



The Blu Beach Band put on an amazing show at the fireworks weekend at Moosomin Regional Park.

Bands two nights, fireworks:

Big July long weekend planned at Moosomin Lake

Moosomin Regional Park is hosting a July Long Weekend of fun. The Waving in Canada Day at the Lake event will provide fun for all ages at the lake this year. Events and games are scheduled to start June 29 and 30, and to celebrate Canada Day July 1.

Kyle Jeannot, a member of the organizing committee says they are excited to be planning an event for every-one earlier this summer. For the last several years the park has hosted fireworks on the August long weekend. "There is going to be a kids' sandcastle building contest, pontoon boat rides on the Saturday, a road hockey

test, pontoon boat rides on the Saturday, a road nockey tournament, beer gardens with a DJ playing some music, and then Blu Beach Band for the evening. Then, the Sunday night will be a scavenger hunt, a kids version and adult version that is more challenging, and then beach volleyball tournament, pontoon boat rides again, and then fireworks at 10:30 pm and then beer gardens as well, then Look Music and Odd Man Out will close up

the night. That is the plan for right now.
"The fireworks will be a smaller show. It will be simi-

lar to the fireworks last year, but no drones this year."
Archangel Fireworks from Winnipeg, which has competed in the fireworks weekend in the past, will put on the show.

Jeannot says they planned for an earlier weekend this summer to accommodate more families who might not be able to attend later in the summer.

Continued on page 5









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Scenes from the induction of Candace Barta-Bonk into the Knight's Cross of the Order of Hungary in Ottawa.

Candace Barta-Bonk awarded the Order of Merit of Hungary

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK
Candace Barta-Bonk, the Hungarian
Consul to Saskatchewan, was recently recognized for her contributions when she was awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of Hungary by the Hungarian Ambassador to Canada.

While she was born in Canada, she feels a strong connection with her family's Hungarian heritage. "My heritage is Hungarian. Although I was born in Saskatchewan, I have pure Hungarian roots and I am a fourth generation Canadian. I have family ties to Hungary and have always had a connection to the Hungarian community in the province, and my husband and I spent nearly a decade liv-

ing in Hungary."
Barta-Bonk says she was honoured to tour the current and former ambassadors around Saskatchewan and to the Hungarian settlements in the area.

"In 2017, the former ambassador to Hungary, Balint Odor, visited Saskatchrungary, Baint Odol, visited Sakatti-ewan on his trip. He visited the Kapos-var Hungarian settlement near Esterhazy and Bekevar, the Hungarian settlement near Kipling. I had the privilege of help-ing to host the ambassador at the Beke-var Church. It was very special to me as my great-grandparents were settlers who helped build the church," she said.

Continued on page 7 ™



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One suspect dead, one arrested after car chase

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

One suspect is dead and one is in custody facing five charges after a police chase across southern Saskatche-wan and Manitoba on June

The chase started in southeast Saskatchewan and the high-speed chase went right through Moo-somin on the evening of June 4, and two police cars ended up colliding south of Moosomin.

Moosomin.

The suspects continued into Manitoba, where Winnipeg City Police and RCMP pursued them.

One suspect, Tristan Mariash, was shot dead by police around 3 am June 5 in Niverville and another, David Burlies flod that come vid Burling, fled that scene and was arrested at 1:30 pm June 5 in Springside, Saskatchewan.

Burling is charged with two counts of Assault Against a Peace Officer Against a Feace Officer with a Weapon, Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5,000, Failure to Stop, and Dangerous Op-eration of a Motor Vehicle.

A woman was arrested with Burling and has been released without charges.

The timeline covers two

days and two provinces. On Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at approximately 8:10 am, Moosomin RCMP received a report of a suspicious vehicle at a rural property outside of Moosomin.

It was reported that a dark grey pick-up truck and a white pick-up truck were on the property. When the owner approached them, they fled. Officers from Moosomin and Broadview





Car thieves left a trail of destruction across southeast Saskatchewan and southern Manitoba June 4-5. Top left an abandoned truck set on fire near Whitewood, top right Whitewood Fire Department fighting the blaze, lower left the vehicle in which one suspect was shot dead, below right, a shot up Winnipeg Police Service vehicle involved in the chase



RCMP began working to

locate the suspicious trucks.
Officers located the white pickup truck several times in the following hours. They activated their lights and sirens and the vehicle fled at a high rate of speed.

The white pick-up truck as later located abandoned near Whitewood, Sask. Investigation determined the suspects were now travelling in a black Ford F-350. The dark grey pick-up truck had since been recovered in the Melville detachment area.

Multiple Saskatchewan rime Watch Advisories Crime were issued throughout June 4, asking members of the public to report sight-ings of the vehicles and information on their where-abouts. Numerous RCMP officers were involved in the efforts to locate the sus-



pect vehicle.

pect vehicle.

The suspect vehicle sped through Moosomin on the evening of June 4, dodging vehicles and people as it sped south on Cook Road, and south of Moosomin two police vehicles collided, resulting in damage to the vehicles but no serious injuries to the officers ous injuries to the officers

During the evening of June 4, investigators deter-

mined the suspect vehicle had travelled into Manitoba. Efforts to locate the vehicle were ongoing but police were not actively pursuing it at the time. Manitoba RCMP were

alerted. On Wednesday, June 5, at 12:40 am, the Winnipeg Police Service received infor-mation through the RCMP Telecoms regarding a Black Ford 350 reported stolen from a rural Manitoba municipality southwest of Winnipeg. Information was also provided that the vehicle, occupied by several potentially armed individuals involved in prior criminal activity, was making its

nal activity, was making its way to Winnipeg. At approximately 12:50 am, a West District General Patrol Unit observed the stolen vehicle near Ness Avenue and Linwood Street in Winsipes.

in Winnipeg. Officers immediately re quested assistance from the Flight Operations Unit (Air 1), which quickly acquired the stoler vehicle and provided visual containment information on the vehicle and its occupants.

and its occupants.

A lengthy follow ensued, lasting approximately one hour, with Air 1 guiding Winnipeg police to a parking lot on College Crescent in Otterburne, Manitoba. As the police entered the parking lot, their cruiser was rammed by the stolen vehicle. Officers immediately contact the property of the the was rammed by the stolen vehicle. Officers immedi-ately engaged the suspects, resulting in a use of force incident involving the offi-cers discharging their fire-arms. The suspects fled the parking let

parking lot. Air 1 continued to contain the vehicle visually and followed it to a parking lot on Drovers Run in Niverville, Manitoba. Air 1 observed the driver exit the stolen vehicle, enter another vehicle and flee the area. An adult female passenger attempted to flee on foot, however, responding RCMP officers quickly placed her under

Continued on page 11 ™

Justin Petelski



Borderland Co-op would like to welcome JUSTIN PETELSKI & CHRIS FIALKOWSKI TO THE MOOSOMIN HOME CENTRE LEADERSHIP TEAM.

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Left: Jacqui Harrison riding her electric tricycle at the fireworks weekend last year.

Above: Kids try out some of the mini vehicles at the fireworks weekend.

Right: Kara Kinna enjoying lunch at the Fireworks



Bands two nights, fireworks:

Big July long weekend planned at Moosomin Lake

"More people want something happening Canada Day so we are going to try and give this a go. It is something different. Kids are out of school so hopefully it will pull families coming camping at the lake that weekend. It is called Waving in Canada Day at the Lake. We are hoping it will pull people to the lake earlier this year. It will be similar to August long, just a smaller fireworks show, and just the one night for the fireworks.

He says the committee has put a lot of work into planning the July long week-

"Booking the fireworks and getting them here, and making sure there are events, like booking bands and there is security. There is quite a few things that go

into the planning."

The committee is always ready to wel-

come more volunteers.
"We have a committee put together. There is about seven of us on it right now. Last year we had the Filipino community help out with parking. We could always use more volunteers. Anyone can contact myself if they are interested in volunteer-

He says the committee decided to do something different this year to attract more people.

"It was a committee decision to move the weekend up this year to try something different. A lot of people were coming last year on Canada Day saying there isn't anything to do in town with the rodeo event a couple weeks down the road. This gave us an opportunity to change it up and give people a changed timeline to do things throughout the summer. During



Carmelle Boutin selling hand made bookmarks at Moosomin Regional Park during the fireworks weekend

last year. August long people are usually busy with weddings or travelling." Jeannot says events like this are impor-

tant for the regional park.

"I think it is huge to have these events at the lake. It draws people in and helps us get campers in there. It gets people to

when the lake.

"One thing we are hoping if we can get people there earlier in the year maybe they will find that they really like it. Maybe they'll stay all summer and book sites through the summer. Maybe put it on their bucket list for next year that they want to come back.

The committee hopes to see lots of people come out.

"It would be nice to see about 2,000 peo-

ple there. We know it is not going to be as big as the August long weekends were, when we had 7,000 people, but people are always looking for something to do.

"Tickets are \$20 for the weekend per person over 19 years old. Then, 10 and under are free, and \$10 for a wristband for 11-18 year olds. That gets you there all weekend and for adults into the beer gar-dens. It should be more cost effective for families too.

They are hoping to attract people from the surrounding area for the event.

"I think you will probably see more local people for this one. Before, we had seen people from Brandon, Winnipeg, and Regina come out, and probably as far as Weyburn and Estevan. If we can get people from around the area—Redvers, Rocanville, Whitewood, into the McAuley area and pull from that crowd, there should be no reason we can't have 2,000 people.

He says it is exciting planning the long weekend for the lake.
"It is a lot of fun to plan this and see it

come together. I try to have fun that weekend, but it is usually the last night that our committee doesn't have to worry about anything we can usually have some fun, but it will be good. We are looking forward to getting lots of people out and have something to do for Canada Day. It is good to get people out there."

If this year the July Long goes well they

have hopes to continue this event every

"I think we would plan to have it like this every year if it turns out good this year. August long—that time of year is always tough because you got farmers starting to get in the field, or some campers may be starting to leave. We're hoping this time of year works better. I hope

it goes well and will be a good turnout."

Jeannot says the July Long Weekend is also to help raise money for upgrades and maintenance at the lake.

"It is for both the people to have fun, and for fundraising. We are always trying to raise money to put money back into the lake. Whether that is a playground, or the water treatment plant they did years ago, they just put a dog park at the lake this year. I know there is going to be a backstop for the ball diamond, I know the Kinettes donated money for that so that is ready to go. It just has to be finalized. Also, upgrading sites whether it is upgrading power or sewer. Everything is at least 30 amp right now, there is a few on the list that are needing repairs. They just fixed the bathrooms down at the South end of the lake. We will raise money to help cover those things. That is always something we are looking into anytime we can raise money for the lake and to get people out to enjoy it, experience it, it's kind of a hidden gem.

"It would be nice to raise \$25,000 ideally, that is our goal for this year.

Anyone who wants to volunteer can

contact Jeannot at kyle_Jeannot@hotmail.





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SATURDAY, JUNE 29th

SUNDAY, JUNE 30th

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SUNDAY

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begin

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SATURDAY

10 am BALL GAMES begin

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Candace Barta-Bonk awarded the Order of Merit of Hungary

*** Continued from Page 3
"It was after this visit that the ambassador
wanted to create an honorary consul position for
Saskatchewan. Up until that point the honorary
consul in Alberta was responsible for Saskatchewan. It was quite an honour to be asked to take on this role

She says there are a lot of people with Hungarian heritage in Saskatchewan.
"In Saskatchewan there are nearly 30,000 peo-

in ouspaticule wall there are nearly 30,000 people with Hungarian heritage. Saskatchewan has the largest per capita ethnic Hungarians in Canada as well."

ada as well."

She says her family were among the first Hungarian settlers in Saskatchewan. "My great-grandparents were among the first pioneering Hungarian families to settle in Canada. They faced numerous challenges, but they were tough and resourceful. Then, they integrated into the Canadian society.

dian society.

"Bekevar and Kaposvar are the very first Hun-

garian settlements in Canada."
She says Hungarians immigrated to Canada to farm. "There was definitely a promise of rich, fertile land, and there was a man named Esterhazy, he was the one that was in charge of the Esterhazy area. He was an agent and promoted and brought

over many Hungarian people."

Candace says her role as Honorary consul is to help Hungarian families within Saskatchewan.

"The honorary consuls, we help Hungarian nationals if they need assistance during a crisis like a hospital stay or a natural disaster. I also help facilitate cultural, economic, and social relations between Hungary and Saskatchewan. So, I often arrange visits with the ambassador or the consul general, and prominent people from Hungary. Also as the honorary consul, I assist in notarization, and authenticat-

ing documents."
She says the former Hungarian ambassador to Canada

approached her with this opportunity.

"The former Hungarian ambassador to Canada, Balint Odor, had asked if I would take on this role and it was quite an honour to be asked and I was honoured to serve

and uplift the Hungarian community.

"My inauguration took place February 9, 2021. The current ambassador, Mária Vass-Salazar, and Valér Palkovits accepted my vows in a video conference as it was during

Candace was selected for the award by current Hungarian ambassador Mária Vass-Salazar.
"I was very grateful to be nominated by the current ambassador, her excellency Mária Vass-Salazar, in recognition

bassador, her excellency Maria vass-salazar, in recognition of accomplishments for promoting the Hungarian community in Canada, and strengthening relations.

"I am deeply honoured and thankful to receive such an award. I am proud of my Hungarian heritage and feel compelled to help the Hungarian community in any way possible, but I really truly feel the highlight should be the



Candace Barta-Bonk accepting the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of Hungary from ambassador Mária Vass-Salazar.

Hungarian community and the people of Saskatchewan who have dedicated years of effort to various projects. I believe volunteers are the foundation of any community

believe volunteers are the foundation of any community which is truly priceless. When we all work together we can accomplish great things."

She says she is proud of her heritage. "I am immensely proud of both my Hungarian and Canadian heritage. I cherish fond memories of family gatherings. When I was a child, we would gather in my grandparents' living room on special occasions and my grandfather would recite poetry of Petôfi Sándor and converse with us in Hungarian, and those moments remain in my heart. It is truly a testaand those moments remain in my heart. It is truly a testament to the importance of preserving one's heritage and

"I feel it is important for people to know where they come from and understand their history. My hope is to make a stronger connection between Hungary and Sas-

Hungarian ambassador proud of Barta-Bonk's achievements

Mária Vass-Salazar, the Hungarian Ambassador to Canada, said she is proud of the work that Barta-Bonk has done.

"We appreciate Candace Barta-Bonk's activity as honorary consul of Hungary in Saskatchewan," she said. "Her role is important, given the fact that Canada is the second largest country in the world so our embassy tries to encompass all aspects of fostering relations between Canada and Hungary, but it's such a beautiful, vast country, that the more honorary consuls we have in the provinces and all over Canada, the better we can accomplish our goals. Candace's role is essential to foster relations between Canada and Hungary, and also to facilitate specific projects that Hungary, through the embassy, can work on with partners in Saskatchewan in business, cultural life, and of course a very prominent Hungarian community in Saskatchewan. Her role includes official administrative elements as well. She can take care of Hungarian countries of the capacity of the capacit citizens' business needs in Saskatchewan to a certain level. She can provide notary support and au-thentication of documents, and she can work with

thentication of documents, and she can work with the embassy and we can follow up with them if it's a passport arrangement or higher, more complex administrative tasks that are required.

"She has been given the Knight's Cross of The Order of Merit of Hungary, which is the highest award that we can give to foreign nationals. There are three levels and this is the Knight's Cross level of the Order of Merit. I recommended Candace personally to be considered for this award because all through my experience here in Canada as the ambassador of Hungary, her work has been excellent. Her dedication, hard work, and drive in her work, and her drive to foster wider relations her work, and her drive to foster wider relations between Hungary and Canada really stands out. "I have been to Saskatchewan four times al-

ready and wherever I went on an official visit, when I saw the Lieutenant-Governor and the premier and ministers in the province or when I visited the Hungarian communi-ties, or on business visits, and one of my favourites, when ties, or on business visits, and one of my Tavourites, when I visited the Hungarian pilots who are training in Moose Jaw at NATO Flying School. On those four visits, Candace was very helpful and extremely resourceful as well netrms of arranging very useful meetings for me. As a descendant of Hungarians who settled in Saskatchewan in the 1880s, her commitment and dedication to fostering the Hungarian community and passing on the heritage to future generations is exemplary. I recommended her for this award and the President of Hungary signed the decree which officially bestows the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of Hungary on Candace. I am so pleased, because she is so deserving." she is so deserving.

Important communities

Vass-Salzar says she believes Kaposvar and Bekevar in southeast Saskatchewan are important communities. "We are very, very proud to see the Hungarian community there thriving and those historic sites from the very early days of Hungarian settlement in Saskatchewan, and also the fact that after four or five generations it's flourishing. I've seen the churches and the documents from the early days. Through Candaco's work the government of Hungarian than the community of the content o days. Through Candace's work, the government of Hungary has helped with renovations and I want to see that continue. It's very heartwarming to see that they are pre-serving the language, too. It's a difficult language but it's part of our identity."

Redvers marking 120 years Town to host epic party leading up to Canada Day

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL IOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

ILOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER
It's a celebration 120 years in the making—Redvers
Homecoming during the Canada Day long weekend will
make the town the place to be this year.
"We have been planning for quite a while," said Town
of Redvers CAO Tricia Pickard. "We've had community
meetings since the start of the year, and even earlier, to
start planning what we want to do."

start planning what we want to do."
The homecoming slogan is "120 Years of Growth," with a slate of events planned for the whole weekend.
Big events on Saturday, June 29 include a trade show,

kids mini tractor derby, and an art show (spanning Saturday and Sunday). People can check out all the cool rides over at the car and motor-

cycle show also planned for

Saturday.
Also taking place over the 29th and 30th is a town tour with a bus leaving the Gold-en Age Centre for half-hour guided tour. Residents can also purchase special homecoming yard signs from the Town Office, displaying the family name residing in that raminy name resisting in that home. This will bring a spe-cial reminiscence for people visiting who used to live in those residences, complete with an ownership history from the tour guide.

The Town of Redvers also has branded limited edi-tion clothing, but you better hurry—the deadline to or-der your hat, t-shirt or bunnyhug is May 31 (orders are expected to arrive on June

15).

"We're very excited about
"Bi-lord said. "So peothat," Pickard said. "So peo-ple have got to get their orders in because they're only going to be available online." Canada Day events kick off with a pancake breakfast served up by the Redvers Knights of Columbus, followed by a kids fireman rodeo and a special history sign presen-

"We are going to be having a presentation on these three large hometown history signs," Pickard said. "We are going to be having a presentation for them on July 1

There will also be a Canada Day parade and ranch ro-deo. The evening rounds out with a live band courtesy Quinton Blair and of course, some spectacular fireworks. A slo-pitch tournament is also planned for the Satur-



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> Entry Fees: Adults - \$75 Youth (12 & Under) - \$35 Includes supper Supper Tickets: \$20

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The Wawota Grade 7 class.

Wawota Grade 7 class wins national 'Mission Explorium' competition

The Wawota Grade 7 class taught by Jaime Finlay is the winner of "Mission Explorium," a new national competition launched by Agriculture in the Classroom

launched by Agriculture in the Classroom Canada (AITC-C).

A total of 215 classes from B.C. to the Maritimes and Northern Canada participated in the inaugural Mission Explorium competition, with Wawota Parkland School coming out in first place.

Adventurous Grades 6 to 8 classes across Canada embarked on an exciting sustain.

Canada embarked on an exciting sustainability journey this spring as the first explorers in Agriculture in the Classroom Canada's (AITC-C) new Mission Exploring carpetition

rium competition.

Mission Explorium, which launched on February 19 and wrapped up in late April,

challenged students from coast to coast to build a sustainable community after landing on a deserted island. Four weeks of cross-curricular activities engaged classes to work together to complete a quest each week that included work in science, math, language arts, visual arts and careers. Provincial winners took on one further challenge in the guest to become the national champion.

A panel of agriculture industry judges

awarded top honours and a cash prize to the Voyagers of the SS Finlay in a very tight competition. The judges were impressed by the Voyagers of the SS Finlay's creativity, depth of development of their island in areas such as sustainability, culture and food, and their innovative storyline.

"The scenario we were given was that we crash landed on a desert island during we crash landed on a desert island during a field trip and needed to create a sustainable society." says Finlay. "After completing 16 quests and challenges including creating three new adapted species, mapping/running a sustainable farm, inventing recipes and ways to use our species entirely, making advertisements, inventing an annual cultural celebration, writing and performing a national anthem, etc, over four weeks, we were awarded the title of Regional Champions and entered in the Canadian Final Challenge against schools from all 10 provinces and one territory. "We created a masterful documentary,

'We created a masterful documentary. showcasing all our previous work as well as new scripts, footage and editing and we were named Canadian Champs and awarded a \$1,000 prize.

"Now Grade 7 and I have to decide how to spend that prize money!" "At Agriculture in the Classroom Cana-da, we are always looking for new ways to da, we are always looking for new ways to cultivate curiosity about agriculture," says Mathieu Rouleau, Executive Director of AITC-C. "Mission Explorium is a fun and interactive way to engage students across Canada to work together and learn about where their food comes from and the importance of agriculture in any society."

The feedback from the teachers and students who participated in the first edition of the program will be used to refine

tion of the program will be used to refine and enhance the competition for the next round, which is expected to launch in early 2025. Funding for the development of Mission Explorium was provided by contributions from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Moosomin competing in **Communities in Bloom** for the second year

BY JOEY LIGHT
Moosomin did well in Communities in Bloom last year, earning four blooms, and the organizing committee is gearing

up for this year's competition.

Jasmine Davidson, Co-ordinator for Communities in Bloom, says she is very

"A lot of planning goes into this and I like getting to manage and use my creative side, which this job allows me to do," she says. "I am very proud to call Moosomin my home, so it's very reward-Mosoniun my home, so it's very rewarding for me to get to promote and market Mosomin in a unique way to bring more people and show them what we have to offer."

She said there is a lot involved in Com-

munities in Bloom.
"Communities in Bloom is way more than just planting flowers, it's about bringing the community together and getting everyone involved with their communities. There are actually six categories we get judged on-community appearance, environmental action, heritage conservation, tree management, plant and floral displays.

Community involvement

She said the committee is looking at lots of options to get people involved. "Communities in Bloom is putting on our first ever Communities in Bloom car show and farmers market on June 14. and we hope that gets more people from Moosomin and other areas interested.

"One of our main focuses this year is community involvement. We are plan-ning a lot of stuff to get people wanting to be involved, like the mini contests we had last year like best yard, best garden, and best campsite. We are hoping more students want to be involved. We just did a presentation at MacLeod Elementary for grades three to five just spreading the word about why it's important, because the kids are our future. We have the Environmental Science classes at McNaughton High School who volunteer to help with stuff like cleaning up Mooso-min Lake."

She said she's excited for this year.

"There is always opportunity to learn, I've lived here my whole life and I didn't I've lived here my whole life and I didn't know a lot of the history of Moosomin and this job allows me to learn so many new things. My favorite part last year was when the judges came and getting to show them around. They were pretty impressed with Moosomin. The only thing they could really think of to give us advice on was lack of signage, which is something we can improve this year. I have lots of ideas for this year and I'm very excited to see them come to life. I very excited to see them come to life. I actually have my own Facebook page for Communities in Bloom now, so we hope that will inform more people."

Angela Thorn with the Moosomin Rec

Department says Jasmine puts in tons of work for the contest.

"I'm going off everything she had from last year and she had everything laid last year and sie had everything fatu out in a nice book, she had to plan all the stops and prepare to take the judges around. It's a lot and everything has to run on a timeline. It's tons of work and

planning for her."

The theme color is orange this year and the organizers are hoping people get behind Communities in Bloom the same way they did last year.

Last year Moosomin won the highest marks in the province, but still has room to improve, as the community earned four blooms from the judges last year, and could potentially win five. If it is awarded five blooms, Moosomin would go on to the national competition.

Employment Opportunity

UTILITY MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Rural Municipality of Wallace-Woodworth is seeking a motivated individual for the permanent full-time position of Utility Manager.

The Utility Manager reports to the Chief Administrative Officer. The Utility Manager will be responsible for the supervision of all Utility personnel; safety and training programs; water line and plant maintenance; construction and expansion. In addition, the Utility Manager will assist in the development and implementation of policies, programs, and capital plans related to the Municipal Utility.

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 Ability to manage operations, assets and people in a cost effective and customer service-oriented manner
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- Proficient with computer applications Microsoft Office products including Excel, Word, Outlook, etc.
- · Computer experience in GPS equipment, ArcMap software, GIS data collection, and Google Earth is an asset
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Attention to detail and thoroughness are required
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This posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is located. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Moosomin's Levi Jamieson named **Junior Citizen of the Year**

Levi Jamieson was awarded the Junior Citizen Award in Regina at Government House May 30 by Lieutenant-Governor Russ Mirasty.

Right: Levi poses with the Lieutenant-Governor and all the supporters who came out from Moosomin.

Below left: Levi poses with the three other Junior Citizen Award winners and government officials.

Below right: Levi Jamieson with his Junior Citizen of the Year award.

Ashley Bochek Photos









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One suspect dead, one arrested after car chase

Winnipeg Police Service officers checked the abandoned stolen truck and located an adult male passenger suffering from a gunshot wound.

Officers provided emergency medical care to the victim before the arrival of ambulance, however, he succumbed to his injuries.

This death is classed as an officer-involved shooting

and is being investigated.

David Burling fled from the scene of this incident.

Later on the morning of

June 5, the investigation determined he was in Sas-katchewan RCMP jurisdic-

Multiple Saskatchewan
RCMP detachments and units began working extensively to
locate him, supported by the Protection and Response Team
from the Province of Saskatchewan, CN Police and Saskatoon Police Service's Air Support Unit.
Multiple updates were sent to the media, posted on Saskatchewan RCMP social media channels and sent via the

Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory network as investigators received information about the potential location of the suspect and suspect vehicle.

Updates were posted on the World-Spectator's social media channels and website, with the World-Spectator being the first media outlet to link the death in Niverville with the chase and thefts in Saskatchewan. That post was seen by

more than 150,000 people.

As it was unfolding, the incident was continually monitored by RCMP for public safety concerns.

David Frank Burling was arrested at Springside, Saskatchewan at approximately 1:30 pm Wednesday. Manitoba RCMP have now charged him.

Burling is charged with two counts of Assault Against.

Burling is charged with two counts of Assault Against a Peace Officer with Weapon, Possession of Property Ob-tained by Crime Over \$5,000, Fail to Stop, and Dangerous

Operation of a Motor Vehicle.
The truck abandonded in Niverville had been stolen from Cypress River, Manitoba two weeks ago. The dealer who sold the truck has access to information through the Ford Pass app and noted that the thieves put 6,079 km on the vehicle from the time it was stolen to the time it was abandoned at Niverville.

Saskatchewan RCMP's Broadview detachment and Regina General Investigation Section continue to investigate



David Burling



At a Smitty's Lounge in mid-March, Tristan Mariash and David Burling toasted to good times and being fresh out of jail. Now Mariash is dead and Burling is in custody

the incidents in Saskatchewan RCMP jurisdiction.

The investigation is active and ongoing; no charges had been laid on the Saskatchewan side as of June 7.

"There is much more work to do on this investigation," said Superintendent Rob Lasson, Acting Criminal Operations Officer for the Manitoba RCMP.

"This was a multi-georgy, multi-intridictional event that

"This was a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional event that was complex and had many moving parts, and all of those involved worked together toward the same goals—keeping citizens safe and getting the suspect in custody."

Violent history

Burling has a history of fleeing from police. In 2020, he was sentenced to just under two years on charges that also included another flight from police, this

time in the Crystal City area.

"Tlook at your criminal record, and ... it's been a one-man crime wave, really, for two years," Manitoba Judge Heather Pullan told Burling during his May 2020 sentencing hearing.

"It's your responsibility, sir, together with whomever's out there supporting you, to see whatever it is that's driving this behaviour on your part," she said.

Pullan also said protecting the public is a fundamental

principle in sentencing.

"And as a justice system, we are doing a terrible job here,"

Again in 2022 Burling was back in court on similar charg-

Burning walked out of jail several months ago, fresh off a two-and-a-half year sentence that included a years-long driving ban on those charges, following a June 2022 police pursuit in Portage la Prairie in which he tried to run down relica offices police officers.

During sentencing for that incident, Manitoba provincial court Judge Jean McBride warned Burling to change his

ways.
"It's my hope . . . Mr. Burling, that this is the very last time that you put yourself and others at risk by . . . not only stealing motor vehicles, but by fleeing from police and then driving dangerous. You do not have the right to do that," McBride told him.

"If this has not been a wake-up call for you, I don't know what is or what will be. And if it happens again, there's no question you'd be looking at a much longer jail sentence."



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Rocanville Lucky Lottery ticket sales underway

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's that time of year again, the ever-popular Rocanville Lucky Lottery has officially kicked off the 2024 edition of it's famous campaign. Noted as the town's largest fundraiser, the Lucky Lottery raises money for recreational facilities and groups raises money for recreational ractimize saft groups in Rocanville. With a \$100,000 grand prize, it's a hot ticket to get your hands on. "Odds are really good in the draw—one in 2,500," said Kirby Fowler, Chair of the Lucky Lot-

"Odds are really good in the draw—one in 2,500," said Kirby Fowler, Chair of the Lucky Lottery board. "There's 17 prizes this year, so your odds are very good of winning something."

The early bird draw on Aug. 28 has an e-bike up for grabs, plus four \$250 Co-op gift cards. There's also the big 50/50 draw on Sept. 28, with a maximum cash prize of \$60,000. That same night, along with the grand prize draw, additional prizes include free gas or groceries for a year through Co-op (\$52,000 value). a \$5,000 travel voucher, four \$1,000 cash prizes and five \$500 cash prizes.

Last year, \$35,500 was dispersed to local groups and organizations in Rocanville, spreading muchneeded funds to promote getting active.

"The entire community is in need, like every group needs," Fowler said. "That's why we're floating it around and splitting it up."

The lottery has a long history in Rocanville, first established 30 years ago when a new arena needed to be built. The lottery was resurrected in 2022, raising \$86,000 for local projects, and Fowler hopes this year will be a sell-out.

"This is our third year, and last year was rough on us," Fowler noted. "It took a lot out of the entire volunteer group, we didn't do as well as we wanted, but we did pretty good in the end. It was a lot of work, it's still yery rewarding anyway."

tire volunteer group, we didn't do as well as we wanted, but we did pretty good in the end. It was a lot of work, it's still very rewarding anyway."

One of the challenges faced by the board is the incoming expenses before ticket sales really get moving.
"Definitely a lot of cost involved with the lottery that I never realized until I got into it," he said.

One trend the board has noticed was the support across Seek stekewap for their local effort.

Saskatchewan for their local effort.
"We saw support right from US border all the way up north—like far north," Fowler said.
Tickets are available online at rocanvillelotto.ca or any

lottery board member.

"There's businesses in town (with tickets), but website is the absolute easiest or you can access us through our Facebook page as well," he added.











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PJ Gillen School hosts Willow Awards Gala

ву **A**SHLEY **B**OCHEK It was a first for PJ Gillen School in Esterhazy when they hosted a provincial awards Gala Friday, May 24. The school hosted the SaskEnergy Willow Awards Gala for their students.

The school participated in the Willow Launch with the idea of their students growing as a willow tree with each book they read. The school won the launch and

they read. The school won the launch and later won the opportunity to host the gal for Canadian Author nominees.

Lorna Schultz Nicholson of Edmonton, author of *Taking the Ice*, a Willow Award nominated book, visited Esterhazy for the first time to construct the Distraction of the school of the control of the control of the program of the school. first time to accept the Diamond Award, which is the Children's Choice Award. She spoke about her visit to PJ Gillen School.

"I wrote Taking the Ice. It is a hockey nov-el for middle grades and it was up in the diamond willow category."

She says she was thrilled to attend the

Gala in Esterhazy.
"I was very excited. I was really excited

when I first found out I had won and then

when they asked if I would come out, I thought that would be so amazing.
"I am from Edmonton. I haven't been to

Esterhazy. I always like to go to new towns and this has just been a joy to be here be-

and this has just been a joy to be here because this school has just done a fantastic job of organizing this event and the Willow board as well.

"The kids were great. I actually did a presentation with the grade 5s in the morning, so that was really exciting because they had all read the book and had so many questions to ask me about it. It was wonderful. We got into some great discussions about leadership, anxiety, and some of the themes in the novel, and that was really fun."

was really fun."
She said the whole event was well orga-

"It has been so great. The Willow board arranged the flights and I was picked up by a board member and they drove me to Esterhazy. We stayed in the Canalta last night and apparently they were sponsors so that was great. I have been at the event

The award was a first for her.
"I have had books nominated in the Wil-

low Awards, but I have never won until this year. So, this is my first big win and I was really excited. Winning the Chil-

dren's Choice Award is just a beautiful thing because you know the kids love it so that is just so exciting." When she was announced as the winner, the kids in the gym were excited.

Continued on page 17 18



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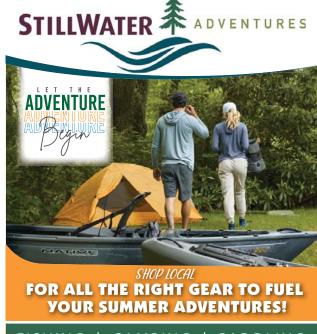
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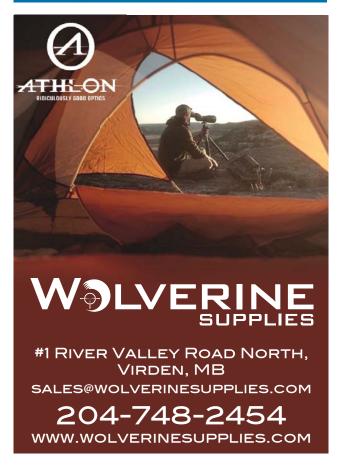
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PJ Gillen School hosts Willow Awards Gala

Students excited

Student's excited to be part of event
Library technician Suzannah Duff said a lot of work went into planning the event, and the students were a lot of help, and were excited to be part of the big event.
"There was a lot of planning for the event. Our grade 5s did a lot of work setting it up, the whole school put together artwork. One of our teachers, Josey Rink, she was definitely the artistic director and she had kids working on chings for weeks and weeks. We have been reading the books for have been reading the books for months now. It has been a lot of work, but a lot of awesome work

The kids were thrilled today. They feel like they were part of something so important which

they were—they were over joyed!"
The school has never hosted an event like this before. "The school has hosted a couple of things be-fore, but this was completely different. It was a different kind of event and it was truly awesome for our kids."

our kids.

The students are excited about being part of the Willow Awards in the future.

"We're absolutely going to partake in future years of the Willow Awards. We are going to do the active active include years because reading every single year because the kids have really been diving into those books and enjoying them. We are lucky to have all 30 of next year's nominees that we were awarded at the Gala and the kids are already excited that they are going to be able to start reading those."

She said the Willow Awards are well-known across the province. "It is well known with libraries in Saskatchewan. It is my first year as a library technician at the school and I was mailed a form with all of this year's nominees. I only had about two weeks to put together a proposal for the launch and the gala and then we were lucky enough to win both. It was

pretty cool.

"I feel super grateful that our kids got to have this experience. They really put so much heart into this and watching them get excited about literature is like every librarian's dream. Everyone who works with kids wants kids reading and they are excited to read so you couldn't ask for anything better."



Author Lorna Shultz Nicholson accepting the Diamond Award from Nicole Spearman, Callie denBrok, and Kenzie Gilchuck.







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Grade 3 students singing Ninestoin.





Charlie Leslie, Nancy Apshkrum and all the participants from Moosomin who took part in the Gutsy Walk in Regina Sunday, June 2.

Local participants raise \$18,000 in 2024 Gutsy Walk

BY JOEY LIGHT
On Sunday, June 2, more than
4,000 Canadians participated at 50
locations across Canada as part of
Gutsy Walk for Crohn's and Coli-

Two Moosomin women, 17-yearold Charlie Leslie and longtime Gutsy Walk fundraiser Nancy Apshrum, raised a total of \$18,000 between them.

tween them.

This year's fundraiser across the country raised \$2.2 million to date for Crohn's and Colitis Canada to invest in finding cures and improving the lives of those affected by Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Since 1996, Gutsy Walks have raised close to \$55 million. raised close to \$55 million

Charlie Leslie says this year's

fundraiser was a success.

"This year was my fourth year going to the Gutsy walk and it had a great turnout this year, I'd say double the amount of people than last year went, and I raised \$4,600 this year which is more than last year," she says. "This year they had a dunk tank and two doctors from Regina came and we could pay \$5 to try and dunk them in the tank. They had food and drinks you can buy and all the money made at the walk goes to Crohn's and Colitis.

The Gutsy Walk is to raise money so we can get more advancements in the medicine. Only two years ago we were driving to Saskatoon to the doctors and switching my medication a lot to find one that works for me works for me.

"Now there is only one gastroenterologist in Saskatchewan which is my doctor in Regina, who only treats adults. But since mine is so extensive he took me on. I have to go for scopes in Regina and can now do my blood work in Mooso-min, we just don't have the equip-ment and doctors in town to do it

Leslie says it's a challenge living with Colitis.

"They usually don't find any signs of Crohn's or Colitis when you are a child but they found mine verv early. I was 11 vears old when I was first diagnosed with Colitis and this year I was diagnosed with Extensive Ulcerative Colitis which looks like Crohn's and Colitis together which is why they originally thought I had both. Being in high school while having a disease like this is very hard, I always felt very self conscious and did not want to talk about it. I find now I am more open about it and want to share my

ness and help get donations to keep advancing the research for Crohn's and Colitis to help myself and any-one else going through the same

Nancy Apshkrum has been raising money at the Gutsy Walk every year for many years, and says she appreciates the community sup-

"I want to say thank you to the Spectator as well as to the com-munity of Moosomin in general, for their unwavering support year after year after year. For me it's 25 arter year arter year. For me its 25 years this year, and the community has always been very supportive, as has the Spectator. I raised \$13,370 all thanks to the support of everyone and we are very thankful to the community and The World-Backtor! Spectator.'

Celebrating 50 years this year, Crohn's and Colitis Canada is on a relentless journey to transform the lives of people affected by Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis by finding the cures for these lifelong diseases and improving the quality of life of everyone affected.

For information on Crohn's and Colitis Canada, visit crohnsand-

Joey Light Student employee



Charlie Leslie with her doctor, Dr. Sanchit Bhasin, at the Gutsy Walk in Regina



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Online access

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Moosomin's first Walk for Alzheimer's

At left, the Thorn family on the walk. Bill Thorn is one of the organizers of the walk. The family was walking for his wife Phyllis who has Alzheimer's dis-

Moosomin's first Walk for Alzheimer's raises \$140,000

Moosomin held its first Walk for Alzheimer's Saturday, May 25, and it far

exceeded expectations.

About 140 people participated in the event and it raised about \$140,000 toward the Alzheimer's Society of Canada.

Beckie Quist of Alzheimer's Saskatchewan said she was suprised by the number of people who came out for the walk in Moosomin and the total raised.

Quist says they haven't received the final total raised for Moosomin, but estimate it is around \$140,000.

"We don't have everything in hand, but the estimate, based on what we do have processed and what we heard was brought in on Saturday brings Moosomin's fundraising total to nearly \$140,000. It was an incredible success,"

Amazed by success

Quist says provincial organizers are surprised by the success of Moosomin's

first walk.

"We are blown away by the success in Moosomin and the surrounding com-Introducing Communities. There really is no comparison. Especially knowing this is Moosomin's first planned event like this. It is incredible looking at the amount raised in Moosomin for the Alzheimer's Society to support the programs and services we offer in Moosomin like the support

group."

Quist says the organizing committee and volunteers in Moosomin are the reason the event had a great turnout.

"Each community is so different, but there is real heart in Moosomin that has obviously shone through for the first walk there. The organizing and plan-ning committee and all the volunteers in Moosomin are really the shining light as to why Moosomin's event was so suc-

"It goes without saying for a first time event the community and surrounding area really rallied together and it is obvious the impact Dementia has on every-one, but the passion and enthusiasm evervone seemed to have in Moosomin to share stories, get involved, and support those they know in the community was a big highlight for Moosomin's success, so I think it goes without saying Moosomin was incredibly successful. Absolutile in an itilia." lutely incredible.

She said planning will soon begin for next year's walks. "With all of our in-person walks just having happened over the weekend alongside all the other events like Moosomin's, we are still wrapping up for 2024. We will be hard at work planning once we have everything wrapped up."

She said each community has different

fundraising targets. "Every location has different fundraising goals and capacity. The current totals are going to take some time to calculate, but the larger centres like Saskatoon and Regina will bring in tens of thousands of dollars. Saskatoon for example, will bring in something close to \$70,000 or more and Regina

might be slightly less.

"There are hundreds of events in communities and cities across the country that were organized by the Alzheimer's Society, as well as events like Moosomin's, that are planned by the communities or organizations themselves. It

will take time to calculate the total nationally with everybody in the country submitting those numbers, but I can tell you that in 2023 we raised over \$6 million nationally and for 2024 our goal is to exceed \$7 million.

"There are different types of walk

events. We have our in-person walks that are organized by the Alzheimer's Society and then there are events like Moosomin's that are considered a "Walk in a Box" or a third party event and those events are initiated by someone in those events are initiated by someone in the community, or an organization, or a community group that wants to plan an event. So, Moosomin's support group spear-headed it and then it took off from there. Our in-person walks are bigger and planned by the Alzheimer's Society and then there are smaller events. There is also the Walk Your Way option, where we have people who are not close to an in-person event or even an oreanized in-person event or even an organized event like Moosomin's that will do their own type of fundraising either as a family, a team, or in a community group."

Next year will be the 10th anniversary

of the Walk for Alzheimer's.

"As a national movement with IG
Wealth Management as the title sponsor, this is our ninth year. In 2025 it will sof, this is our limit year. If 2025 it will be the tenth anniversary with IG as our title sponsor," Quist said. "Before our title sponsor and it becoming a national movement, the Alzheimer's Society in Saskatchewan has been hosting Alcheimer's Walks for much longer than

She said funds raised will help people living with Alzheimer's.

"All of the funds raised will help sup-port programs and services that im-prove quality of life for people living with Dementia and their families in the communities where we work, as well as supporting education and awarenes about Dementia, and will go toward things like the support group in Mooso-min," she said. "Research is incredibly important as well. Not only is it going into possibly a cure, but looking into a into possibly a cure, but looking into a cause and prevention. It goes into running programs. Programs can help improve quality of life for so many people. Research is impactful for people who are affected by Dementia and can improve their quality of life."

'Humbled and **speechless'**Quist said she is humbled by the sup-

"We are humbled and speechless by the sheer amount of support given by those that are affected by Dementia in our province by the families, friends, organizations of those who know and love them. We know Dementia affects ev-eryone and Moosomin has shown how meaningful it can be to have a community of support, which is definitely one of the most important things about the Walk for Alzheimer's.

"It brings friends and families to-gether to share in the struggles of how Dementia impacts us all, and get a sense of what having a community of support means, and then ultimately to feel hope-ful that we can look forward to a world without Alzheimer's and Dementia, and feel connected to those who are possibly going through similar journeys.



Mary Shepherd, left, came all the way from the Yukon for the walk with her husband lan. Here she is posing with her sister-in-law Lori Shepherd, and Jacqui Beckett.



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National Indigenous Peoples Day June 21

Distinct heritage, language, culture, and beliefs

National Indigenous Peoples Day is an annual reminder for people across Canada to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations people. Inuit and Métis. The Canadian Constitution recognizes these three groups as Indigenous peoples.

Indigenous peoples. Although these groups share many similarities, they each have their own distinct heritage, language, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

June 21, the summer sol-

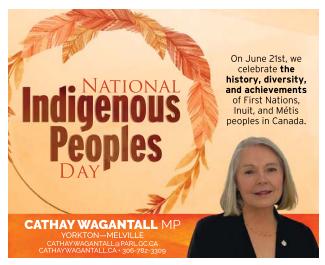
June 21, the summer solstice, holds great spiritual significance to First Nations people, Inuit and Métis alike. For generations, many Indigenous peoples and communities have cel-



ebrated their culture and heritage on or near this day because of the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year. In Canada, we dedicate the longest day of the year to showing our appreciation of Indigenous peoples and

the ways they enrich our culture. Indigenous people represent one of the youngest populations in Canada.

Continued on page 22 PST







Zagimē Anishinabēk Grenfell, SK

It can be emotionally trying to look back and remember the events of D-Day, but we must join in honoring the sacrifices made by many of our relatives who allied in the efforts to free others from the oppression and strife that wars bring. We can only honour those experiences and sacrifices by also honoring Mino Bimaadiziwin, "to live a good life". Therefore, we wish to extend our hopes for a peaceful and rewarding future toward all our treaty partners and relations on Earth.

A friendly reminder that everyone is welcome to attend our 2024 Powwow celebration during July26th to 28th, 2024 at our powwow grounds 18.5 km north then 10 km east of Grenfell.

National Indigenous Peoples Day June 21

About National Indigenous Peoples Day

For generations, many Indigenous groups and communities have celebrated their culture and heritage on June 21 or around that time of year because of the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year.

National Aboriginal Day, now National Indigenous Peoples Day, was announced in 1996 by then Governor General of Canada, Roméo LeBlanc, through the Proclamation Declaring June 21 of Each Year as National Aboriginal Day. This was the result of consultations and statements of support for such a day made by various Indigenous

• In 1982, the Na-



On June 21, for National Indigenous Peoples Day, we recognize and celebrate the history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis across Canada.

tional Indian Brotherhood, now the Assembly of First Nations, called for the creation of National Aboriginal Solidarity Day

• In 1995, the Sacred Assembly, a national conference of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people chaired by Elijah Harper, called for a national holiday to celebrate the contributions of Indigenous Peoples

• Also in 1995, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples recommended the designation of a National First Peoples Day

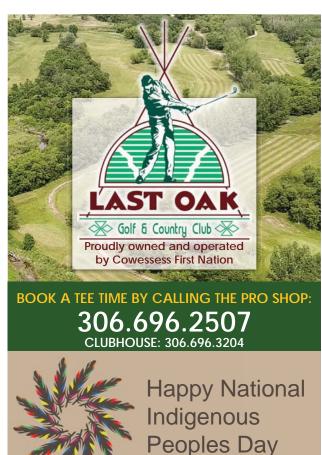
First Peoples Day

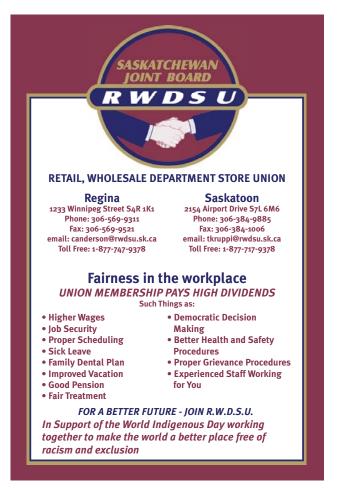
On June 21, 2017, the Prime Minister is-

sued a statement announcing the intention to rename this day National Indigenous Peoples Day.

National Indigenous Peoples Day is part of the Celebrate Canada

program, which also includes Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day on June 24, Canadian Multiculturalism Day on June 27 and Canada Day on July 1.





National Indigenous Peoples Day

Distinct heritage, language, culture, and beliefs

On average, Indigenous people were 8.8 years younger than the non-Indigenous population in 2016. Indigenous youth, those aged 15 to 24 years, made up one-sixth of the entire Indigenous population (16.9%), a larger proportion than among the non-Indigenous population (12%). It is also expected that the Indigenous population will remain younger, but that youth will make up a smaller share of the Indigenous population in the coming decades. In 2016, 6.7% of all youth aged 15 to 24 in Canada were

Indigenous. However, there was significant regional vari-

ation:
2.8% in Québec,
3.7% in Ontario
23.6% in Saskatchewan

24% in Manitoba

67.7% in the Northwest Territories

93.8% in Nunavut

More than 80% of First Nations (82.4%) and Métis youth (83.8%) lived in either Ontario or the western provinces, compared with 71.1% of the total non-indigenous youth population in Canada

propulation in Calidata. From coast to coast, the majority of First Nations (91%), Métis (93%) and Inuit youth (97%) reported that they felt good about their Indigenous identity. Most also reported making an effort to learn more about their history, tradi-tions and culture—71.4% of First Nations youth, 64.6% of Métis youth, and 74.4% of Inuit youth. Indigenous languages in Canada have been evolving

Indígenous languages in Canada have been evolving over generations and reflect rich and diverse histories, landscapes, cultures and knowledge. More than 70 Indigenous languages were reported in the 2016 Census, and 36 had at least 500 speakers.

Indigenous youth highly value Indigenous languages, identity and culture. Half of Indigenous youth reported that speaking an Indigenous language was important or very important to them. In 2016, 13% of Indigenous youth could speak an Indigenous language well enough to conduct a conversation. This figure was 16.5% for First Nations youth, 0.8% for Métis youth, and 64.4% for Inuit youth.

Indigenous youth also contribute significantly to the labour market. In 2016, there were over 111,000 Indigenous workers aged 15 to 24 years in Canada, representing 5.1% of total youth employment in the country. Among the provinces, the proportion was highest in Manitoba

The newly erected tipi at Bradley Park in Moosomin during sunset. The tipi is a permanent structure at Bradley Park, erected by MN-S Local 44. The tipi includes photos of local Métis family history, beautiful painted benches, and a cedar floor

(15.1%) and Saskatchewan (13.6%). In the Northwest Ter-(13.1%) and sakadatewill (13.0%). In the Northwest retritories, close to half (48.1%) of all young workers were Indigenous, while in Yukon, the proportion was 22.8%. In Nunavut, the vast majority (87.8%) of young workers

The employment rate among Indigenous youth reached 57.4% in the three months ending in August 2021, surpassing its pre-Covid-19 pandemic level and summer

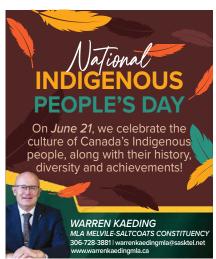
2020 level of 47.4%. Finally, the labour force participation rate among Indigenous youth was 66.8%, the highest

tion rate among Indigenous youth was 66.8%, the highest since the onset of the pandemic and 3.0 percentage points above that seen in the summer job market in 2020.

Data from the 2021 Census of Population will provide further insight into the experiences of Indigenous youth in Canada. Two new questions were added to the 2021 Census, allowing Métis and Inuit to identify themselves further, which will permit more detailed analysis of these population groups.









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ABE INFORMATION **SESSION**

June 12 Assiniboia Campus - 4-7 p.m.

June 13 Coronach Library - 3-5 p.m.

June 18 White City Library - 4-4:30 p.m./5-7 p.m.

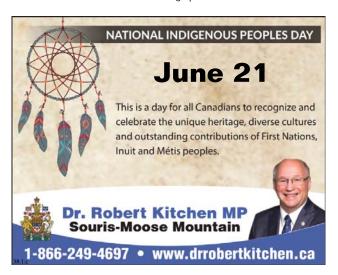
June 26 Carnduff Library - 4-6 p.m./6:30-7 p.m.

National Indigenous Peoples Day June 21





Kahkewistahaw's Powwow is coming up June 21-23 at Kahkewistahaw First Nation. At right is an image from a past Kahkewistahaw Powwow.



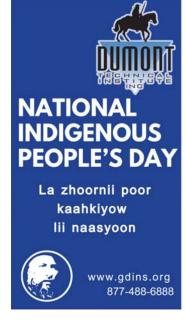
Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day June 21st, 2024

Taking time to celebrate and learn the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

Daryl Harrison, *MLA for Cannington*

canningtonconstituency@sasktel.net 1-306-443-4400







Together, we recognize and celebrate the rich history, traditions, and languages of the Métis, First Nations, and Inuit peoples across Canada. We are proud to honor Métis culture and are committed to educating, promoting, and preserving the heritage of Indigenous communities through all our programs.



at the lake!





Moosomin & District —REGIONAL PARK—

1-5 pm

- Kids sandcastle building competition
- Pontoon boat rides
- Kids 3-on-3 road hockey tournament (15-and-under. Register at 306-434-9112 or kyle_jeannot@hotmail. com)

Beer Gardens starting at 5pm

Look Music providing afternoon and evening entertainment!

Live Band:

BLU BEACH BAND - 8pm to 1am

MUSIC SERVICES

Sunday, June 30



Wristbands

\$20 for the whole weekend (ages 19+) \$10 for ages 11-18

10 AND UNDER FREE

Wristbands available at:

- -The Park Gate
- -mullett's home hardware
- -The World-Spectator

1-5 pm

- Kids Scavenger Hunt
- Adult Scavenger Hunt
- Beach Volleyball Tournament All ages welcome (Register at 306-434-9112 or kyle_jeannot@hotmail.com)
- Pontoon Boat Rides

Beer Gardens starting at 5pm

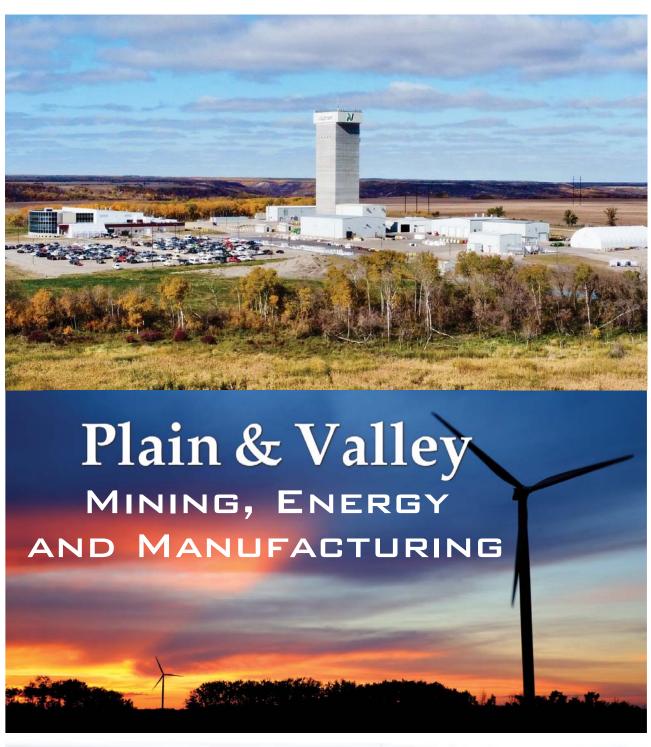
Look Music providing afternoon and evening entertainment!

Live Band:

ODD MAN OUT - 8pm to 1am

FIREWORKS at 10830 pm by Archangel Fireworks

Food for puchase available all weekend.







Esterhazy's Lawrence Berthelet returns home to Mosaic

Mining has always been part of Lawrence Berthelet's life. He grew up the son of a miner at Esterhazy, started his career in the potash mine at Esterhazy, and recently returned to the company as vice-president of potash. We spoke with him recently about his career. The full interview follows:

Tell me a little bit about your career.

"I grew up in Esterhazy and then went to the University of Saskatchewan. I got a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree. I came back right away to work at Mosaic as a process engineer at K2. I was there for about seven years and then I went and worked out in the chemical industry. I worked for a company called Grace Dearborn, we made water treatment chemicals. At that point I took more of a management role in my career rather than a technical track. Although, when you are an engineer, the technical ability obviously is your foundation and it follows you even as you progress either in the technical ranks or management ranks. From Dearborn, I went to work for the sodium sulphate plant in Chaplin. From there I went back to a manufacturing job at National Manufacturing. I worked there for seven years. I was a VP of Ops there at the end of my tenure. We made builders' hardware, we packaged hardware products, we made fasteners there.
It was a very interesting business and very different from
mining, but lots of similar ideas in terms of lean manufacturing and standardized set-ups. There was some refacturing and standardized set-ups. There was some really cool crossover. Inventory management I learned a lot about too. It was a really cool job and I would have stayed there forever, but we eventually sold to our largest competitor and then I went back to mining. I worked at Agrium for about five years underground as a mine manager. That is where I got some good underground experience. Then, I went to the EPCM game, Engineering Procurement and Construction Management with AMEC at the time. I worked on the big project expansions that were going on in the 2004-2011 period, where there were lots of expansions. Then, I went back to school and got an MBA (Master of Business Administration) at the U of S at 49 years old. After, I went to work for a SNC Lavalin and opened an office in Saskatoon. I opened that office, hired all the employees, and worked there for a few years. Then, I got called back to Mosaic to work on the K3 project. After that, I got called away to go work in Russia. ect. After that, I got called away to go work in Russia. I worked for a big fertilizer company called EuroChem



Lawrence Berthelet

and I was the head of the mining division. It was a great job. I loved the people, the project, I was back in an operations role, so I really enjoyed that. Then of course, Rusia went and invaded Ukraine and that brought that idea to a screeching halt, so I came home for awhile. Then, I went and worked on a junior mining project in Germany and we were just finishing up our prefeasibility study on that project when the Mosaic opportunity came up. I was happy to come back home and hopefully finish my career working for Mosaic again, where it all started. I am very working for Mosaic again, where it all started. I am very happy to be back with such a great company and it is such a great province.

When you worked with AMEC did you work on some

when you worked with AMEL aid you work on some of the new shafts around here?

I worked on the expansion at Allen, I was the engineering manager and I worked on Cory when they commissioned the red plant. When I was back at K3, we were about 1,200 feet in and I finished sinking those shafts and

lining them, doing the underground development, converting the north headframe to a producing headframe with a man material cage in it. Then, I left before they finished the south headframe. I put in the conveyors, I think both conveyors were done by the time I left. Then, my good friend Bernie Boutin finished off the south headframe. That project was completed in about 2022 and I left toward the middle of 2020.

Why did you choose mining, and did you always think you were going to be involved in mining?
That is a great question. I remember being in grade 12 and my uncle was an accountant. He had a commerce deand my uncle was an accountant. He had a commerce degree from the U of S, and I really liked my uncle and I thought I would be just like him. Then, I got to thinking I don't know if I can sit in an office all day and put numbers in tiny boxes, I don't think I would be happy. I realized I need to be outside and I need to see things being built. I liked to be involved and roll up my sleeves, that kind of stuff. At the last moment, I switched to engineering. I was sturr. At the last moment, I switched to engineering. I was always good at math, I had no trouble with math, physics, and chemistry, so I switched to engineering. I remember distinctly making that career choice when I really started to think about what accounting actually entailed. That is no slight to accountants, and I still love my uncle, but I am glad I am an engineer and not an accountant, I'll just say that.

What is a process engineer? You said you were a process engineer when you started with Mosaic.

A process engineer looks after the ore that comes up from under the ground, we crush it, grind it, screen it, and then separate the stuff we want from the stuff we don't want. There is a whole science around those operations like crushing and grinding, floatation, heavy media, crystallization, how all those process pieces work, how the equipment works, the dryers work, the cyclones, everything, how it all works to be able to recover the maximum amount of what you are after from the ore. That really is what a process engineer's job is. what a process engineer's job is.

Growing up in Esterhazy, was mining always a possibility when you thought about your future? Absolutely. My dad worked for the mine in 1959, when

Continued on page B5











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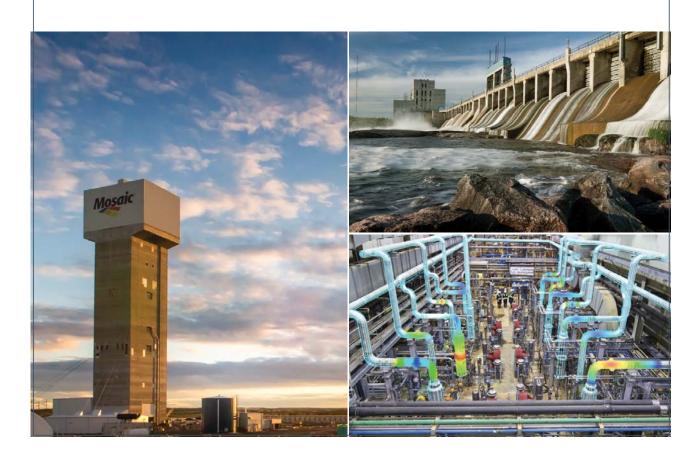
Market constraints and the widespread adoption of rapidly-maturing technology are transforming industries of every kind. Harder to access resources, combined with increased pressure from stakeholders to operate more efficiently, with less impact on the environment are driving us all to make significant changes.

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Esterhazy's Lawrence Berthelet returns home to Mosaic

He started in construction there. Then, he eventually went to work for IMC when they started operating. He worked there his whole career. My sisters worked there for their careers. Mining was always an option for us and we were really exposed to mining and Esterhazy is a really good example certainly for continuous soft rock mining. It is not hard rock mining that you would find in Sudbury, Northern Ontario or Quebec. It is soft rock mining because we mine it with continuous boring machines, but the rest of the pieces are the same like the macrines, but the rest of the pieces are the same like the hoisting, the conveyances, the power systems, and conveyor systems underground, lots of the ancillary equipment. It is the same. It truly is a good example of what a real full mine looks like. Just the difference between head reals and coff reals. hard rock and soft rock.

What are some of the challenges of soft rock min-

ing?
We look at the ground from surface with 3D seismic. It is basically a mid energy wave goes down and acoustically measures how it bounces back and then we can tell from those different readings what is down there. We are lucky in Saskatchewan because we have a lot of wide open space where we can set up and do 3D seismic. We also have a good continuous ore body with some good reflectors in the way the geology is set up, so it really tells us what is down there and we can get by with a minimal amount of bore holes. Then, from there we can put a mine plan together and decide how to mine it and avoid the areas where we know could be low grading or could cause us issues with respect to flooding from above because there are water bearing formations above our mining seam. The other thing that you have to remember about Esterhazy in particular lar, is the ore body is probably the highest grade, the most minable ore body in the world, and I have worked most of the other operations in the world. The fact that it is homogenous, prairie evaporates, it's a big lake that evaporated, and deposited our sylvanite ore evenly, and allows it to mine large rooms, which improves our productivity. The other thing to remember in soft rock mining is, however you are going to excavate, you have to make sure that your ground holds up geotechnically. We mine our rooms knowing that we have a good layer of salt above us that is hard and competent, we will bridge across the pillars we leave behind and make it safe to extract the ore and not cause surface subsidence. If you over extract you will sort of crack your mine up and it will flood or you can cause some real grief in subsidence of the surface. That happens to the Germans and Russians quite a bit.

What does your new job entail as Vice-President of Potash at Mosaic?

I look after the operations piece. We have four facilities. Of course Esterhazy is the flagship, we have Colonsay, which we are currently operating as a swing plant based on demand so it is up and down based on variability in demand. We have Belle Plaine of course, which is our biggest solution mine in the world. It's a very, very efficient operation that has run since the '60s and is a big part of our production. Then, we have Carlsbad in New Mexico where we make 600 tons of a K-Mag product, so potassium magnesium blended product down there which is a bit of a specialty product

You started with Mosaic way back and were there when K3 was under construction, and you're back in a senior position with Mosaic now, I am just wondering how much has the Esterhazy mine changed over the years from when you first started?

When I started in 1986, it was just when the waterflow started and I started on water inflow, then went to process engineer. We fought that water for 35 years, but it has changed in the fact that Mosaic made the \$3 billion commitment to building the K3 mine and then decoupling the two mills, K1 and K2, from the old K2 mine workings and getting the ore delivered from K3 on 11

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To Mosaic, Nutrien, our local manufacturing businesses and their employees:

Thank you for your hard work and contributions to our community and for your continued support.

kilometer conveyors so that we could have a mine that didn't have water flooding issues and we didn't have to spend all that money on pumping water and of course, the safety of our employees was paramount. They committed to another generation of mining in the area by building a whole separate K3 mine which can supply the two mills through those two conveyors safely and efficiently. That is the big change.

What do you see in your future working in Potash?

Well, I do see retirement in my future. For the industry, I see more use of technology and automation to put people as far away as possible from areas where there is risk. Underground mining is always risky so, all the potash companies are working toward developing systems of automation where the miner can operate apart from the mining face. We employ automation for efficiency, but also for safety.

What have you learned over your career working in potash?

I have learned that the best mines in the world are right here. Canada supplies around 40% of the world's potash supply from some of the best ore bodies in the world. Our disadvantage, of course, is that we are land-locked and we have to get to a port. So, we compete with Russians, Belarussians, a little bit with the Germans, because they have better access to ports and lower maintenance costs, those type of things. At balance, we all compete pretty well. I have learned that the resource we have is world-class and the people we have are worldclass and our position in the industry is important and respected, not just for the companies that benefit in respected, not just for the community. The communities, the resources, the taxes we pay, the spinoff businesses with jobs and everything that the resource provides. I am proud to be part of a group that works to help the world grow the food it needs. Fertilizer is an important commeditie. All commedities are invested. important commodity. All commodities are important and they all have their place, but fertilizer and food are very important. People need to eat before they need to put gas in their car. Fertilizer provides that ability for us to feed a growing population and a hungry world.

I learned little old Esterhazy and Saskatoon on the world scale, are super important to the world in terms of food production and food sequity. That is comething

of food production and food security. That is something I have learned as I travelled the world the last few years, I am always proud to say I am from Saskatchewan and that I work in the fertilizer industry. It is something I can really be proud of.

Do you think people understand how important

potash is for this region/area?
That is a really good question too. For us, our soil consistency or soil requirements we don't actually need much K (potassium) and that is what potash is, is the KCl, but certainly the corn and soybeans folks in the Western US need it, so from a customer point of view I think farmers definitely understand the value that we bring. I wonder though, whether or not the general

public realizes the International impact that potash in Saskatchewan has in the world. It is a great point, and I think we try to do a job of educating people to understand that we work in a country where investment is stable, and people want to invest in Canada because for the most part the regulation and the stable govern-ment are good for investment, but I don't think they realize how important is to the world, especially potash mining in terms of delivering that product. We can do a better job of communicating that. When you compare the things that we do and we do correctly, especially in the area of environmental and ESG (Environmental Sustainability and Governance), we operate at the highest level and still compete with jurisdictions that don't

operate at the highest level.

People can be proud of the way we mine and the balance between resource, tax, profit, and the attention to the environment, and of course for the safety of our employees which again is not the same standard kept through the rest of the world in our industry and I know this first hand.

When your kid goes to work for a Canadian fertilizer manufacturing company they are going to be safe, they are going to be working to provide a noble product, and they are going to be working for a company that is going to be constantly trying to improve their environmental footprint.

Mosaic obviously plays a big role in Saskatchewan, but how big of a part does it play to you personally in

Since I was born I was eating off a potash paycheck. Ity dad worked there for his whole career. The potash industry has played a super important role in my and my family's life forever, for as long as I have been around. I was born the same year they started in K1 and I have been around these people my whole life and I am happy to be. I have learned a lot being around it. It has been a huge role in the success of my career and success in my family

What do you see as the future in the potash industry in Southeast Sask?

I think the potash is in a good shape in Southeast Sask. I think we are rolling with the recoil from the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the upset in the world market that caused. These thing happen cyclically in our fertil-izer market. We always tend to overcorrect and the mar-ket takes a little bit of time to react, but I think with the good and efficient operation of existing mines and the commitment to productivity that we all have—we and Nutrien, and eventually BHP will all continue to thrive for generations because the ore bodies are so big and the demand will be there forever. I think the stability will

demand will be there forever. I trunk the stability will continue. I think Jansen brings us to the next level.

When a new guy joins your hockey team and you know he is good and you have to suck it up and skate faster, you know the whole team improves. A rising tide raises all ships, and I think BHP's contribution to the industries will helper. industry will help us all.



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Employment program makes an impact on Cowessess

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A highly successful pre-employment program geared toward the mining industry is making big waves on one local First Nation. The Canadian Institute of Mining awarded the inaugural CIM Indigenous Partnership

Award to Cowessess First Nation and Morris Interactive.
The program from Morris Interactive—Digital Transformation in Potash Mining—is eight weeks in duration, iving participants what they need to confidently enter

giving paturapum:
the potash industry.
"I'm trying to be humble about it, but it is quite an
"I'm trying to be humble about it, but it is quite an
"I'm trying to be humble about it, but it is quite an
"I'm trying to be harded in the property of the second in the secon honour to be picked as the very first awarded in this area," said Barry Sparvier, Director of Employment at Cowessess First Nation. "We're honoured to be to be a part of Morris Interactive's pilot project to start with, and then the success that it's had with ourselves and others it's just unbelievable! I went to the awards presentation in Vancouver on Monday night, and it really made me realize what we've done; what we've participated in. It's progress within the reconciliation of our nation and partnerships with institutes that can help our people. That's

'It's progress within the reconciliation of our nation and partnerships with institutes that can help our people.

-Barry Sparvier, Director of **Employment at Cowessess First Nation**

The DTiPM program ran as a pilot on Cowessess FN back in 2022 in partnership with Morris Interactive and The Mosaic Company. Since then, two of the five cohorts run by DTiPM have been on Cowessess FN, and Sparvier noted that of the 18 participants in total, 15 are actively working in the potash industry. The next intake at Cowessess FN will begin in late August with seats for 12

"The industry is changing, evolving," Sparvier told the World-Spectator. "With this program, I think it's getting

these students ready for the evolution of the industry,

A huge attraction to the program is more than just landing a job, it's setting the stage for a lucrative career with training close to home that could mean getting a job in Esterhazy or Rocanville.

"We have eight weeks of classroom setting, and we have different speakers from the industry coming in," Sparvier explained, noting that former students of the program and current employees in the potash industry comprise some of those guests. In fact, Sparvier noted his son—an engineer with Mosaic for 12 years—is one of those speakers

"He's so excited about his job. He really spreads the excitement to the students," Sparvier continued. "The last two weeks are actually done underground at Mosaic in different areas. Just to give them a taste of it and to show them what it's going to be like."

The DTiPM program boasts an 83 per cent success rate in linking graduates with employment or further education, and the future looks bright thanks to a million-dollar investment from Mosaic—cementing five more years.

Oil and gas course coming to Sask high schools

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A new elective is coming to high schools across the province next year. The provincial government recently announced a partnership with Teine Energy and the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Centre to create high school courses introducing students to the oil and gas industry. Not only will students learn about the industry in Saskatchewan, but they'll also become more knowledgeable

about future career opportunities.

"This partnership is a great example of innovation that will support our province's growing economy while providing students the chance to explore the wealth of career opportunities available to them right here at home," Premier Scott Moe said. "These new courses will include work placement opportunities for students and will foster the development of a skilled workforce for our province." The new courses—named Oil and Gas 20 and 30—will involve 50 hours of online theory followed by 50 hours of work placement for some valuable hands-on experience. "When I talk to receiver. I talk

"When I talk to parents, when I talk to teachers. I talk to students, people are looking for more practical oppor-tunities to get started on a career ladder," said Education

Minister Jeremy Cockrill in a media scrum. "That's what parents are looking for. Parents are looking for opportuni-ties for their children. I can tell you from living in my part of the province, there are some amazing opportunities in

To get things started, Teine Energy has committed \$150,000 over two years to support not only getting the program off the ground but also to assist in the student placements

work placements.

"Teine is excited to be part of shaping and supporting the careers of talented young people in the province of Saskatchewan." Teine Energy President and CEO Jason Denney said. "This program connects the energy industry with high school students as they begin to make career choices. Our goal for this program is to deliver real world experience, accelerate local energy focused employment, and ultimately enable Saskatchewan grads to pursue well and ultimately enable Saskatchewan grads to pursue well paid, fulfilling careers within their home province."

Oil and Gas 20 will come to classrooms in the second

semester of the 2024-25 school year with Oil and Gas 30

entering the following year's curriculum.
"I think industry is very happy that government is putting some thought into how we support industries in our

province—whether it's potash or whether it's oil and gas, or whether it's forestry on providing opportunities for students to get real life experience," Cockrill said.

The courses—available to full-time online students and those attending high schools in person—join other online trade and agricultural modules that also offer realife work experience currently available to Saskatchewan learners. Some of these include mechanical and automotive, autobody, construction and carpentry, welding, electrical, power engineering, agriculture equipment techni-cian, parts technician, and precision agriculture. When asked if the content of the courses will shed light

When asked if the content of the courses will shed light on alternatives to oil and gas, Cockrill replied by noting the province's clean approach to sustainably drawing the natural resources from the ground.

"The courses will talk about sustainability practices within the industry. We produce oil and gas more sustainably than any other jurisdiction in the world," he said. "Even just the enhanced oil recovery, the reduction on methane emissions. This province is a leader in the world—we're precognized as a leader in the world—and I. world—we're recognized as a leader in the world—and I think that's what will be talked about in that course when it comes to how sustainable the industry is."

54th Annual Emergency Response and Mine Rescue Skills Competition held

Teams of dedicated and highly trained emergency response/mine rescue personnel from 18 mine sites around the province tested their skills at the 54th Sas-katchewan Mining Association Emergen-cy Response/Mine Rescue Skills Compe-tition held at the World Trade Centre at Prairieland Park on Saturday, June 1.

Underground and Surface Rescue teams displayed their highly qualified and proficient skills in seven separate events, including Bench Technician, Fire Fighting, First Aid, Practical Skills, Proficiency, Surface Rope Rescue, and Simulated Surface and Underground Mine Problems

Saskatchewan Mining Association was pleased to be joined by the Honourable Donna Harpauer, Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance who assisted in presenting the awards for the Overall Winners of the 54th Emergency Response/ Mine Rescue Skills Competition.

Overall

Surface Winner - K+S Potash Canada Bethune Runner Up - Westmoreland

Trophy Sponsor: Vallen

Underground Winner - Nutrien Cory Runner Up - Nutrien Lanigan Trophy Sponsor: Thyssen Mining

The Individual Event winners of the 54th Annual Emergency Response/Mine Rescue Skills Competition are:

Bench Technician

Underground Winner - Owen Gunther, Nutrien Lanigan Underground Runner Up – Tyson Devine, SSR Mining Seabee

First Aid

Surface Winner - Mosaic Belle Plaine Runner Up - Westmoreland Mining

Underground Winner - Nutrien Allan Runner Up - Nutrien Lanigan

Fire Fighting

Surface Winner - Westmoreland Min-

ing Estevan
Runner Up – K+S Potash Bethune Underground Winner - Nutrien Cory Runner Up - Nutrien Lanigan

Practical Skills

Surface Winner – K+S Potash Bethune Runner Up – Westmoreland Poplar

Underground Winner - Nutrien Cory Runner Up – Nutrien Lanigan

Proficiency Surface Winner - K+S Potash Bethune Runner Up - Mosaic Esterhazy Surface Underground Winner – Nutrien Allan Runner Up – Nutrien Cory

Surface Rope Rescue Skills

Winner – Mosaic Esterhazy Surface Runner Up – K+S Potash Canada Bet-

Surface Winner - Mosaic Belle Plaine Runner Up – Westmoreland Mining

Underground Mine Problem

Underground Winner – Nutrien Cory Runner Up – Nutrien Vanscoy

The Saskatchewan Mining Association salutes these safety professionals who are a tremendous resource, both to the mines where they work and their home commu-

At the awards ceremony, one member

company was recognized for receiving the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum's prestigious John T. Ryan National Safety Trophy. Mosaic Belle Plaine received the National Award in the Select Mines category with a rate of zero, and that represents more than 1.5 million hours worked with no lost time injuries or modified injuries at their operations in 2023. The Nutrien Lanigan Mine received the John T. Ryan Mine Safety Technology Award in recognition of Nutrien Lanigan's successful implementation of the technology "Tele-remote Mining for the Network of Nutrien Operations."



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Esterhazy K3 recognized with industry award

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Continued innovation is the key to streamlining processes and improving safety. The K3 mine in Esterhazy has proven that once again with some specialized, expinenting continuing and approximation of the continuing continuing and approximations. cialized engineering, earning them a 2023 EHS Process Excellence Award.

Through Mosaic's Risk Reduction program, employees bring their ideas for a safer workplace forward, with almost 300 risk reduction projects finished last year alone.

"In 2023, our dedicated employees completed 299 risk reduction projects, adding to the impressive 4,350 projects accomplished since 2019," noted a recent press release announcing the excellence award. "Today, we highlight three impactful projects from 2023 that align with our goal of achieving zero incidents." incidents

For K3, the spotlight innova-tion was a headframe draw-bridge that has been proven to increase safety.

"We are happy the draw-

bridge made some of our tasks

more accessible and safer for employees," said David Steiger, Senior Manager of Mine

Operations at K3 Esterhazy.
"Winning this award will help spread awareness of this project throughout the company, the entire potash sec-tor, and other industries. We are very proud to work for a company that's dedicated to improving the safe execution

improving the safe execution of our daily work."

The mine has twin shafts delving over 3,000 feet into the earth. Each shaft is covered by headframes more than 300 feet above ground. The north shaft brings ore to the surface transports. to the surface, transports people and equipment while the south shaft is strictly for moving ore.
"To maintain the integrity

of the Blair ropes, located in the north shaft and which carry personnel to and from underground operations, employees needed to grease and inspect them every three months," the release explained. "That required working over the shaft opening to access the ropes.



The twin shafts at Esterhazy's K3.



What the Ester-hazy team did was install a drawbridge electrically lowered by a tugger/winch system. This covers the shaft area open-ing while allowing access to the Blair ropes and electrical interlocks were added to ensure the cage doesn't contact the drawbridge while in

the lowered position.
"Clint Hollingshead, Superinten-

dent of Production - K3 Esterhazy, originally thought a drawbridge would benefit Mosaic's K3 shaft," Steiger explained. "The installation began in early 2023, with the team overseeing the shaft contributing input to the overall design. Rhys Hatherly, Supervisor of Production - K3 Esterhazy, was instrumental in the execution of the project."

Key outcomes of this inno-vative idea included reducing the requirement for fall arrest around the shaft; no longer needing the fall arrest equip-ment while working

on the ropes; less time to grease and electromagnetically test the ropes; and the new measure also meets Saskatchewan Mines Regulation 9-7 - Shaft Obstruc-

tions.
"We have had nothing but positive feedback from the em-ployees," Steiger said. "The em-ployees who work in this area also provided valuable input in the design and construction.

Given the innovative solution the team at K3 came up with, Steiger noted that there is potential for other Mosaic facilities to adapt this idea to their opera-

Right: The drawbridge that is electrically lowered by a tugger/winch system. This covers the shaft area opening while allowing access to the Blair ropes.





We wish to Thank and Recognize Mosaic and Nutrien and their employees for their continued success & support throughout the province!

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Nutrien and Sask Polytechnic partnership empowers young women to explore diverse career paths

Originally from Guatemala, Judith (Judy) Lopez-Paz immigrated to Canada at a young age with dreams of becoming a nurse. However, her path took an un-

a núrse. However, her path took an unexpected turn during her middle school years when she discovered her passion for trades. "I knew I wanted to go into the trades, but I wasn't sure which trade to choose," Lopez-Paz recalls.

To explore her options and gain insight into various trade opportunities, Lopez-Paz participated in Saskatchewan Polytechnic's WITT Powered by Orano exploratory workshops in Rocanville. These workshops, hosted in partnership with Nutrien, aimed to introduce young women aged 15 to 19 to different trades and encourage them to consider a career and encourage them to consider a career in this traditionally male-dominated field. Female professionals from under-represented trades at the Nutrien Rocan-ville site volunteered their time to share their experiences and inspire the next

their experiences and inspire the next generation of female tradespeople. The workshops, held in the local curling rink, provided hands-on training using tools from the WITT training unit. Participants learned the safe use of power tools in carpentry and automotive, gained practical knowledge in electrical and plumbing and delved into the world of welding and machining. Lopez-Paz, with an open mind and a desire to find her true calling, fully immersed herself in the program. The support system provided by WITT gave her the strength, comfort and inspiration to pursue the trades.

"I was the only girl in my high school to participate in the WITT weekend cours-es," Lopez-Paz shares. "WITT helped me learn more about trades and choose industrial mechanics as my field of study at Sask Polytech. I want to keep learning and growing, and industrial mechanics allows me to be a Jack-of-all-trades."

Without hesitation, Lopez-Paz enrolled in Sask Polytech's Industrial Mechanics certificate program immediately after completing high school. This comprehensive program equips students with practical, hands-on training to install, repair, overhaul, and maintain industrial machinery and mechanical equipment. With high demand for industrial me-



various industries such as energy, manuracturing, milling, power generation and chemical plants, Lopez-Paz is well-positioned for a successful career.

Lopez-Paz is one of two women currently in Sask Polytech's Industrial Me-

rentry in Sask Polyteen's industrial Mechanics certificate program. "It's nice to have a companion in class. It's great to have someone to relate to, struggle with and get strength from. Hayley and I have become great friends. We know our strengths and weaknesses and help each extended. other out. The guys in our class are also very supportive." Neil Dielschneider has been an Indus-

trial Mechanics instructor at Sask Poly-tech for over two decades. "I have seen nore and more women join the Industrihe says. "It's good to see more diversity in the program. The male students are welcoming and the female students are excelling alongside their peers."

As she hones her skills and works on large mechinger.

large machinery, Lopez-Paz aspires to become a journeyperson in the future. "It's exciting to work with my hands. I've had the opportunity to work on nu-

merous interesting projects at Sask Polytech," she shares enthusiastically.

Lopez-Paz's advice to aspiring trades-

Lopez-Paz's advice to aspiring trades-people, especially women, is to ask questions, seize every opportunity to learn and explore various courses. "I am a woman of color, I am an immigrant, and I am working in the trades. I want to encourage other women to take trades courses and learn new skills. Even if it's not the perfect fit you will acquire value. not the perfect fit, you will acquire valu-able skills that will benefit you in the fu-

Lopez-Paz's parents are incredibly supportive of her chosen path, recog-nizing the significance of their daughin a male dominant trade. "My parents think it's very cool. They are proud to have their daughter represent the Latin American community in industrial me-



"I'm thrilled that Judy has enrolled in the Industrial Mechanics program," says Allison Zerr, WITT program head. "Although industrial mechanics training wasn't part of our WITT weekend workshops in Rocanville, we were fortunate to have a female millwright from Nu-trien as a mentor. She shared information trien as a mentor. She shared information about her experience and the skills needed to be a millwright. This underscores the significance of providing WITT programming in rural and remote regions and the pivotal role of female mentors in trades. I'm happy that WITT was able to help Judy choose a career in the trades."

Sask Polytech's WITT program continues to empower women like Judy Lopez-Paz, creating a more inclusive and diverse workforce in the trades. Through hands-on training, mentorship and sup-

hands-on training, mentorship and sup-port, WITT is paving the way for a new generation of skilled tradespeople.



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Nutrien and 9 Mile Legacy Brewing Co. brew up the first-ever potash-flavored beer

Attendees at the SMA Supply Chain Forum enjoyed the exclusive and innovative beer made with Saskatchewan barley and Nutrien potash

Imagine flavoring beer with potash. Sounds unusual, right? Yet, potash's minerality compliments light, limey lagers perfectly, and attendees at the recent annual Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) Supply Chain Forum were able to taste (what we believe) is the first-ever potash-flavored beer.

Made in collaboration with 9 Mile Legacy Brewery based in Saskatoon, the inventive beer combined Saskatchewan barley grown and malted in the province with food-grade potash sourced from Nutrien's Cory potash mine.

"Potash salt is used in beer quite a bit as a yeast nutrient or to modify water chema yeast nutrient or to moonly water chemistry, but this might be the first time it's used as a flavoring adjunct," says Shawn Moen, CEO and Co-Founder, 9 Mile Legacy Brewing Co. "We get excited about collaborations where both parties are contributing knowledge and where we can learn from one another, and it's been fun to work with Nutrien to breathe life into what this concept should be."

The launch of the beer was targeted spe-

The launch of the beer was targeted spe-cifically for the SMA Supply Chain Forum, to provide local suppliers—whose ingenu-ity, resourcefulness, and integrity are key to Nutrien's business—the exclusive opportunity to try this innovative product first-hand.

Nutrien has been involved since the inception of both the SMA Supply Chain Forum and Indigenous Mining Supply Chain Gathering. These annual events are a great opportunity for Nutrien's procurement, operations, maintenance and projects teams to connect with its suppliers, strengthen relationships and learn about what's happening across the mining sector. With between 70 to 80 percent of Nutrien's potash business unit spend being with local Saskatchewan suppliers, and a target of at least 25 percent of its local spend to have an impact within the Indigenous communities by 2025 (which has already been exceeded), Nutrien relies on its suppliers to partner and collaborate with its teams to safely produce the potash that feeds the world.

"We thought this beer could be a fun way to showcase a new way to use such an important crop nutrient besides a key component in fertilizer," says Josh Dodd, Director, Procurement, Potash. "For 9 Mile Legacy to get creative and find a delicious way to bring potash into a beer and for us to be able to share it exclusively at the SMA Supply Chain Forum, with the suppliers and Nutrien teams who were integral in our ability to produce it was very exciting."

"These are always great projects to be part of," says Garrett Pedersen, COO and Head Brewer, 9 Mile Legacy Brewing Co.
"When I'm brewing with new and interesting ingredients, I end up going down
a rabbit hole determining whether something is safe to consume, the possibility of creating it from a brewing perspective, and if it will present well in the glass. Inand if it will present well in the glass. Innovation has always been a massive part
of 9 Mile Legacy Brewing and these types
of projects make it feel like day one in the
brewery all over again."
From field to glass, the collaboration
between 9 Mile Brewing Co and Nutrien
proudly completes its journey within Saslatchayer proporties the legal expressive.

katchewan, supporting the local economy, suppliers and community while celebrating the rich agricultural heritage in the province. Stay tuned for more updates.



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Birdtail Sioux funded for unique trades program

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's an intense but effective initiative promising to propel participants from having no experience in the trades to be-

having no experience in the trades to be-ing job ready—all in under two weeks. That's the goal of a new study being funded by the federal government on the Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation to the tune of \$352,500, part of a larger announcement on March 6 that saw Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships devote a total of \$10.4 million to seven mining projects.
"Government, over the last two de

cades, has done a pretty darn good job of training up Indigenous people and gettraining up Indigenous people and getting them ready for the workforce and the work environment," said Greg Farney, co-founder of Straight Talk Advisory and Training. "The one thing that we've all failed at is we haven't got the workforce ready for the Indigenous people."

STAAT is partnering with BSDN to implement the Indigenous STARS (Strategic Training and Recruitment Solutions) program, which has a target goal of reaching out to 80 Indigenous communities across the three prairie provinces.

the three prairie provinces.

Farney is no stranger to BSDN and has

partnered with them previously on other

"We've been working with Birdtail for close to 15 years, probably. So we under-stand each other, and they agreed to be the

sponsor. So we submitted (the proposal

"Birdtail was a natural fit because of their location in Manitoba," Farney ex-plained. "They're right on two mainline corridors being the TranCanada as well as Enbridge's right-of-way. They're right on the corridors of the north-south transmission lines that are projects taking place in Manitoba. It's a very small community, but they've been very proactive, getting engaged both from an employment as well as business perspective in the proj-

Recognizing the need for more people working in the trades is not a new concept, and with a large number of current workers close to retirement, the number of workers close to retirement, the number of job openings will only continue to grow. Some numbers Farney has come across estimates a need for upwards of 56,000 new trades people over the coming decade. "One of the big elements is identifying how many people are out there that want to be involved in the trades," Farney said. "How many people have meaning."

said. "How many people have meaning-ful employment opportunities at the end of it, which the stats show there should be more than enough."

With the need for meaningful employ-

ment established, more than enough room to accommodate an influx of new and motivated workers, plus funding for a pro-gram to train them, it was time to link all

the pieces together with action.
"So you have this massive opportunity between what the industry needs and what First Nations and Indigenous communities can bring to the industry, but no one's talking to each other." Farney re-marked. The cost of training was another huge barrier as traditional methods can easily run thousands of dollars just to be-

come certified in a particular field.
"Unfortunately, what most people don't realize is, if you decide to go to be a bulldozer operator right now, you fork out the \$25,000, no one's going to hire you to be an operator right out of the gate," Farney said. "You have to be a greaser and an oiler and all that stuff for six months before they put you on the equipment. So there's a lot of misunderstanding."

Enter Indigenous STARS and its fastpaced, hands-on approach.

paced, hands-on approach.

"Through our experience, to get a person ready to be an entry-level labourer, for an industrial work environment, that takes about 12 days," Farney said, walking through what a typical training day would look like. "Very intense days. We treat the training as if it's a workday. So you're out of bed bright and early at 6 am. You're at the at the training camp for 7:30 that starts off with a tailgate meeting that starts off with a tailgate meetinglike it would in any industrial situation. You're going to learn about what's going to happen that day, what safety hazards to be wise to, all those types of things.

Then we spend about 20 per cent of our time in theory, talking in a classroom environment about what tools are going to be used, what things are going to happen, learning how to do heavy lifts, things like that. And then going out for the balance of the day, hands on full size equipment."

The fast-paced training program has already been tested in other places, effectively posting people in fulfilling careers and changing lives in the process. For BSDN, that means trained carpenters, electricians and plumbers not only being

electricians and plumbers not only being established close to home, but the potential to fill another job shortage in the pro-

cess.
Farney pointed to major turnaround and maintenance projects at large-scale fa-cilities such as Suncor (who were looking for 14,000 workers in a turnaround last year). They're short-term, require skilled individuals, and a lot of them.

"You can imagine when you're trying to find 6,000 pipefitters for six weeks, it's pretty tough," he said, noting that current recruitment brings this skilled labour from overseas instead of hiring within Cana-da. Utilizing people trained and ready to work through Indigenous STARS for these projects would add bonus income to their already established careers, perhaps

even coinciding with a slower season.

Given all the pieces aligning, BSDN is certainly poised for great future opportu-

Treaty Land Entitlement transfer of mineral rights for Cowessess First Nation

Nearly 1542 hectares (3811 acres) of Crown mineral rights will be transferred to Cowessess First Nation under the Cowessess Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Settlement

Agreement.
"Transferring mineral rights to Cowessess First Nation
marks another milestone in Saskatchewan's commitment
to Treaty duties and economic reconciliation," Minister
Responsible for First Nations, Metis Relations and Northern Affairs Don McMorris said. "Saskatchewan is blessed

ern Affairs Don McMorris said. "Saskatchewan is blessed with resources and these agreements ensure that all communities are benefitting from our province's growth."

Acquiring new reserve lands through successful TLE agreements supports community growth and traditional land use. This transfer is part of the province's continued commitment to TLE settlement agreements, aimed at ensuring that First Nation communities receive the land promised to them under historical Treaties. Under the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement, 1930, Saskatchewan has a constitutional obligation to assist the federal

rewan has a constitutional obligation to assist the federal government with this promise.

The TLE agreements provide First Nations with entitlement monies to purchase land anywhere in the province on a "willing buyer-willing seller" basis and add it to their recorner.

Under the terms of TLE agreement, all undisposed pro-vincial Crown minerals underlying lands purchased by the First Nation are to be transferred at no cost to the Gov-

the First Nation are to be transferred at no cost to the Government of Canada for purposes of reserve creation.

Since 1992, the provincial and federal governments have committed \$687 million for TLE settlements in Saskatchewan. Approximately 888,806 acres have been transferred, with 1.48 million acres outstanding.

The Ministry of Government Relations coordinates and manage the received in the property of the TLE.

and manages the provincial implementation of the TLE

agreements between Canada, Saskatchewan, and 36 First Nations. The recent transfer to Cowessess First Nation underscores Saskatchewan's commitment to economic reconciliation and the fulfillment of Treaty obligations.

The province continues to work collaboratively with First Nation communities to fulfill land entitlement agree

ments and support community growth and development. For more information on Treaty Land Entitlement, please visit saskatchewan.ca.

The Mineral Order in Council stipulates the transfer of nearly 195 hectares (480 acres) of Crown mineral rights to Cowessess First Nation upon the surface attaining reserve

Approximately, 76,303.02 reserve acres have been created to date under the TLE Agreement.

Under Section 5.04 of the TLE Agreements, the Govern-

ment of Saskatchewan is required to transfer undisposed Crown minerals to the Government of Canada at no cost. The minerals transferred will be held by His Majesty the

King in the right of Canada for the use and benefit of Cowessess First Nation.

Saskatchewan has transferred more acres to reserve status under our TLE agreements than any other province in Canada.





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Morris Interactive and Cowessess First Nation awarded Canadian Institute of Mining **Indigenous Partnership Award**

The Canadian Institute of Mining (CIM) has awarded the first-ever CIM Indigenous Partnership Award to Cowessess First Nation and Mor-ris Interactive for their collaboration on Mor-ris Interactive's Digital Transformation in Potash Mining (DTiPM) program Mining (DTiPM) program which is delivered in partnership with The Mosaic Company. The award recognizes a "significant, ongoing contribution to the advancement of Indigenous reconciliation to the approximate the principle sector," and in the mining sector" and celebrates the collabora-tion to deliver a program of this nature in the pot-

of this nature in the pot-ash industry.

The DTIPM program was developed to give participants the knowl-edge, confidence, and skills to join and pros-per within the potash industry. The program facilitates an extensive networking opportunity between students and industry employers, in-cluding The Mosaic Com-pany. Since the onset, the program has achieved a success rate of over 83% in connecting graduates to employment or further education. The program has established a reputation built upon student success and outcomes, leading to a recent student recruitment pursuit that resulted in over 2,200 Indig-

suited in over 2,200 Indigenous applicants.

The program was piloted on Cowessess First Nation in 2022 through a partnership that included Cowessess First Nation, The Mosaic Company, and Morris Interactive. Following this successful pilot, Mosaic committed \$1,000,000 to further the sustainability of the program over 5 years. "Thank you to the Canadian Institute of Min-



From left: Rob Knibbs, Barry Sparvier, Benjamin Williamson, Mathew Cey, and a representative from CIM who presented the awards at the CIM Connect 2024 Awards Gala.

ing for recognizing this in-novative partnership and the program's impressive track record," says Law-rence Berthelet, Mosaic's Vice President of Opera-tions – Potash. "Mosaic's investment in the DTiPM demonstrates our compit demonstrates our commitment to increasing repre-sentation in our workforce and advancing economic reconciliation in Saskatch-

Cowessess First Nation. "It is an honour to receive the CIM Indigenous Partnership Award with Mor-ris Interactive and Mosaic. The DTiPM program has benefited the community and all Nations with the

and all Nations with the training opportunities and careers in the potash industry," says Barry Sparvier, Director of Employment for Cowessess First Nation. The CIM Indigenous Partnership Award represents a major accomplishment and symbolizes the benefit of Indigenous Rights Holders, industry. Rights Holders, industry, and various stakeholders

working alongside one another to create life-changing outcomes for the students. "We're fortunate for dents. We re fortunate for the relationship we have with the Cowessess First Nation and The Mosaic Company. We bring our strengths and people to the table with one common goal in mind; connecting graduates to meaningful employment within the in-dustry," says Morris Inter-active's CEO, Mathew Cey.

The future looks bright as the sixth rendition of the

program is slated to return to Cowessess First Nation August of 2024, where it

About Morris

Interactive Founded in 2003, Morris Interactive is an award-winning consulting firm that has been working with organizations to develop their people and their busi-nesses. Morris Interactive believes their people and their relationships are what drive business growth and

success. They collaborate with clients of all sizes across multiple industries including agriculture, mining, oil and gas, con-struction, education, fi-nancial services, software, public sector, and health-care, as well as with over

210 Indigenous and Métis organizations. The Digital Transforma-tion in Potash Mining pro-gram was initially piloted by Morris Interactive on Cowessess First Nation in 2022, which was funded by IMII. Following the ini-tial delivery, The Mosaic Company announced a long-term investment of 1 million dollars to partner with Morris Interactive and expand the program to more Indigenous stu-dents over the following five years.

About The

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produces and delivers millions of tonnes of responsibly produced potash and phosphate fertilizers from mine to responsibly fertilizers from mine to market—nutrients that are vital to feed crops that feed people everywhere—and serves farmers in 60 countries by increasing crop yields and improving nutrition for people and animals. Mosaic pursues their mission to help the world grow the food it needs responsibly and sustainably. They are committed to being good stewards of the environment by reducing our water use and greenhouse ment by reducing our wa-ter use and greenhouse gas emissions, being good neighbors through strong partnerships with local communities, and being a more diverse and inclusive company where every person feels valued and appreciated.

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Mosaic stresses importance DTiPM program

Hopson happy that program has been recognized

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Insti-The Canadian Insti-tute of Mining (CIM) has awarded the first-ever CIM Indigenous Partnership Award to Cowessess First Nation and Morris Interac-tive for their collaboration on Morris Interactive's Digital Transformation in Potash Mining (DTiPM) program which is delivreed in partnership with The Mosaic Company. The award recognizes a "sig-nificant, ongoing contribu-tion to the advancement of Indigenous reconciliation in the mining sector" and celebrates the collabora-tion to deliver a program of this nature in the potash industry.

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The program was piloted on Cowessess First Nation in 2022 through a partnership that included Cowessess First Nation, Mosaic Company, Morris Interactive. Following this successful pilot, Mosaic committed \$1,000,000 to further the sustainability of the pro-

gram over five years.
Tyler Hopson with Mosaic explains how the program and the partnership came about.

"The first version of the program came about from a grant that Morris Inter-active got from the Inter-national Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII)," says Hopson. "They're based in Saskatoon and we're mem-bers of the IMII—us and some of the larger mining companies in Saskatch-

ewan.

"They had got the funding to try out this new concept of Indigenous focus cept of Indigenous focus on potash mining and to raise awareness and participation with Indigenous people. So with some of the funding through IMII, we would have participated there, and then more proceifed by they decided to specifically they decided to host the very first course at Cowessess which is close



to you and our operation.
"They had approached us and said, 'The course training is happening at Cowessess but we need to go to a mine site so that we can actually show students in person what they're learning, what we're talk-ing about, and then they get a little bit of hands-on experience.

So we had hosted their "So we had hosted their work practicum at Ester-hazy. That all went really well and I think it was a great experience for the students and program but also for our staff on site.

"They had the funding for the one time, sort-of pilot, and from there they wanted to do it again with getting such a positive response.
"So back in 2022, about

to fund the program for five years to continue and replicate what had been done at Cowessess and also since that time they've started to alternate their locations a little bit. So they now do some in Saskatoon and they've done practi-cums at our Colonsay mine or they come back to Cowessess or our Esterhazy area and do the work term at Esterhazy.
"So that's kind of where

it has evolved to now in the third year of the agreement. It's just been great to see the program grow and continue to have such great success.

How many students can the program accommodate?

date?
"They keep their class size fairly small just so they can give that class the best quality of education," says Hopson. "So each course is usually somewhere around 12 to 15 students at a time and they are runing regress of some state of the state of the same ning around four classes a year now. The demand definitely exceeds what they can accommodate the number of people who are interested is more than they can currently train but it's great that there's such an interest in the pro-

gram."
Hopson says the program is a win-win for both
Mosaic and the people
who get involved.
"For a long time now,
we've been trying to find
ways to work with First
Nations communities communities Nations around our sites. Histori-cally the number of First Nations people working in the potash industry has been fairly low, and we know that there's definitely interest as you can see in

this program, but people didn't always have maybe the right avenue, or know how to get involved or un-derstand what the oppor-tunities are tunities are.

"So this program really, by coming out to a community in the Esterhazy area, offering the training and then tailoring it to an Indigenous community, I think just pages community, I think just opens so many doors and it is helping to make our workforce more diverse and more reflec-tive of the areas that we operate in."

He says it's meaningful

for the program to receive the CIM Indigenous Part-

the CIM Indigenous Partnership Award.
"It's really quite an honour I think for the program to be recognized in this way," he says. "Canadian Institute of Mining is a national organization of for the say of the a local program to get that recognition on a national stage is pretty huge. It's very significant and it just shows how unique that program is—we actually aren't aware of any similar program anywhere else in Canada so it's pretty great that that innovation is coming from our own backyard and that we're finding a creative solution and a way to deliver it here

at home.

Do some of the people who have gone through the program end up work-

ing in the mining industry?
"Yes, we've hired a
number of people who are
graduates of the program right into our operations, as much as we can at any given time," says Hopson. "Or in other cases, they're going on to work for some of our suppliers or other businesses in the mining industry" industry."
Will Mosaic be expand-

ing their five-year commit-ment?

'We haven't really start-"We haven't really started that conversation just yet. We're about halfway through the first round of our first five years so we'll definitely start to have those conversations," says Hopson. "We haven't made that commitment just yet but I think that so far the program is seeing a lot of success and bringing lot of success and bringing some great results."

Indigenous engagement is not new to Mosaic. "We have been working to invest directly into com-munities for the last num-ber of years," says Hopson. "We've sponsored things like home building courses on some First Nations, we helped Ochapowace First

Nation to renovate their school and their indus-trial arts lab several years ago, we sponsor cultural programming and things like pow wows across the like pow wows across une province on a regular ba-sis and we have a goal to get 15 per cent of all of our Saskatchewan procure-ment or supplier spend by 2025 with Indigenous businesses. So we're getting closer and closer to that goal. Last year we worked with 32 Indigenous owned businesses in Saskatch-ewan and that was about \$45 million of work with those companies, just for one example."

one example."

Why is Indigenous engagement important to Mosaic?

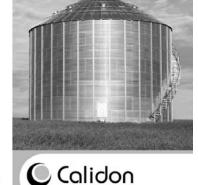
"I think it should be im-portant to all businesses, portant to all businesses, and making sure that we are truly representative of the places that we operate in is important," says Hopson. "Like I said, historically the number of First Nations or Métis people in our industry was quite low, so we're working to change that we're workchange that, we're work-ing to make sure that we're being as inclusive as pos-sible, and that all of the communities around our operations benefit, not just

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In Saskatchewan:

Multilateral well drilling program introduced Oil production target 600,000 barrels a day

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI Local Journalism

INITIATIVE REPORTER

The provincial government is looking to entice increased multi-lateral drilling in Saskatchewan with a new incentive program. The innova-tive drilling method allows for more of the oil reservoir to be access from a single well, and with the incentive program, it could see an increase of 200 more wells drilled in Saskatchewan each year.

"The intention is to encourage investment in this new type of drilling. We've seen some uptake in Saskatchewan, but not to the extent that we would hope and certainly not to the extent that we've seen in Alber-ta," explained Eric Warren, Executive Director of Energy Policy for the

ministry.

"The goal of the program is really to create a competitive royalty environment for the drilling of these wells and try to see some of that capital deployed here in Saskatchewan, and ultimately to increase oil production towards the provinces growth plan target of 600,000 barrels per day."

The volumetric incentive will see

rels per day."

The volumetric incentive will see
a maximum of 2.5 per cent royalty rate
up to a set volume of initial production,
then reverting to the standard rate.

"The intent there again is to just improve the economics, improve the attractimeness of making these kinds of invest.

tiveness of making these kinds of invest-ments relative to how the royalty regime treats these wells in Alberta," Warren

"It is a response to the higher capital

cost of this type of drilling."

The program is applicable to new multilateral wells drilled on or before April I, ending on the same date in 2028, and is application based. Qualifying wells are set against the criteria in place before ap-

proval.
"The new incentive program for multi-lateral drilling opens up significant new drilling investment opportunities in Sas-katchewan for Cenovus," said Jon McK-



A pumpjack in Southeast Saskatchewan.

enzie, Cenovus Energy CEO.
"It aligns with our focus to strategically build our integrated position in the Lloydminster region and we anticipate it will have positive impacts for provincial employment as well as new production growth. We are pleased to see government focus on creative ways to bring more investment to Saskatchewan.

More opportunity for the southeast

To visualize what's happening under the ground with multi-lateral wells, Warren used the examples of pitchforks and fishbones.

"There's two types of multilateral wells that we're talking about, one is sort of a pitchfork style, where you have a num-ber of laterals extending off of the the wellbore," he explained. "Any number of configurations up to eight legs, and even more. The second is a fishbone type multilateral, where they're extending a whole bunch of smaller radiating legs off of the main bore in a horizontal fashion."

Warren believes multi-lateral drilling techniques will open up more potential in the Saskatchewan portion of the Bak-ken formation, and also the the more challenging Frobisher and Midale for-mations

"We expect to see this deployed all across the oil producing regions in the province," he said. "Thinking about the southeast in particular, in the Bakken, it's really about extending the boundaries of the Bakken in terms of the ability. to produce some of that oil economically Now with this multilateral type of drill-ing, you're able to exploit some of those

So it's pushing the edges, the boundaries of the Bakken. There's boundaries of the Bakken. Ineres also opportunities in the Bakken where you have these water bearing formations above or below the pay zone that you're targeting." Historically, the Bakken has seen

fracking operations halt due to en-countering water-bearing forma-

"This technology allows you to go in and exploit some of those places as well," Warren said. "Certainly, we'll see some incremental production there."

Warren also noted the Frobisher and Midale formations with thin pay zones stacked on top of each other; a difficulty using traditional drilling methods. Multi-lateral technology now makes those reserves viable.

"We've done some projections in-ternally around the number of mul-tilateral wells that we're expecting to see drilled over the life of the pro-

gram, ranging from 100 to 200 per year," Warrren said.

"Hearing from industry after the launch of this program, we're hopeful that we might be able to

surpass those numbers."
With a spike in production naturally comes more jobs—a welcome sign to the second-largest oil producing jurisdiction in Canada

"The competition for capital investment is fierce and Saskatchewan's plan to ment is herce and Saskatchewan's plan to modernize the royalty regime to recog-nize the use of new drilling technologies provides the right policy environment to attract investment to the province," Canadian Association of Petroleum Pro-ducers President and CEO Lisa Baiton

"A more competitive royalty framework will help unlock valuable oil re-sources in Saskatchewan and will, in turn, create more jobs and additional revenues for the government and municipalities."

The oil sector in Saskatchewan currently supports more than 26,000 jobs.





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Construction on Bekevar wind project on schedule, slated to wrap up in August



LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER All they need now is some calm, nonwindy days.

"It's the classic joke in the wind industry actually—during construction is the only time you're praying for low wind," said vice-president of Construction and Engineering, Michael Capaldo with Innagreen Investments.

Wind is a key factor in Capaldo's line of Wind is a key factor in Capaido s line or work—renewable energy from Saskatchewan's dependable breezy conditions—but during construction of the 36 total turbines in the Bekevar project near Kipling, calm days are crucial to ensure safe construc-

"We had 15 turbines delivered last year, and then we're doing the other 21—these are actually happening right now—and they'll be done by the end of June; we'll have all the turbines on site," Capaldo said, adding that construction at the Bekevar project is 'right on schedule.' "We should be finished the installation of the turbines

in August."

The Bekevar Wind Facility is the largest project of its kind in Saskatchewan right project or its kind in Saskatchewan right now, and will bring 200 MW of renewable wind energy to the province. This addi-tion to the grid is estimated to allow Sask-Power the ability to power an average of 100,000 Saskatchewan homes. In the long term, SaskPower plans to add 3,000 MW of wind and solar power generation to the Saskatchewan grid by 2035. During peak construction, Capaldo es-

timates there will be 250 people working on the construction site, with the two-year build anticipating completion this Novem-

Joint owners on the project are Cowessess First Nation, who have a 17 per cent equity in the Bekevar project. Not only

equity in the Bekevar project. Not only does the project mean more green energy flowing into Cowessess, but also green energy jobs for those living in the community. "We're keeping an eye on the employment and making sure that we could have as much of our band members as benefiting on the project—not only during operations, but also during construction as well," said Jake Sinclair, CEO of Cowessess Ventures Ltd. "So right now, we're just in the construction phase, and we're looking over our long term plans for what do operations look like, and what those maintenance contracts look like as well."

Green energy is an important part of

Green energy is an important part of Cowessess, the home of the Awasis solar cowessess, the nome or the Awasis solar farm that provides power to many key public buildings on the first nation. As for the Bekevar project, three quarter sections of Cowessess land will see between one and three turbines built. Total size for the project is an estimated 20,000 acres of pri-vate land in the RMs of Kingsley and Ha-

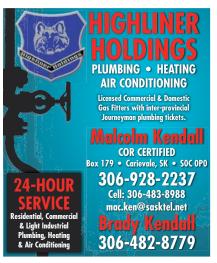
vate land in the RMs of Kingsley and Hazelwood as well.

Along with turbines going up, 18 km of new road is also included in the construction process—3.5 km of that becoming municipal roads. A staggering 106 km of medium voltage underground cables connecting the turbines will also be installed.



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Resources huge in Souris-Moose Mountain



Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert Kitchen.

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

DEVINAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER
OUR province has many amazing features including a wealth of natural resources beneath our feet. While oil, coal and potash have been utilized for several decades, exciting developments are being made for materials used in alternative forms of energy as well. Those resources are something Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert Kitchen believes ought to be further explored, especially given the

opportunity in our own region.

"We have the geothermal plant that's been being looked at in Torquay and in the brine that comes out of that, there's a huge amount of lithium in there," he said "As well, my understanding is there's large amounts of lithium in the Stoughton area, which is a product that is needed. You look at graphite and all the minerals that are out there that are needed for solar panels. Those are things that we have a high amount of in the riding and those are things we need to take and utilize where they're appropriate, instead of importing them from dictator-led countries around the world that treat their citizens with toTaking a global perspective, marketing the resources found in Saskatchewan makes both economic and ethical sense, according to Kitchen.

"Germany's had to go back to coal-based power and they want LNG—we have natural gas in Saskatchewan which could be exported to Germany and yet instead of that, we have this present government that sends back parts to the Russians such that they can export their natural gas to Germany," he said. "Yet, you have Russia and their illegal invasion of Ukraine and we want to turn around and say 'that's okay,' yet we won't use our own natural gas where we can use LNG and ship that over to that part of the world. It just makes

Kitchen also listed a crucial resource that he values most of all—the people in his riding, and the fortunate opportunity he has to meet with them to learn of their cesses and concerns.

The ability to communicate and get out

and about with my constituents is very important to me," Kitchen said. "Whether that's up in Moosomin and surrounding area—Rocanville, Fairlight, etc. Getting into those areas to communicate and hear from them I think is probably the biggest bonus of what we've done over the past year. I can't thank my constituents enough

year. I can't thank my constituents enough for that opportunity to sit there and talk with them and hear not only the positives, but also the negatives.

"There have been a fair number of negatives that we were wanting to change and we will continue to push on that to try and make certain that when we get that opportunity to have an election that we make those changes," he expanded.

When asked of the largest challenge he's heard over the past year from constituents, Kitchen pointed toward the high cost of living and the impact that has on everyone.

one. "Ultimately, I think that the big things obviously are the huge inflationary costs that have happened on all Canadians," he said. "Whether that is rent, whether that is groceries, those are huge impacting items on Canadians. As we move forward, those are things that definitely we want to see curtailed and brought down; bringing down the prices of our food, bringing down the price of home heating. Likewise, the inflationary cost for rental and even housing markets have escalated quite ex-

ponentially."
Part of the solution is one Kitchen's colleagues all seem to agree on, that of get-ting rid of the Carbon Tax entirely. Such an action may not be realized unless there is a change in the federal government, but for now, Kitchen says MPs will continue to prompt changes to the tax as it currently

"We've said for the longest time, we will axe that carbon tax, that's what we want to do," he said. "Obviously, we want to be-come government, we're going to take every step we can between now and then to do things to try and pressure this government to at least axe the tax, whether that is on people for simple little exemptions on their home heating. This Liberal govern-ment has created that exemption for the East Coast, but not for our constituents in

Souris-Moose Mountain. We want to make certain that we exempt that tax, because by exempting that tax, that puts money back in your pocket. It's not only that tax that's in your pocket. It's not only that tax that's being escalated, but there's a GST on top of that tax. So again, you take away that tax, the GST is gone, the tax is gone, that money is now in your pocket and you can decide what you think is best and where you think it's best to spend that money."

While the next federal election could be as for away as OC 2025, Kitchen coes.

be as far away as Oct. 2025, Kitchen sees change as an opportunity heading into

"The big opportunity that I see and want to see is that election," he said. "That's the biggest thing—to get to that election and find a way to defeat this government. The unfortunate part is that you have an NDPsupported government and that gives the Liberals so many aspects of things. That's a huge challenge to try and bring them down, but that's the number one goal is to see us defeat this present government."







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Nutrien employees exceed volunteer target of 25,000 hours by 2025



Nutrien employees volunteered more than 26,700 hours, representing a 52 percent increase over 2022.

Striving to contribute meaningfully to the communities globally and locally where we operate, Nutrien set an ambitious volunteer target in 2020 for employees: achieving 25,000 hours by 2025. Progress against the target has been measured in every sustainability report since.

Nutrien recognizes that employees can make a meaningful difference in their make a meaningful difference in their communities through volunteering. The Employee Volunteer Program enables eligible employees to take up to three paid volunteer days during work hours and through our Employee Matching Gift Program they can earn reward dollars for eligible charities if volunteering outside of work hours.

In 2023, Nutrien employees exceeded the tareet by volunteering more than

In 2023, Nutrien employees exceeded the target by volunteering more than 26,700 hours, representing a 52 percent increase over 2022. This was achieved through a combination of volunteer hours during work and outside of work. "Our programs allow employees flexibility and the opportunity to connect with Nutrien's purpose in a way that

with Nutrien's purpose in a way that is important personally but also has

meaning in the community. Whether it's coaching children's sport teams or packing hampers at the local food bank, the need for volunteers is great," said Renee Glushyk, Manager, Community Relations & Investment.

Organizations are often understaffed; non-profits and charities need people to volunteer in the community to help them to be able to achieve their objec-tives and mission.

"Having sat on a number of volunteer boards, I know the commitment it takes to support our committee in such a ca-pacity. I am thankful to work for a com-pany like Nutrien that supports employ-ees and their communities by rewarding volunteer efforts such as board duties, volunteer einst stutt as board unter, actioning on our purpose of Feeding the Future," said Tim Faveri, Vice President, Sustainability & Stakeholder Relations. "There is a lot of scientific research

about volunteering and the intrinsic benefits that a person gets from help-ing someone else. It's the rush of endoring someone else. It's the rush of endor-phins, feeling a sense of purpose and the positive impacts on mental and physical wellbeing. Through volunteering em-ployees can connect with others from the company and community that they might not already know," says Renee.







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Speedy pathogen test kit ready for field testing

PathoScan co-founder shares how concept became reality

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

What began as an efficient solution to lengthy pathogen testing initiated by two Saskatoon-based entrepreneurs will now be coming to a field near you. PathoScan is a pathogen testing kit, boasting results within an hour of taking a sample—all able to be accomplished right in the field. The to be accompaissed right in the field. The company received a major financial boost recently being an Agtech Growth Fund recipient—the ag-tech focused version of the Saskatchewan Advantage Innovation Fund. PathoScan received \$75,000, a fan-

Fund. PathoScan received \$75,000, a fantastic boost for the local company.

"Grant recipients like PathoScan get a portion of the funding upfront and the rest of the grant is based on certain development goals," explained Kari Harvey, CEO of Innovation Saskatchewan. "For PathoScan specifically, a major goal for them in this project is to conduct field trials and refine their product based on the data collected from the trials."

What the minds behind PathoScan had developed caught the attention of Innovariations.

developed caught the attention of Innova-tion Saskatchewan, making the decision to back the company an easy one.
"Through Innovation Saskatchewan's

regular engagements with ag producers and others in the ag industry, we heard that quicker disease detection was a need in the sector," Harvey said. "When we heard PathoScan had a potential solution to the problem, we got in touch with them

to encourage them to apply."

The World-Spectator caught up with Ta-yab Soomro, one of PathoScan's founders and CEO. He, along with Scientific Lead and co-founder Ethan Done, have taken their dream from concept to physical so-lution—on the cusp of field trials this year.

What the duo have designed is a porta-ble test kit that's rugged, easy to use, and provides quick answers. Knowing whether or not a pathogen exists in a sample can help producers make more informed decisions—saving time and money in the process. Following is the interview with Tayab Soomro:

What's the story of PathoScan? How did it start and where did this idea come

After I finished my master's in Agriculture at Dalhousie University, I came back to Saskatoon. Here, I attended a program called Co.Hack Hackathon by Co.Labs

called Co.Hack Hackathon by Co.Labs and met the other co-founder, Ethan Done. It was his idea that was presented.

Ethan and I got together and worked on the idea, spending the weekend doing market research, fleshing out the idea, and creating a presentation. At the end of the weekend, we pitched the idea to the judges and ended up winning first place. That came with a \$3,000 cash prize, and that actually is what kick started us.



PathoScan company founders Tayab Soomro, left, and Ethan Done, right, stand with their innovative pathogen testing equipment.

Everything else sort of trickled from there. We participated in various pitches—some we won, some we didn't—but it was a lot of learning that we got from that.

I heard that you were also involved in Opus at the U of S.

Opus is an accelerator by the University of Saskatchewan that's promoting an entrepreneurial spirit in students. We applied for their Idea2Build program, got in, and it has been a tremendous help. They not only help financially, but they also provide requires like business consulting provide resources like business consulting and bringing in mentors.

Both Ethan and I, coming from a science background, didn't necessarily have a lot of business experience to begin with. So this is something we struggled with initial-

lv-we know the science, but how do we make sure we do the business side, right?

make sure we do the business side, right? That's essentially where Opus helps!
We have also had demo days with them, which is basically an opportunity to showcase our technology. It's very immersive and exciting. Besides Opus, we are also part of the Cultivator's AgTech Accelerator program that's over in Regina. Between Opus, Cultivator, other mentors, and casual chats over coffee with the business partners and startup supporters in ness partners and startup supporters in the ecosystem have really helped us.

Networking is so vital. Something as innocuous as a cup of coffee can turn into omething big. That's true.

This seems like solving a major prob-lem. I was wondering if you could walk me through how your device works and what the concept is, because to send a sample away for testing in a lab-that could take weeks.

The current problem is up to about 20 to 25 per cent of the world's crop production is lost every year due to preventable plant diseases. These diseases have very narrow diagnostic windows, so immediate results are really important, but the current lab facilities that exist take far too long to be useful for some of these farmers. It takes days to weeks sometimes to get the results back. By that time, the crops are already dead. Farmers need a technology that pro-vides results quickly and cost effectively. So that's our motivation to develop PathoScan. With our device, farmers can test for any crop anywhere without any technical background, and they can get the results within 40 minutes to an hour.

That's amazing—to have something that jam-packed with technology, but easy enough to utilize.
That's one of the other things that we really work hard to do is make it as simple as possible. Current technologies that exas possible. Current technologies that exist require at least a biochemistry degree or some sort of agronomy background to be able to run these tests. We tried to make this as simple as possible that anybody without any technical background should be able to operate this. Much like Covid test kits—we all had these kits in our homes, we were able to test for it without knowing a lot of biochemistry. So that's sort of the idea.

I'm envisioning a moisture tester, where you just throw in the sample, flick a switch, dial it in, and now you know your moisture content. Is this pretty much the same thing; take a sample, and

Exactly. The device is shaped like a box, and we like to call it PathoBox.

Inside, there are basically sockets or grooves for the farmer to put the sample for the tube in. That tube actually contains a sample in it. There's a few steps for preparation for that tube, once the tube is prepared, you put it into this device, and you flick the switch on. That starts the reaction and in 40 minutes, there will be a sound signal on your cell phone telling you that the pathogen is present or not. We're detecting the colour change in the tubes, and based on that we're determining whether the pathogen is present. The upshot to us-ing cell phones is that you actually get the report right on your cell phone so you can send it to your agronomist or any ag consultant that you're working with.

Continued on page C4 188



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Suspect herbicide-resistant kochia? Here's what to do

BY IAN EPP Approximately weeks after two weeks after spraying, scout to check for surviv-

ing weeds that may need a second application. These weed "escapes" have a number of potential causes—from sprayer misses to low water rates.

Another common cause is herbicide resistance. In the case of kochia, herbicide resistance is a safe as-sumption as many kochia populations have stacked resistance to multiple

groups.
One clue that could point to resistance is that the patch has no clear boundpatch has no clear boundary. The patch will somewhat follow machinery pathways, as the patch often spreads by the combine or soil-moving equipment spreading the seeds. It will not have distinct boundaries that we would see in a ies that we would see in a spray miss. Another clue is that the patch is one spe-cies of weed that escaped the spray.

How to reduce the risk of herbicide-resistant weeds? These steps can help: • Control weeds early.

- Use tank mixes. Hitting weeds with two modes of action effective on each weed reduces the risk of herbicide resistant weeds

es, using different effective modes of action on the same field and weeds.

- Alternate between competitive and less competitive crops, and crops that have different seeding and harvest timing (winter cereals, for example).
 Use the right herbicide at the right rate and apply the the right time.
- at the right time. Cutting rates, for example, may re-duce herbicide efficacy and increase weed seed return
- increase weed seed return to the soil seed bank.

 Employ other inte-grated weed management practices so herbicides are not the only method of weed management used on the farm. Visit the Canola Encyclopedia weed management chapter to learn

How to contain a patch of resistant weeds?

- Use a localized spray with a different product to
- get rid of it.

 Use mechanical means (tillage, mowing, hand pulling) to remove weeds
- Adjust herbicide and cropping practices so that weeds can be sprayed with multiple modes of action that are effective on that and other at-risk weeds.

How to ensure a successful resistance test?



Kochia

is now widespread on the Prairies. To find out for sure, submit suspected glyphosate resistant kochia plants to the PSI Lab for tissue testing to confirm resis-

follow these steps from PSI to correctly submit a kochia sample:

Before taking your sample, take a photo of

the plants in the suspected patch to show injury symp-toms and help further assess between escapes or

resistance.

• Sample and bag each

green kochia plant separately.

- Gather the top two to three inches from each branch on each plant. Goal: have five to eight tips of leaf material from each plant submitted.
- plant submitted.

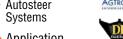
 Bag samples in a seal-able Ziploc type bag and place bagged samples on ice immediately after col-lection, as DNA begins to break down as soon as the leaves are removed from the plant.
- Find all steps to suc-

• Find all steps to successfully submit samples for testing on the PSI website at mbpestlab.ca/product/kochia-test.

For more on this topic, please read the following Canola Watch fundamentals articles: "How to contain herbicide-resistant kochia" and "Integrated weed management: Best practices" in the weeds section at canolawatch.org/fundamentals. fundamentals.

Ian Epp is an agronomy specialist with the Canola Council of Canada. Email eppi@canolacouncil.org.





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Speedy pathogen test kit ready for field testing

PathoScan co-founder shares how concept became reality

That's amazing. So you don't even have to be watching this device, you

watching this device, you can just get an alert on your phone and you could be out doing something else, getting into the next field. How long did it take for you and Ethan to develop this idea?

This idea was basically conceived by Ethan, so he's worked on it quite a long time, just mentally conceptualizing this. I jumped on board during the Hackathon in October, and then after that is where we actually materialized it into a product. And so between October, 2022 and now, we basically have been working nonstop.

I can appreciate you guys probably put in a lot of hours every day! Juggling that and a full time job was not easy!

You recently received grant money from the Ag-Tech Growth Fund. What's that going to help with? Is that taking you to the next step now?

We're really excited to

be receiving that funding. That actually channeled into our R&D. Even though we have a prototype developed, there's a lot more iterations that need to happen in the R&D for it to make it commercially viable. This summer, we're actually going to be in the fields all across Saskatchewan, Alberta, and other provinces of Canada. In doing those field trials, we're going to learn a lot about the things that we have to change and the feedback that we need to incorporate. That funding actually helps with the R&D part, to make it better over time, essentially.

I suppose right now you're assembling a pool of producers to do that lit-eral field testing? That's exactly right. We have a few clients on board. Quite a few, actual-

ly. And we're always looking for more clients. We have created a form where we can onboard farm producers, so they can go to pathoscan.com/signup and they can sign up for a demonstration, and we'd love to get down there and

Is a larger pool of producers better for your results?

That's exactly right. The more producers that we have, the more data points that we have and the more feedback we have, the faster we can make it better.

In terms of pathogens, is it a narrow scope of what you're testing for, or is it

you're testing for, or is it wide open to everything?
Theoretically, yes, it is wide open to everything, just because of the nature of the technology. It's a PCR technology, which means that it works with DNA. Practically every pathogen has DNA, so we can make it work with any pathogen, but for now— for the summer, at least— we're focused on demonstrating with leaf diseases. The reason for that is we want to showcase the usability and the easiness of this tool. With leaf diseases, it goes for an easy demon-stration. That's what we're hoping to do, and that's re-

ally what our motivation is to focus on leaf diseases. So like powdery mildew, downy mildew, leaf spots, mold and things like that.

So you'll be focusing on

So you'll be focusing on broadleaf crops then?
We're focusing on broadleaf crops, we're also focusing on canola. Sclerotinia (a fungal stem rot in canola plants) is one that we're getting high demands of so we're doing that, but mainly leaf disease.

With the signup for producers right now, would that be a free trial or would there be a cost for

them to participate?
It's in a cost-sharing fashion. We'd love to make if free, however, we need some way to compensate for that. Right now, we're doing it on an 'at-cost' basis. So producers, farmers, and greenhouse produc-ers, they basically share the cost for the amount of equipment required, for the use of biologicals. As long as those are covered, then we're okay.

Is the PathoBox something that's a 'one use and done,' or is it a fixture that you can add different

tubes to? There are two products, there is the PathoBox that's a reusable tool. You just buy it once and you keep buy it once and you keep using it year over year. But then there's these pathogen assay kits. These are patho-gen specific and they're designed for a single pathogen. They are essen-tially consumables that are bought again and again, for every disease that you want to test for.

The PathoBox is designed to be bouncing around in the truck, we have made it sturdy enough. It can connect with your 12V socket in the vehicle, it can operate with a portable charger, it can operate with an outlet, you can plug it into the wall. There are multiple ways to operate that.

Have you figured out a price point yet, once pro-duction starts and you're selling these to Prairie

We are very close to doing that. Currently, we're focused on the field trials so that we can actually get the data and make it better before we start mass producing and selling. Right now, we can say that it's going to be 30 to 40 per cent cheaper than the current market solutions. I don't have an exact price point, that comes after we have gone through the first set of field trials and have gathered some data and figured that out. But I can already see that it's going to be a lot cheaper than what's out there. And quicker.

That allows for some quick decision making for

That's one of the biggest challenges. A lot of times farmers end up spray-ing regardless of whether they have a good reason to spray or not just because the cost for not spraying is really high. We also can't discount the cost of spraying, because spraying costs a lot. If we can save even a single cycle of spraying or two cycles of spraying for a farmer, that's a huge cost

Do you think produc-tion would start taking place over the winter, or would you prefer maybe one more growing season? It's going to be an on-going effort of field trials,

even after we launch. We're going to do a soft launch hopefully next summer, to be able to get this in the hands of some of the farmers for testing. The field trials are going to keep go-ing because we are in the business of constantly im-proving it and constantly making sure that it fits the needs of the farmers. It's going to be an ongoing ef-fort. By next summer we're hoping that this will be in the hands of farmers.

From a larger stand-point of predicting trends, you'd get a wide swath of the province to see where different pathogens are and what some of the hotspots are.

That's right. I think that's really valuable to know where the Ministry of Agriculture should focus their attention, based on what we find, what trends we find. There are predictive models, of course, that tell us about where certain diseases are going to be prevailing, but this is a hardcore, precision ag-type data that we can have as a province.

The fact that this is a homegrown idea, it's really putting Saskatchewan on the map in terms of our technological advance-

Ments.

I have a lot of people to thank, but one of them is the ecosystem that we have. I'm really grateful

to have such awesome cheerleaders behind us. cheerleaders behind us. The folks that we have in Saskatoon and even in Regina that have built these systems and pro-grams that help us get up the ladder. That's really something that I would be remiss if I didn't mention, because if programs like Opus and Cultivator did not exist, then it would be really tough for two local Saskatchewan residents to build something like this.

It's such a huge launch-pad. Do you see this as being something that the global market would be very interested in as well?

Totally. I think Saskatchewan is getting a spotlight in the world because of that, and I'm really excited. It's a really exciting time right now.

So these long hours you're putting in—they're not going to go away for a while!

while!

I keep telling myself that it's going to get slower and slower, but no, it's going to be quite a few long hours still! It's the motivation that I have that keeps me going, and what makes it all possible is the conversations that I have with farmers pretty much every day about the problems that they are facing. That's ba-sically the main driver for

Most Canadians back farmer tax exemption, poll finds

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A recent Leger poll shows 70 per cent of Ca-nadians back a carbon tax exemption for farmers. The poll collected input from 1,519 people across the nation, aged 18-plus over a two-day period last month. Of the 30 per cent that op-posed the idea, half of those respondents noted 'I don't know', while eight per cent somewhat opposed an ex-emption and seven per cent felt strongly against farm-

ers strongly against tarmers getting a tax break.
The single question posed to respondents explained how the federal government doesn't collect carbon tax on each discovered. carbon tax on gas and die-sel used in agriculture, but producers pay the tax on natural gas and propane used to heat barns and dry grain. Ultimately, the question sought whether or not

they supported removing that tax for farmers.

"The poll is clear: the vast majority of Canadians want the government to get farmers religif from to get farmers relief from the carbon tax," said Gage Haubrich, CTF Prairie Director. "Canadians know that keeping costs down for

farmers helps lower costs at the grocery store for all of

Melville-Saltcoats MLA Warren Kaeding said if one of the pollsters called him,

of the pollsters called him, he'd share the same sentiments as the rest of the 70 per cent.
"I'm fully supportive of the of the same kind of thing, I would add my 'yes' to the poll if they polled me," he said. "I hope that's a great reflection of the public now understanding some of the duress that that their ag producers, that their ag producers, that their food suppliers are un-der as well, and how unfair the carbon tax is to them, and ultimately, how it's being reflected in the food And I think that's prices. And I think that's probably what's driving a lot of that support for agriculture; the public now is starting to wake up to the fact that the carbon tax is responsible for a signifi-cant part of the food price

Haubrich noted that seeking an exemption for farmers isn't only a Western Canada sentiment, peo-ple across the country are onside with the idea.

"Even in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, it's still

68 per cent of people are in favour of the exemption," he said. "So it's not just tra-ditional farming communities, everyone across the

country knows that this is the right thing to do."

According to the Parlia-mentary Budget Officer, farmers could be on the hook for \$1 billion by 2030 if no relief comes to frui-

"MPs need to get farmers and families relief now and take the carbon tax off all farm fuels," said Franco Terrazzano, CTF Federal Director. "Ottawa needs to listen to Canadians and stop charging farmers car-bon taxes that make all of

our lives more expensive." With Bill C-234 continuing to languish in Parliament, growing longer in the tooth with each passing day, the CTF felt keeping the question at the forefront

is important.
"We haven't done a poll on this exact question be-fore, but we thought it was really important to get Ca-nadian thoughts in front of politicians on the issue because we've seen that Ottawa has been sitting on its hands," Haubrich told the World-Spectator. "When it comes to getting this bill passed, we got to make sure that politicians in Ottawa know that this is what Canadians want It's not just an issue that affects farmers, but it affects

everyone." Bill C-234 saw first read-Bill C-234 saw first read-ing at the House of Com-mons back in early Febru-ary, 2022; finally receiving third reading in March, 2023. It then went before the Senate, taking most of last year to reach third reading in mid-December. After the Senate made their

amendments, the bill was tossed back to the House of Commons, and that lev-el has been "considering"

those changes ever since.
"When it comes to politics in Ottawa, it could really be anything," Haubrich said when asked what he thinks the big hold-up is on Bill C-234. "We're just go-ing to do our best to make sure that those MPs know that farmers would save a lot of money if we got this exemption, and Canadians



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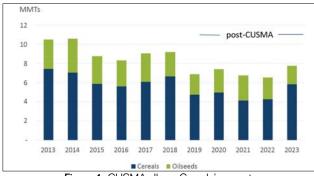


Figure 1: CUSMA allows Canada's exports to the U.S. to grow when needed

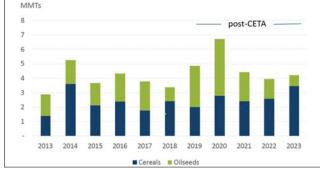


Figure 2: COVID boosts the AAGR of ag exports post-CETA

Growth in Canada's cereal and oilseed exports post trade agreements mixed

Over the last six years, Canada has signed three multilateral trade agreements with some of the world's largest economies. The Comprehensive and Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) came into provisional force in 2017, giving Canada preferential access to the (now) 27 countries in the European Union, with a total population of near 450 million in 2023 as one of the world's largest economies and one of Canada's largest agrifood export markets.

In 2018, Canada signed

In 2018, Canada signed the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and the Canada-United States-Mexico trade agreement (CUSMA) which, in many ways, continued the preferential access granted by the former North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and was in force as of November 2020. CUSMA is arguably Canada's most lucrative agreement, with the U.S. our largest global trading partner. Given the many ways our economies are tied together, it has always been our largest export market for food products

The CPTPP opens access to ten Pacific Rim countries (Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Japan, New Zealand, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam), many of which, while not Canada's traditional partners in agriculture and food trade, are growing their imports as their domestic household spending grows. The United Kingdom is expected to join the CPTPP as a member state by 2025.

But while opening access is peoresary to improving

But whife opening access is necessary to improving trade, it doesn't guarantee that Canadian exports will grow to those regions with whom we share agreements. Five years after the signing of CUSMA and CPTPP, and six years after signing CETA, the agreements have paid off for Canada's cereal exports, but to a lesser degree for oilseed exports.

Post-signing cereal export growth rates show benefits of trade agreements

Before the introduction of the trade agreements, overall Canadian cereal export volumes were growing. Annual growth averaged 4.4% in the 2014-2018 period, with exports to the European Union driving much of the increase. Exports to CPTIPP countries also had a higher annual average growth rate than the total. Several factors underscored the upticks. In 2014, cereal export volumes rose 21.2% YoY, driven by strong domestic supplies and a rapidly deteriorating Canadian dollar relative to the strengthening USD after the Russian invasion of Crimea.

Over the next five years, growth in overall cereal exports slowed somewhat, falling from 4.4% to 4.0% average annual growth. They were initially buoyed in 2020 in response to burgeoning global demand for ag commodities but fell in 2021 and 2022 when Canada faced cereal production losses due to poor moisture conditions in the West. The signing of CUSMA, CETA and CPTPP then had varying degrees of influence on Canadian cereal exports to the three regions

the three regions.

The U.S. serves as an aftermarket for Canada's crop exports. It becomes a destination when exports to other, more lucrative, markets have been maxed out. As cereal volumes increased to Europe, Asia and elsewhere, volumes exported within North America lagged (Figures 1 and 2). CUSMA boosted cereal exports to the U.S. and Mexico in 2023, when volumes were closer to the level in 2018.

Growth in cereal exports

level in 2018.
Growth in cereal exports to the E.U. averaged a very healthy 25% increase each year between 2013 and 2017 (Figure 2). In 2014, Canada exported 3.6 MMT, a 160% YoY increase, to European countries. But that kind of growth proved difficult to sustain, despite the introduction of CETA.

introduction of CETA.

In both Europe and among CPTPP countries (Figure 3), we see the impact on volumes shipped of the drought-reduced production levels in 2021. Nonetheless, the agreements were in place when the world suddenly wanted more ag commodities during COVID-19. Canada's tariff-free status in the E.U. helped boost cereal export volumes between 2018 and 2020 by 15.7%. In the CPTPP region (without Mexico), cereal exports rose 24.9% between 2019 and 2020, after having increased at an average annual rate of 5.7%

between 2014 and 2018. However, exports to Japan, the CPTIP's single largest market, fell 23.4% between 2020 (their high) and 2022, pushing down overall volumes to the region. This trend may show the limit of trade agreements to boost Canadian exports. Australia, with a transport advantage over Canada in exports to Japan and their own bilateral free trade agreement, had excellent creal production at the same time, perhaps raising their relative competitiveness.

CETA signing just in time for extra demand from E.U. for

Canada's oilseed exports were increasing overall, averaging an additional 7.8% each year between 2014 and 2018, based primarily on strong sales to China. China's huge spike in imports of Canadian soybeans, growing 500% between 2014 and 2018, was replicated to varying degrees in their imports from other suppliers to feed swelling pork production levels.

Such strong growth in Canada's export volumes generally tapered off after 2018, however, for numerous reasons. Overall oilsed exports fell dramatically as African Swine Fever hit the Chinese herd and China's soy imports stopped almost overnight. Canadian exports have also tailed off as additional domestic oilseed crush capacity has become available. Between 2019 and

2023, oilseed exports averaged a -3.3% loss per year. Comparatively, exports to North American and CPTPP partners dropped at even faster rates, while exports to the E.U. soared.

exports to the E.U. soared.
Despite the existence of
NAFTA/CUSMA, Canada's oilseed exports to
North American markets
dropped in the first five
years since signing. They
had been falling each year
between 2014 and 2018, but
the losses picked up speed
between 2019 and 2023, in
part due to limited production levels and as exports
to other markets increased
(Figure 1)

to other market measure (Figure 1). Oilseed exports to countries in the CPTPP region (excluding Mexico) also fell in the five-year period immediately after the agreement was in force (Figure 3). They fell, on average, -8.5% each year. Most of that was due to large reductions in trade with Japan. Between 2020 and 2023, canola exports to Japan declined 56%, with Australia able to pick up the slack.

The slack.

In the five years before signing CETA, Canada's oilseeds exports to Europe fell, on average, -3.6% each year, a figure impacted heavily by a dramatic 52.7% YoY drop in 2018 (Figure 2) when losses in canola and soybean production limited exports. Between 2014 and 2017 (i.e., without the lowered crop in 2018), oilseed exports showed an AAGR of 4.1%. As strong as that was, it was dwarfed by export growth post-CETA. Between 2018 and 2022, oilseed volumes to the E.U. rose, on average, 20.5% each year, and looking only at the period 2018 to 2020, they grew more than 300%.

Bottom line

Many factors influence trade performance. Relative global crop production matters to Canadian export volumes, as do crelative currency fluctuations between suppliers and buyers. With the first five years since signing the three agreements marred by domestic crop production losses, it's hard to fully assess their impacts. However, CETA's availability when European demand for cereals and oilseeds increased, pushed Canadian exports higher. Given that ratified countries grew their oilseed exports, on average, 53% annually and unratified countries had an AAGR of 13.4% between 2018 and 2022, there's more potential to unlock with full ratification (if possible). CUSMA has had a more muted effect, not surprising perhaps given the gains made earlier by NAFTA. The CPTPP region saw an initial boost to crop exports during COVID, which faltered when Japan cut back their shipments.

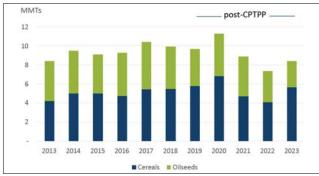


Figure 3: Crop exports given initial boost post-CPTPP introduction*

"And who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his forty-hour week by Tuesday noon, then, pain'n from 'tractor back,' put in another seventy-two hours. So God made a farmer."

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Weak grain and oilseed outlook to pressure harvest equipment sales

Coming off a strong 2023 the farm equipment market is set to take a breather this year. However, there will be pockets of strength, specifically 4WD tractors and corn headers. Demand for most harvest equipment will soften throughout the remainder of this year, due to elevated or the strong headers. Demand for most harvest equipment will soften throughout the remainder of this year, due to elevated equipment prices, high interest rates, and tighter grain and oilseed profitability. This outlook highlights the harvest equipment sales opportunities and risks for primary producers, agricultural equipment dealers, manufacturers, and industry stakeholders.

- **Key observations** New combine sales are projected to decline 20% in
- · New combine inventories are projected to be above Used combines, headers and grain cart sales expected to soften, trending below the 5-year average.

 When the second continues to outpace described to soften.

- Used combine inventory continues to outpace demand, prices expected to be pressured.

 New 4WD tractor sales are projected to decline only 2% in 2024 but remain above the 5-year average.

 New and used 4WD inventory are projected to remain low used for her ways.
- main low until end of the year.

 Combine market shifts to a buyers' market. New com-

Combine market shifts to a buyers' market. New combine sales grew 4.9% last year due to continued improvements in supply chains, along with strong profitability in 2022. New combine sales are projected to decline 20% this year and drop below the 5-year average due in part to declining grain and oilseed revenue and the strong sales from the previous year (Figure 1).

The decline in new combine sales will lead to increased inventory levels that will be above the 5-year average. The used combine market was strong in 2022 as new orders were delayed from supply chain constraints follow-

ders were delayed from supply chain constraints follow-ing the pandemic. However, so far this year used combine sales have trended lower, inventories are increasing faster than demand and as a result it has now become a buyers' market (Figure 2). Prices of used combines are expected to moderate further, particularly in the higher-class categories (e.g., Class 8+).

Complementary

harvest equipment sales expected to slow
The number of combine header units sold increased





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last year with sales picking up in the July to October period, normally the busy season. However, as supply chains improved new models were delivered in 2023, resulting in multiple used models being traded for every new sale. We don't anticipate the combine header market to be as strong this year as used sales through March 2024 were below last year and the 5-year average, similar to what is being observed in the used combine market. The exception is corn header sales which have been strong year-to-date relative to 2023, and we expect this trend to continue throughout the remainder of this year. The strength in this market is being supported by several years of good yields and profitability in Eastern Canada.

Continued on Page C9 18

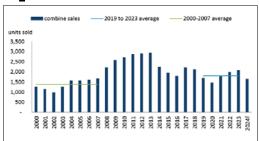


Figure 1: New combine sales will decline in 2024











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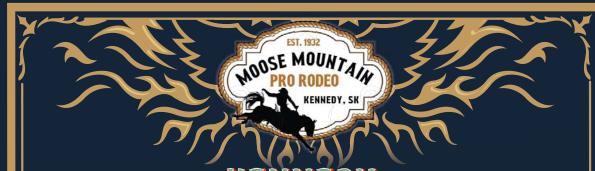












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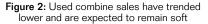
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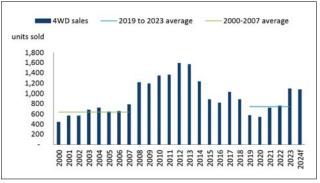


Figure 3: New 4WD sales expected to remain strong

Weak grain and oilseed outlook to pressure harvest equipment sales

™ Continued from Page C7

The grain cart market is also expected to trend like the used combine and header market as sales year-to-date are below the five-year average. The grain cart market had a strong year in 2022 with sales slightly lower in 2023, due to the drought in Western Canada. A softening in grain cart sales is largely driven by slower combine sales and expectations of another year of drought in Western Canada.

Strength in 4WD tractor market for now

High horsepower 4WD tractors are necessary to not only pull air drills but large grain carts as well. The 4WD tractor market it sexpected to stay strong with new sales expected to decline only -2% in 2024, after growing over 40% in 2023 (Figure 3). Market uncertainty and revenue pressures led to low sales in 2019 and 2020. Farms are now looking to upgrade their aging 4WD tractors. So even with inventory levels expected to improve by the end of the year sale volumes are expected to trend above. end of the year, sale volumes are expected to trend above the 5-year average.

Trends to monitor

- Canadian dollar and interest rates

 Drought impact on equipment demand
 The value of the Canadian dollar and interest rates are two macro-economic variables that have a direct impact two macro-economic variables that have a direct impact on the farm equipment market. An appreciation of the Canadian dollar would help to offset higher prices on new equipment imported from the U.S. However, the Canadian dollar has been pressured by U.S. dollar strength (due to the U.S. Federal Reserve's hawkishness), and the expectation is the latter should fade as the Fed cuts interest rates, allowing the Canadian currency to find some support later this year. FCC Economics expects the Bank of Canada to cut its overnight rate by 75 basis points this

ing the overnight rate to fall further in 2025 before stabilizing around 3%. In terms of fixed rates, we expect rates to continue declining through the year as bond rates fall in synch with soft economic growth and declining inflation.

year with the first rate cut occurring in July. We're project- Drought conditions in Canada particularly in the West continue to be on the radar for the 2024 crop. Depending on how moisture levels evolve over the coming weeks and months, demand for harvest equipment could be further











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Most Canadians back farmer tax exemption, poll finds

First Continued from Page C4
Further stalling on Bill C-234 will only cause more problems for the governing Liberals, as Kaeding sees it.
"If they're not through on this order paper, how that process starts again in the fall - and then realizing that there will be a federal election not long after that - where those amendments are if they're not approved and given final reading, I'm not sure where that leaves them," he said

The recent federal budget also promised to return some lacked a firm timeline for when those dollars could be an-

"Unfortunately, even when it comes to small businesses and farmers, they're still often paying a lot more in the carbon tax than they're getting back," Haubrich said, calling what could be rebated a 'paltry sum' in comparison to what's been paid.

Interview requests to Federal Environment Minister Steven Guilbault's office, seeking an answer to some of those questions on Bill C-234 and comment on the CTF findings, garnered no reply at press time.

Gov'ts invest \$25 million in ag researchers

On May 8, Canada's Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence MacAulay and Saskatchewan's Agriroot Lawrence MacAulay and Saskatchewan's Agri-culture Minister David Marit announced \$25 million to support 15 strategic research chairs at the University of Saskatchewan's (USask) College of Agriculture and Bio-resources through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural

Partnership.

"Investing in research is vitally important to the longterm resilience and continued growth of Canada's agriculture sector," MacAulay said. "I have no doubt this innovative research will help ensure our farmers stay on the cutting edge."

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to funding evidence-based research initiatives to better serve our agriculture sector," Marit said.

our agriculture sector." Marit said.
Funding is provided through the Strategic Research
Program and is focused on supporting crop genetic improvement, livestock development, food and bioproducts
development and soils and environment.
The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership is
a five-year, \$3.5 billion investment by Canada's federal,
provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors. This includes \$1
billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2 5 billion billion in federal programs and activities and a \$2.5 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially / territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories.



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Seeding on the Hebert Grain Ventures farm in the Fairlight area.





June 2024 Plain and Valley C13

Working on jobs between jobs in the spring

The text came early one Saturday morning from my daughter in the city: "I think I've had enough babysitting your grandchildren already today." My response? "It's only 8:30 in the morning. The weekend has hardly begun." And so the weekend had begun, albeit a little rocky in her world. In our world, on the other hand, we were rolling always to the property of the pr

And so the weekend had begun, albeit a little rocky in her world. In our world, on the other hand, we were rolling along, my group of guys busy seeding, picking stones, hauling fertilizer and seed and whatever all needed doing. Now we weren't always rolling along smoothly of course. Interspersed with bits of rain here and there we had our shut-down moments. Needed breaks, I say. Or rather, a time to tackle another job down on the farm. A change is as good as rest or some such saying seems to ring true on these wet days.

While there's nothing that says seeding time to me quite as much as our move to the RV on the farm, this year brought a new degree of excitement (besides a return to enjoying the grands and family as we sit around the campfire out behind the camper) and it was to recreate my rather quickly put together (and out of old 'free' lumber no less) camper deck from a couple of years ago and make the entry into our tiny home a bit more stable, shall we say.

Our farm deck, some four by 12 feet in size, had become a bit cumbersome to move towards the camper when we set up each spring, and then again to move back at the end of harvest and so, in all my wisdom (not), I decided to utilize some of that 'free' lumber my son had laying around and build a 'bridge' so-to-speak. The bridge, some two and a half by six feet in size sat against the main deck and stood a good three feet high on rather wobbly legs. To these tall legs, I had attached large wheels so it could be moved easily out of the way.

moved easily out of the way.

To say this particular system was aesthetically pleasing to the eye would be an outright lie, but on the flip side, it did the trick! This year, with a stern warning from my husband that I could not build another deck, another raised garden bed, another gazebo or any such thing in our tiny backyard in town, I had to think of another project because each spring brings this insatiable desire to build something out of wood.

something out of wood.

And so came the day—the windiest so far this spring—and I was happily cutting lumber and putting together a 'new' portion of deck (from newly purchased lumber, surprise, surprise), double the size of the former 'bridge' and one that is not so high, has a step up, sits on two wheels for easy rolling back across the old deck and a bit of railing as well, just to give it a safer feel. It still can't be described as pretty, but it is super functional!

well, just to give it a safer feel. It still can't be described as pretty, but it is super functional!

The bonus to it all is that by mid-May we were finally able to move in. Even though we started seeding back at the end of April, a glitch in a water hose in the RV kept us living in town but when the repairs were done, I packed up the groceries and some clothes and headed out to the farm to stay. We made it through the door just as the rain began to fall—again. Such is life on the farm! For three days straight, we would get seeding by afternoon and by the time we settled into the camper for the night, the rain would start.

The farm grands are becoming quite adept at starting a campfire nonetheless and despite the cool, damp evenings and the damp wood, we have enjoyed some round-the-fire moments with forays into the RV for the odd cookie or chocolate bar. Some evenings it's board game night indoors where it's cozy, warm and dry.

One such night, my grands decided it was time for Grandma to be on Snapchat. I feel Facebook is enough for me; I hardly need Snap or Instagram, though I have that as



well. "Ok, Grandma, we don't have clothes on your avatar yet," they tell me. "What do you mean, no clothes?" I ask. "Well, you have underwear on." "Underwear?" I squeak. "Well, it's not you, Grandma, it's just an avatar!" I take a sideways look and see a computer-generated, long-underwear clad avatar. "I don't think I should do the Snap thing," I say. "Oh, you should, Grandma, you should!" they assure me and then I see this on my phone screen ... "Do you want others to know your location?" "Oh no, no, no, I hardly need anyone to know where I am," I insist. They assure me it's an option I don't need to choose. In fact, Kamryn (12) shows me how I can see exactly where her mom is at at that very moment. "I hardly need to know that," I tell her. "Your mom is across the board game from me."

The kids shake their heads in exasperation. I know they are thinking Grams just is never gonna 'get it.' Of course, in my world, I really only need to know which field my guy is in, so I can get his lunch to him. The one guarantee in this world is—he is never getting Snap! He is more of a flip phone kind of guy.....You know, the dataless, turn-of-the-century kind of phone.

The twins (now 13) have been busy on the farm making

The twins (now 13) have been busy on the farm making sure the lawn is cut and the shelterbelt and other need-

ed spots get tilled, I can see my lawn-cutting days out on the farm being cut right down. There's something very therapeutic about leaving the phone behind, hopping on the zero-turn and hitting the large grassed areas that need trimming up but my boys are growing up and taking on more of those chores and while I might miss those grass cutting moments, I couldn't be more proud of their work ethics. The caveat is though, don't mention fishing or hunting until the work is done! I continually see our son in them—only in double!!

One evening when our granddaughter wanted to go driving (she now has her learner's), she told me her mom was too busy to take her. "Hey," I said to her, "I'm not too busy!" And so I suggested a trip around the

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block so to speak, technically, a crop-checking trip out in our rural area minus the actual crop-checking! "I thought to town," was Sierra's response. "Why town?" I ask. And her one word answer reminds me of Whitewood's new business (a hit with the grands) – "DQ!" And so, the moments of togetherness and creating memories keep on keeping on, all while the guys are doing their thing in the field.

I was reading something (not sure who wrote it, but a farmer's wife) the other day and it really brought a tear to my eye (literally). She talked about a time when her husband came in from the field late one night and she was complaining to him about her long day with the kids (three youngsters) and how she resented the fact that he was gone so much (especially at this time of year). He said he was sorry. He never complained about how busy he had been or about the rotten work day he had had. He sat and ate—alone. Suppertime had long since come and gone. And then she thought about how hard he worked, the never-ending hours he put in in a day and how she, even though tired with caring for the littles, at least got to spend lots of time with them, something her husband couldn't do, at least during the present busy seeding time. It really made me think of all the times I resented not having my husband around (especially when the tiller wouldn't start and the old push mower gave me nothing but grief). I still sometimes resent being husband-less for two or three months at a time, two times a year, but after 47 years of this life, I am getting better at handling it. It also reminded me of my youngest's question back some 35 years ago, when she asked one harvest, "When will I see my daddy again?" I caused me to stop in my racks and realize that cometimes weeks wont by without

It also reminded me of my youngest's question back some 35 years ago, when she asked one harvest, "When will I see my daddy again?" I caused me to stop in my tracks and realize that sometimes weeks went by without her ever seeing him. And so, in this very busy time for you grain farmers, I hope you know that your support people see how hard you are working and know it takes one heck of a lot to put that crop in and get it off. So kudos to you! You make our worlds go 'round and give us this great life that we, as farmers, have in Saskatchewan. Stay well, stay safe and keep at 'er!

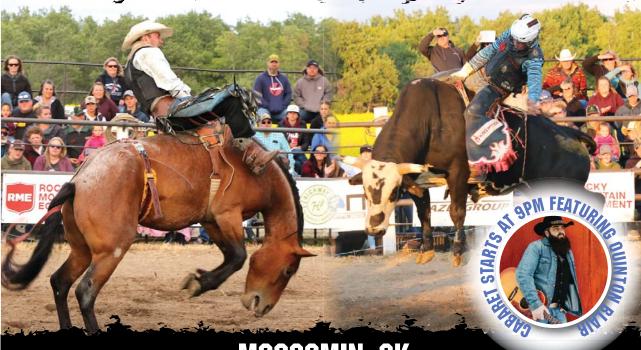




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