchange with the CPR for the chosen site. The new building was completed in 1896 and was dedicated on July 26, 1896," said Ohnander.

The original church would service the congregation for 25 years.

"It was at the annual meeting of the congregation in 1913 that a committee was appointed to raise funds for a new church building. In 1916, blueprints were obtained for a Gothic style building, the new (stone) building was built and dedicated on May 21, 1921. This is the building which is still in use today with services held every second Sunday," said Ohnander.

A building that has been standing for a century will need special care, and this year that came in the form of exterior renovations.

"We started this year in late summer," said Lyle Tranberg who chairs the church board.

"The bricks were getting a little broke up and needed some work. The longer you leave it, the worse it gets. If you don't fix it you will have windows falling out," said Tranberg.

These exterior renovations are the latest renovations with roof being repaired a few years ago.

"We got the roof repaired about eight years ago, all new shingles. The inside of the church, the main sanctuary was totally renovated over the last four years," said Tranberg.

The beautiful stained glass windows were removed in and completely redone back in 1987.

"Back in 1987 they were taken to Regina and re-lead. They were starting to cave in a bit and in danger of falling" said Ohnander.

To make sure that the job is done right, the council will take their time in finishing the last of the exterior work.

"I don't think we will get it all done this year. There should be a little to finish on the real high spots, and even the painter, we need to get a special net to get them up really high to do some of the finishing painting," said Tranberg.

The idea is to restore it to the same esthetic as it has enjoyed for over 100 years.

"It looked very similar to this. I think the paint work is a touch lighter," said Tranberg.

Even the basement got some work done this year. "This year we also replaced all the basement windows with new windows. They were getting old and falling apart," said Tranberg. Once the outside bricks and painting is done, it may be a while before major up keep is needed on the building. "50 years. The brick being done outside, he (Jerry Kemp) said you won't have to worry about it for 50 years," said Tranberg.

Top photo at right: The old and new church standing side by side 1919

Lower photo at right: Jerry Kemp and crew doing the brick work renovations on the exterior of the church





✓ ELECT
WES SMITH
Cannington

"A Fair Deal For Saskatchewan"
BUFFALO PARTY
OF SASKATCHEWAN
BuffaloPartySK.com



Plain and Valley is published by McKay Publications Ltd., Box 250, 714 Main Street, Moosomin SK S0G 3N0.

Plain and Valley is delivered to post office boxes across Southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba.

Canada Post Customer Number 2116693.
Canada Post Contract Number 40011909.

Canada Post employees: As a community newspaper, Plain and Valley can be delivered into all post office boxes, not just those that have opted to receive flyers in the Consumers' Choice program.

Kevin Weedmark Editor and Publisher • Kara Kinna Associate Editor

Richelle Adriaansen Editorial Assistant

Rob Paul • Victor van der Merwe • Shayna Zubko • Ed James • Donna Beutler • Travis Longman Reporters

Jennifer McMillan • Jacqui Harrison • Samantha McGonigal Design and Layout
Kim Poole • Josh Deramas Photographers • Cassidy Griemann Student employee

Contact us

At Plain and Valley, we want to hear from you! Email world_spectator@sasktel.net, call (306) 435-2445, fax (306) 435-3969, or write to us at Box 250, Moosomin, Sask, S0G 3N0.

Advertising options

Plain and Valley reaches households across southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba. We also offer classified and display advertising in the weekly World-Spectator, career and classified advertising across Saskatchewan, and blanket classified advertising across Canada.

Printing services

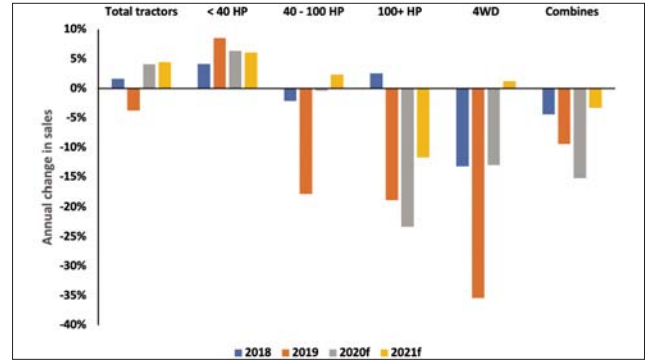
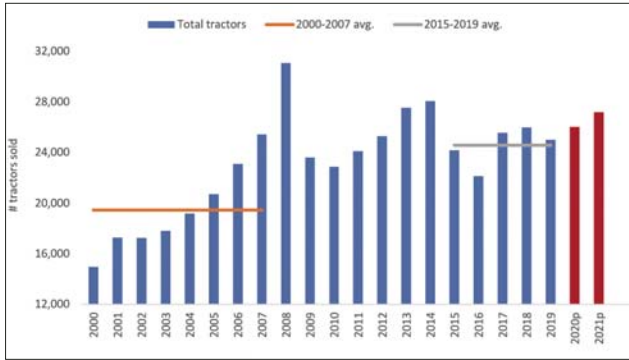
Plain and Valley and World-Spectator offer full printing services. From business cards and brochures to hockey programs and event programs, to vinyl banners, coroplast signs and ACM signs, we can print it all!

Deadlines

Deadline for the Plain and Valley is 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following week's issue.

Online access

All issues of Plain and Valley are available online at www.plainandvalley.com If you would like an additional copy of an issue, please call 306-435-2445.



Farm income key driver of equipment sales

Investments in farm equipment, buildings and land are essential to sustain an operation's productivity.

And new farm equipment sales provide a strong indicator of the health of Canadian agriculture.

Over the past few years, market uncertainty and revenue pressures have reduced profitability in the agriculture sector, resulting in lower agricultural equipment purchases.

Future sales rest on the ability for the ag sector to rebound.

Trends in Canadian farm equipment

Through the first six months of 2020, COVID-19 has created significant headwinds for the Canadian economy and agri-food supply chain.

Despite these challenges, year-to-date (as of July 31) total farm equipment sales have increased 4.8% in 2020 compared to 2019, according to the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (graph above on right).

Breaking down the equipment type provides a different picture.

Tractors sales less than 40 HP or utility tractors have increased, while equipment primarily used on agriculture operations have declined or remained flat.

Utility tractor sales, representing nearly 70% of total tractor sales have increased by 12.3% year-to-date in 2020.

The health of the Canadian economy generally drives this market segment.

Tractors 40 to 100 HP sales have remained unchanged, and 100+ HP has declined 21.1%.

Large four-wheel-drive tractors and combine sales have declined 12.4% and 16.8% respectively year-to-date.

Farm equipment sales surged in July 2020 relative to 2019, as the economy continues to re-open after the COVID-19 lockdown, and farmers took delivery of their new equipment.

With farm revenues expected to tighten, producers should change their buying behaviour, either keeping equipment longer or exploring the used equipment market.

Farm revenues expected to soften in 2020

Our 2020 forecast of farm cash receipts suggests a 3.4% decline, the largest year-over-year decline since 2003. However, the impact across sectors varies with livestock sectors hit the hardest from disruptions to processing facilities and lower prices.

Grain and oilseed revenues are expected to improve with higher producer deliveries and record grain movement.

According to Statistics Canada, current crop conditions are also supportive of farm revenue with an expected production of 96.8 million tonnes.

Trends to watch for in 2020 and into 2021

Canadian dollar

The Canadian dollar has gained value against the USD since it reached a low of US\$0.69 in March 2020. We believe the loonie has limited upside at the current levels, yet it's possible it could trend sideways in the CAD\$0.75-\$0.76 range for the remainder of 2020. The higher loonie softens inflationary pressures on equipment but can introduce pressures on farm income.

Interest rates

COVID-19 has significantly changed the outlook for interest rates. We expect interest rates to stay at historically low levels into 2021.

This low-interest rate environment may increase producers' incentives to revisit their equipment replacement plans and financing needs.

Trade landscape with the U.S.

The implementation of CUSMA solidifies the trade relationship with the U.S.

On August 16, 2020, a 10% tariff on Canadian aluminum exported to the U.S. took effect.

We expect these tariffs to have minimal impact on farm equipment sales since most farm equipment uses little aluminum in manufacturing.

Steel tariffs that were removed in May 2019 were not re-enacted.

Farm equipment sales are an important indicator of overall farm health.

While overall tractor sales often mask equipment trends primarily used for agriculture, tighter profitability in Canadian agriculture and market uncertainty has decreased demand for larger HP tractors and combines. I

Improvements in farm cash receipts and lower interest rates are expected to support improved equipment sales in 2021.

See us online at www.plainandvalley.com

Get vocal about local.

You decide how your money impacts SK.

unbank yourself

1.866.663.6237 | affinitycu.ca



Plain & Valley REGIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY



ACCOUNTING

Miller Moar Grodecki Krekewich & Chorney

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

MELVILLE 155-3rd Ave. East 306-728-4245
 ESTERHAZY 420 Main Street 306-745-6611
 GRENFELL 716 Desmond Street 306-697-3558

PART-TIME OFFICES (ONE DAY PER WEEK)
 Balcarres, Fort Qu'Appelle, Indian Head, Ituna, Whitewood

www.millerandco.ca

DENTURIST

Spreading Smiles throughout Manitoba

FULL SERVICE DENTURE CLINIC

Kyle Ryan Denture Clinic

WESTMAN'S PREMIER DENTURE CLINIC

Celebrating 15 years in Brandon

204-728-4435

Unit D - 541 8th Street, Brandon, MB | www.brandondentures.com



Kyle Ryan
 L.D. DD Denturist

REAL ESTATE

Moving to Manitoba?

ROYAL LEPAGE
 Martin-Liberty Realty
 Carla McLean

PARTNER/SALES REPRESENTATIVE

204-851-5049

carlamclean@royalpage.ca



2020

Tax and regulatory regime for potash: Saskatchewan falling behind in competitiveness

☞ *Continued from page 21*

Overall costs are higher in Canada.

It's important to us that we have great jobs in the potash sector and we do offer really attractive careers for people. We do make sure we treat employees well as it's expected of us and that's something we want to do of course—but it does add a cost complexity that in some other parts of the world there may be less attention paid to working conditions or wages.

It's not a disadvantage but it is an additional cost that we shoulder.

In Canada there have been changes to some of our tax and regulatory systems over the last several years.

Either new costs added onto our production or additional regulatory hurdles to cross—competitors in other parts of the world just don't see those same costs.

Can you explain to me how the regulatory system in Canada works for potash? Is it entirely under provincial jurisdiction because it's a resource or is there some federal jurisdiction as well?

We are mostly under provincial jurisdiction as far as advancing a project of building a new mine.

Where the federal government is involved is more so on environmental matters, so of course we have the added cost of the carbon tax. It's been a big topic for the last number of years of course.

Are you strictly taxed provincially?

That's where it gets complicated. There are property taxes, a resource tax as well as royalties paid, then of course income tax, consumer taxes like GST and PST, so there are a variety of different layers of taxation. The major ones are the resource tax and royalties paid.

How have those changed over the years?

There has been changes. They do tend to change from time to time and we have seen increases certainly on those fronts in the last number of years.

Of course we want to pay our fair share but we always try to remind the government to be mindful that we are in an international operating environment and have to be aware of what other potash producers may or may not be paying in different parts of the world.

Does it impact your competitiveness when you have the taxes you do?

Yes it definitely can impact competitiveness. At the end of the day the price of potash is the same on the world market no matter where it is made.

So if a producer can come in at particularly low cost per tonne and bring home more profit at the end of the day which they can redistribute of course to their communities and their employees and reinvest back in the company, that is an advantage for them.

At this point in time there is no incentive or reward for the producer that is the most responsible or the most sustainable—you get the one global price for the commodity on the market.

Do companies like Mosaic have ongoing conversations with the various levels of government about competitiveness and what it takes to ensure that there is more investment in potash in the future?

Yes we do. Whenever we have an opportunity to have a consultation with any level of government we make a point to discuss those pieces and help make sure there is an awareness of what the operating environment looks



An aerial view of the Nutrien Rocanville potash mine.

like on a global scale for the potash sector—what the opportunities and also the challenges are.

When you did have a whole new tax come in like with the carbon tax, and that is something that is going to be adjusted, does that particular piece on its own impact competitiveness?

You have to look at the total picture, of course. I think it does have some impact. The carbon tax for example is paid on electricity in Saskatchewan so that can have a fairly noticeable impact for companies that require a lot of electricity to run their operations, and mining is one of those.

If everyone had a carbon tax around the world it wouldn't be such a factor, but because each country is taking their own approach this is something we have to be mindful of.

The other piece is the regulatory uncertainty. It's hard to predict what the carbon tax may look like in 10 years, what dollar amount that could be at that point at times, so that makes it a little bit harder to make decisions about future investments, and you could say that about any taxes but that is just one topical example.

With the current tax and regulatory regime in Saskatchewan right now, does it encourage or discourage investment in the industry?

We think it's time to review royalty and tax treatment to look at accumulative impacts over the last five to 10 years and to benchmark Saskatchewan against not just other provinces but internationally.

That would be one of our big asks, is for governments to do that sort of comprehensive look when they are contemplating an increase.

There are still a lot of great reasons to be here and to operate in Saskatchewan, but every time there is an increase we do have to examine that competitiveness position once again, and if there are too many increases then absolutely it is harder and harder to make a case to invest in Saskatchewan.

Have you gone to government with that message?

Yes, we have shared that message and the Saskatchewan Mining Association would be amplifying that message from its members, of which we are one. Mosaic led the creation of the Time to Dig Deeper campaign, but some of our industry association partners are helping to

share that message as well to create more awareness and more dialogue around the challenges that the industry is facing.

What is the main message you are trying to get through with the Time to Dig Deeper campaign?

We have a great resource and a good story to tell for Canadian potash. It does a lot of good not just for food security but for the communities and areas in which we operate. I think people are aware of that, but maybe less aware of what some of those challenges are that are threatening the industry's future in Canada. We are trying to create a bit more awareness of the ways that producers outside of Canada can take advantage of their own operating environments and further benefit their industries, which is their right to do, but we have to think of how it impacts us here as well.

Are you getting any feedback on the campaign?

We have a little bit. We've started to get some questions as we're sharing the message on social media.

We are creating some dialogue. We are getting some good engagement I think from the areas where we operate and we have started to have some conversations with government as well as they try to learn more and to understand some of the points we're raising.

Best case scenario, what would you like to see from the government?

We think it's time to look at the cost environment, review royalty and tax treatment and be very mindful when introducing any policy or regulatory change that might add more costs about what that could do to the competitive position of our industry.

We would like to see improvements to transport infrastructure and systems in Canada.

Any sort of action the government could take that would help improve the cost position without eroding any of the safeguards or the systems we have put in place to make sure we have strong performance, we would certainly welcome.

Auditor General

☞ *Continued from page 33*

Shtykalo said the department did not have a clear, robust plan to address the many risks to drinking water safety and that the most important thing going forward is for them to implement a strategic plan.

"Given the limited resources available, and increasing workload, it is important that the department carefully plan how to address the issues noted in this report," he said.

"I feel some of our recommendations will help them achieve that and help them implement. We have a couple recommendations where we make reference to implementing more automated or IT based systems.

"Recommendation 17 is, 'we recommend that the department develop a strategic plan for its oversight of drinking water safety, that includes measurable targets and timelines, the department should report publicly on meeting

this objective.'

"While all our recommendations are important, that certainly is the key one," he said.

Quality Directional Boring - Serving Western Canada

HDD RIGS AVAILABLE FROM 9000lbs to 100,000lbs
Water Truck supplied with all Bore Units

CALL TO BOOK YOUR NEXT BORE
Office:
306-482-5240
SUSAN@CHDD.CA

LB Plumbing & Heating

Luke: 204-573-9530
Braden: 204-841-3189

204-722-2175

McAuley, MB

- › Red Seal Plumber/Gas-Fitter
- › Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning
- › Drain Cleaning
- › Renovations/New Construction

24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE!

MANAGERS' SALE

ON NOW FOR A LIMITED TIME

Custom Colours Available

Pasadena 6-Piece Reclining Sectional

Also available in other configurations

SAVE \$1,000 \$2499

3635 VICTORIA AVENUE • BRANDON, MB
204-727-4444

TOLL FREE:
1-800-267-4441

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

Open Monday to Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., closed Sunday



Kara Kinna from The World-Spectator presents Lorelei Petreny with \$3,000 worth of gift certificates from Summer Shopping Spree participating businesses

Congratulations Lorelei Petreny

WINNER OF \$3,000 IN GIFT CERTIFICATES

Lorelei is the winner of the World-Spectator Summer Shopping Spree!

Lorelei's prize is \$3,000 in gift certificates—a \$100 gift certificate from each of the 30 participating businesses. Lorelei's name was drawn from entries at Kari's Kloset in Moosomin.

Thank you to all the participating businesses!

Congratulations Lorelei and thanks for shopping locally!

PARTICIPATING LOCAL BUSINESSES:

- Decker's H2O & Spirits To Go
- Virden Footwear
- Lee's Carpet Warehouse
- Virden Sport & Fashion
- Kassie's Jewelry
- Esterhazy Freshmart
- Kari's Kloset
- Esterhazy Chicken Chef
- Moosomin Family Foods
- Virden Home Hardware
- Esterhazy Home Hardware
- Rocanville Town & Country Golf Club
- Borderland Co-op
- Sapara's Drug Mart
- Custom Edge Auto Detailing
- Cork & Bone
- Vibe Interior Decorating
- Zaylie Furniture & Appliances
- KFC/Pizza Hut Moosomin
- Bumper to Bumper Rocanville/Langenburg
- Pharmasave Moosomin
- Kullberg's Furniture
- Glasser's TV
- Wolverine Supplies
- Bradley & Son Ltd.
- Celebration Ford
- McPhail Travel
- Denray Tire
- Mullett's Home Hardware
- Universe Satellite Sales

WE WANT YOUR TRADE!

CELEBRATION
- FORD SALES -

306-435-3313
MOOSOMIN, SK
celebrationford.com
1-800-880-4533

Guy Wall
(306) 435-0215

Eli Tremblay
(306) 434-9101

<p>2018 F-150 XTR STOCK# 0T158A > ECOBOOST > 32,000 kms</p> <p>\$38,900 \$151 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2017 Ford Edge SE STOCK# 0T156A > Ecoboost > 96,000 kms</p> <p>\$26,900 \$104 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2018 F-150 Lariat STOCK# 0P204 > SPORT > Celebration Creation > 53,000 kms</p> <p>\$48,900 \$189 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2016 F-150 Platinum STOCK# 0T150A > 6.5 Foot box > 79,000 kms</p> <p>\$43,900 \$171 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2017 F-150 Lariat STOCK# 0T169A > SPORT > Twin Panel Moonroof > 76,000 kms</p> <p>\$44,900 \$174 PER WEEK</p>
<p>2010 New Beetle STOCK# 0P185A > Leather > Moonroof > 99,000 kms</p> <p>\$10,900</p>	<p>2016 Chev Cruze STOCK# 0T086B > Leather > Great Color > 112,000 kms</p> <p>\$9,999 \$39 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2012 F-150 XTR STOCK# 0T165A > ECOBOOST > 99,000 kms</p> <p>\$22,900 \$99 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2014 Edge Limited STOCK# 0T153A > ONE OWNER > 185,000 kms</p> <p>\$16,900 \$89 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2014 Edge SEL STOCK# 0T052A > AWD > 139,000 kms</p> <p>\$15,567 \$79 PER WEEK</p>
<p>2017 Escape SE STOCK# 0T004A > 4WD > 88,000 kms</p> <p>\$19,459 \$78 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2017 Envision Premium STOCK# 0T035A > AWD > 69,000 kms</p> <p>\$25,969 \$99 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2015 Escape SE STOCK# 0T063A > 4WD > 96,000 kms</p> <p>\$16,419 \$79 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2017 Yukon SLT/XL STOCK# 0T018A > VERY ROOMY > 81,000 kms</p> <p>\$49,998 \$193 PER WEEK</p>	<p>2011 Equinox LTZ STOCK# 0T164A > AWD > 191,000 kms</p> <p>\$11,900 \$76 PER WEEK</p>

Plain & Valley

Reaching 28,000 Households

in Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba



Proud to be locally owned and independent!

Published from the World-Spectator office
714 Main Street
Moosomin, SK

306.435.2445
world_spectator@sasktel.net
www.plainandvalley.com

To discuss Advertising contact:		To discuss Accounts call:		Journalists		Graphic Design Staff		
Kara Kinna Associate Publisher	Kevin Weedmark Publisher & Owner	Richelle Adriaansen Administrative Assistant	Rob Paul	Victor van der Merwe	Jennifer McMillan	Jacqui Harrison	Samantha McGonigal	