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# Fort Times

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## Chamber honours Fort's best businesses

Some of the valley's best businesses were recognized Sept. 29 when the Fort Qu'Appelle and District Chamber of Commerce presented its Business Excellence Awards.

Chamber president Nicholas Paul told business people at the banquet in the legion hall that the business community is the backbone of any town. Chamber members do their part to organize, promote and support community events such as the Winter Festival and the Calling Lakes Classic fishing tournament.

"Not only does our business community contribute to the economic prosperity of the Valley of Festivals, we are also huge contributors to its social well-being."

### On with the awards

The Town of Fort Qu'Appelle was chosen to receive the chamber's Property Beautification Award because of the work of municipal employees and volunteer groups in keeping Fort Qu'Appelle looking green and clean.

Paul said the award recognizes pride of ownership.

The Town of Fort Qu'Appelle, both employees and council, have worked hard to ensure green spaces look beautiful. The town looks after a number of outdoor areas including parks, the campground, ball diamonds, skate park, and areas surrounding both parks. By supporting programs such as Communities in Bloom, and organizing volunteers to pick garbage, our town presents itself as a clean and welcoming community.

Continued on Page 3



Duraline Medical Products was presented with the chamber's Business of the Year Award. Receiving the award are Norm and Irene Jones, and their sons Steve and Randy. To read about more award recipients, please see our story and photos on page 3.

## British resident finds Fort soldier's grave in France

By Jason G. Antonio  
Grasslands News

Kenneth Heselwood was visiting a war cemetery in northern France when he came across the grave of Joseph Arthur Standing Buffalo, a resident of Fort Qu'Appelle and the grandson of Chief Sitting Bull.

Heselwood, 70, a retired British police officer living in Brussels, Belgium, spent a moment of silence at Standing Buffalo's headstone in the Bucquoy Road Cemetery in the village of Ficheuw. He then decided to conduct research on the man's background.

The First World War fascinates the British retiree. Every Saturday starting at 6 a.m., he and his golden retriever jump into his car and travel the battlefields and military cemeteries in northern France.

Heselwood learned that Standing Buffalo was a Sioux Lakota from a Saskatchewan Sioux tribe from the early 1900s. Standing Buffalo gave his address as Fort Qu'Appelle — his father, Julius, was the chief of the Sioux tribe and lived in the Fort — but Heselwood was unable to find an address of this particular tribe in which to write it a letter.

Instead, he wrote to Fort Qu'Appelle town council discussing his adventure and submitted Standing

Buffalo's attestation papers.

"We shall never forget the sacrifice of our Canadian friends," wrote Heselwood.

According to Standing Buffalo's attestation papers, he was born in Indian Head on June 3, 1897. He was a farmer when the Great War kicked off and was single. He enlisted on June 11, 1917 in Regina at age 20. He stood five feet six inches tall.

Standing Buffalo was initially attached to the 95th (Saskatchewan Rifles) Regiment, before transferring to the 78th (Winnipeg Grenadiers) Battalion of the 4th Canadian Infantry Division.

He would not live to see the end of the war, however. He, his battalion and the entire Canadian Corps took part in the Battle of Canal du Nord in northeastern France starting on Sept. 27, 1918. He was injured in the initial stages of the battle and died two days later on Sept. 29.

Town council wrote an email to Heselwood thanking him for the information.

Writing on behalf of council, Mayor Jerry Whiting explained the town conducted research that revealed Standing Buffalo's relationship to the community and possible ties to the nearby Standing Buf-

falo Dakota First Nation. The town learned that the next of kin in the attestation papers — Chief Julius Standing Buffalo — happened to be the same name as a former chief of Standing Buffalo whose portrait is in the museum's collection.

An internet search using www.veterans.gc.ca and the online database Canadian Great War Project also confirmed Standing Buffalo's connection to the area and his interesting family ties, wrote Whiting. Heselwood's correspondence was shared with the Standing Buffalo First Nation.

"Your letter and results ... (are) a significant reminder to us all of wartime sacrifices and the contributions of First Nations people," said Whiting.

In the letter to the chief and council of Standing Buffalo, Whiting wrote that the "thoughtfulness of the sender and the kind sentiments he raises were thought to be worthy of being brought to your attention." Copies of the correspondence and Whiting's email response to Heselwood were included.

Any further information the First Nation could share about Standing Buffalo, added Whiting, would be welcomed.



**Our office will be open irregular hours throughout October.**  
**Should you require assistance please call**  
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# Be disagreeable to be successful – tornado hunter

A tornado's path seems plodding, methodical as it moves across the landscape.

Greg Johnson's career path to become a renowned storm chaser was anything but.

A historic election defeat shortened his career as a staff writer in Brian Mulroney's office; he ditched law school but he realized soon afterward that his skills as a hockey referee would not carry him to the NHL; so it was good fortune when he saw the potential of digital photography.

With \$60,000 of his "ex-wife's money," he embarked on a career as a freelance photojournalist. He is not a meteorologist or a scientist. "My job is like every other reporter's — to tell stories."

Johnson brought his humorous way of telling poignant stories to the Fort Qu'Appelle and District Chamber of Commerce's Business Excellence Awards banquet on Sept. 29. In his 15 years or so as a tornado hunter, he has become a force to be reckoned with as a photojournalist, wading into the worst of weather to find stories about the human spirit and the resiliency of communities.

"I tell the story about people's lives and how they survive these kinds of events and how communities rebuild. These are powerful stories."

He tempers his stories and photos of devasta-

“

*I tell the story about people's lives and how they survive these kinds of events and how communities rebuild.*

Tornado Hunter Greg Johnson

”

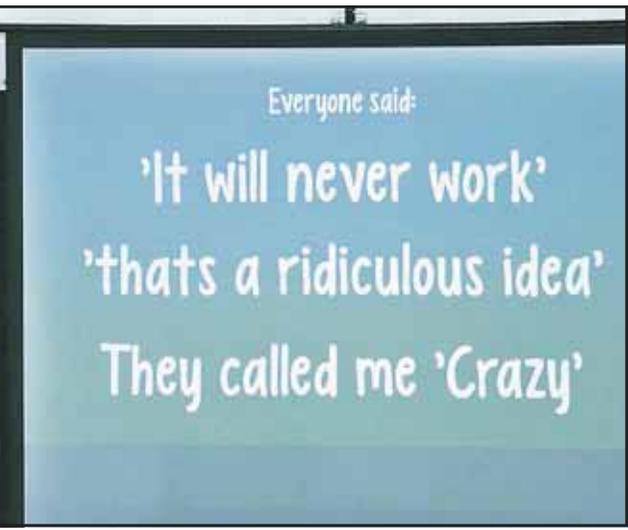
tion with humour to help make an emotional connection. The mood changed among the people in the legion hall when his slideshow photos switched from funny to tragic. Tragedies are memorable moments in our lives.

Johnson grew up in a household of entrepreneurs but his family questioned his sanity when he pitched his storm-chasing photojournalism business model. "People said to me: It will never work; that's a ridiculous idea; and they called me crazy."

His father wondered if his son could make a living chasing his dream if no one else was doing it.

"That's the idea of entrepreneurship," he told chamber members. "Find something no one else is doing."

Be disagreeable; stand your ground. Good lead-



**Tornado Hunter Greg Johnson was the keynote speaker at the chamber of commerce's Business Excellence Awards banquet Sept. 29. He encouraged business people to disagree with the status quo and to take chances to become successful.**

ers and successful business people see better ways of doing things. By going where no one else was going — toward deadly storms — Johnson has created a market where one didn't exist before.

He made his bones on June 26, 2012 when the conditions were right for a tornado in the Moose Jaw area. He was live streaming video — something in its infancy at the time — and saw his viewers jump from 50 to 119 to more than 56,000 as word spread. Even Environment Canada was watching his feed.

Chasing storms across the Prairies, through the American Midwest and into Central America, Johnson never ceases to be amazed by the resilience and compassion of communities ravaged by weather. "When a disaster happens, that's when you see people's true character come through."

He regularly reconnects with survivors at memorial anniversaries held in communities now rebuilding.

In closing Johnson, Johnson challenged the room to be question the economic status quo in their communities. "Leadership and entrepreneurship, by its very nature, requires you to be disagreeable.

"If you do something as a business that everybody else is doing, you'll have less chance of success than you do when you find something nobody else is doing."

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Greg Johnson's "National Geographic moment." This is the first known photo of two EF4 tornadoes on the ground was picked up by the acclaimed magazine and helped to cement Johnson's reputation. Photo courtesy of tornadohunter.com



(Left to right): Bevin Akister, Naomie Little Light, Shelley Peigan, Sharron Bodnaryk, Jodie Simes, Krista Goodwill and Dhvani Thakkar.

Diabetics are used to pricking their fingers to get a blood sample for testing their glucose levels. Sometime, it can be difficult to get even one drop out for the test. When this happens, try warming your hands under warm water before testing. This helps bring more blood to the hands and make getting a blood sample easier.

Nicotine is a very addictive chemical and it's understandable why smoking is such a difficult habit to quit. The nicotine "hit" reaches the brain in about 8 seconds via inhaling cigarette smoke. At the rate of 10 puffs every 5 minutes, a person who smokes one and a half packs a day gets 300 hits of nicotine to the brain every day. Nicotine content of cigarettes is 4-14mg per cigarette depending on the brand. New regulations regarding the sale of electronic cigarettes, an alternative to tobacco cigarettes, may be coming from Health Canada soon.

Product placement is common in television shows and movies. Companies will pay for having their products seen. This has been taken to a new level by a drug company having a rare disease written into the script of a day-time soap opera. It raised the awareness of the disease and also let viewers know that there was a drug on the market that is available to treat the disease.

The cough and cold season is almost upon us and time to consider how germs get passed from one person to another. One hospital in California experimented with reducing handshakes among staff and patients. They substituted fist bumps, a slight bow, a wave or even a simple smile. And of course, hand-washing often throughout the day was encouraged. Perhaps a handshake-free zone would be appropriate in your workplace. Something to think about.

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Pastors Phone: 306-331-8659  
Church Email: liptonemcc@sasktel.net

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valleyalliance.ca

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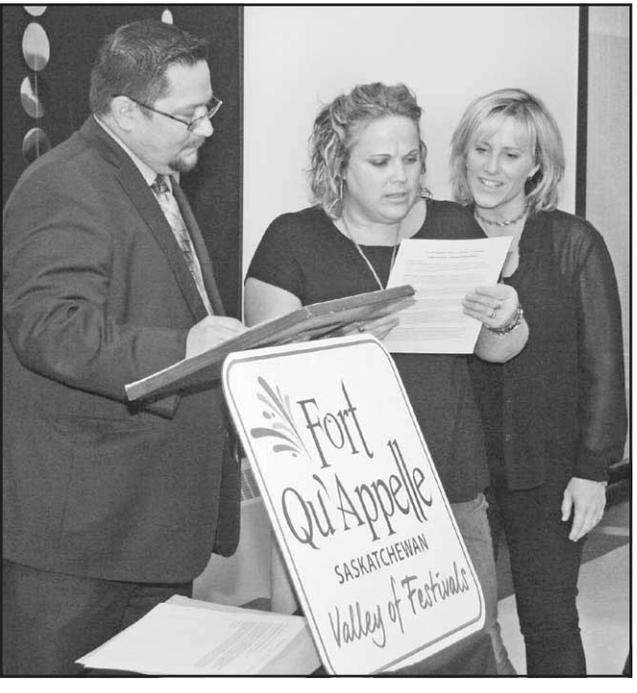
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# ...Chamber honours Fort's best

Continued from Page 1



Chamber president Nicholas Paul presents the Property Beautification Award to the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle, accepted by Mayor Jerry Whiting.



Metaphysical Hub owners Lyndi Picard and Jennifer Shiels help chamber president Nicholas Paul read their nomination for New Business venture.



Chamber president Nicholas Paul presents the Young Entrepreneur Award to Empire Pawn's Kody Kuhn.



Chamber president Nicholas Paul presents WP Construction foremen Justin Legget and Jason Strongeagle with the Customer Service Award.

Paul said the nomination recognizes the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle specifically because of the impact the town has had on the downtown. By creating the pocket park on main street, and the main street planters in the summer months, our downtown green spaces are enjoyed by many.

Mayor Jerry Whiting accepted the award and thanked the community's many volunteers, business people and past councils for their diligence in keeping the town clean and inviting.

The **New Business Venture Award** is presented to a business that has been established since Jan. 1, 2012 and has demonstrated exceptional performance and growth.

Metaphysical Hub opened 3<sup>1/2</sup> years ago, and owners Jennifer Shiels and Lyndi Picard employ between five and eight staff. Their classes and services attract customers to the valley and help them on their journey of discovery and spiritual healing. They offer the services of a master Reiki practitioner, a medium, hot stone massage and spiritual healing. They also provide yoga and belly dancing lessons.

WP Construction was presented with the chamber's **Customer Service Award**. Wendell Peigan has been in business for more than 10 years and the majority of his 19 employees are from the Pasqua First Nation.

WP Construction just completed the construction of the Little Pelican Youth Lodge on the Pasqua First Nation, which is the new community youth centre. This is a \$3.5 million project to construct a 2,400 square foot building. The lodge was built with the latest technology in energy efficiency. Indigenous people are known as stewards of the land, so WP Construction felt it was necessary to send a message to the youth that energy conservation is of the utmost importance, explained Paul.

WP Construction put a float in the Canada Day parade and part of the float was an elaborate children's play house. After the parade they sold tickets on the house to raffle it off. Proceeds were donated to the youth centre. In addition to that initiative, WP Construction donated an additional \$4,000. WP Construction also provided several wooden horses for the parade. This provided an alternative to parents with young children to participate in the parade as the kids were able to ride the horses throughout the parade. All of these horses were donated to the youth group.

"As a lifelong member and resident of Pasqua First Nation, Wendell feels that it is very important to give back to the community," said Paul. "WP Construction is constantly giving donations to the many sporting activities and community activities held at Pasqua First Nation."

Dairy Queen and Kelley Mattern received the **Community Involvement Award** for ongoing support of the fire department, sports leagues, school activities and sick kids.

"What can you say about Dairy Queen," said Paul in presenting the award to the past chamber of commerce president.

A modest Mattern thanked the chamber for the recognition and added that he and other business people don't support community projects for this type of recognition.

Empire Pawn and Kody Kuhn received the **Young Entrepreneur Award**. Since opening in 2013,



Developer Bill Lindsey accepts his Lifetime Achievement Award from chamber president Nicholas Paul.

Empire Pawn has been a success and has expanded its services to include a full service gas station, scrap gold purchasing, guns and ammo sales, and a payday loan service.

Kuyhn has also organized the Empire Gun and Trade Show for the last two years.

"Kody embodies the definition of young entrepreneur," Paul said. "His business acumen is far beyond his years in age. The pawn shop and gun show have been a welcomed boost to the local economy, and provide a much needed service. Kody's strong work ethic, sense of community pride and leadership are a huge contributor in ensuring that the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle's economy remains strong and vibrant."

Based in Fort Qu'Appelle and known throughout Canada, the **Business of the Year Award** recognizes an ambassador for the Qu'Appelle Valley that provides excellence in customer service, marketing, exceptional performance, job creation and diversity in the workplace.

Duraline Medical Products Canada has been in business since 1909, relocating to Fort Qu'Appelle from Biggar eight years ago. Paul said Norm and Irene Jones and their sons Randy and Steve embody the criteria of the award.

"Norm has proven to be a mentor for other businesses and the community in general. Through his wealth of advice from his extensive experience, together with his generous donations provided to the Fort Qu'Appelle Fire Department recently, the community outreach center, the All Nations' Healing Hospital and the legion to name a few. He has also strongly supported many ventures orchestrated by the Lions.

"Norm has been providing service to the Lions club for 50 years. He has been very active with the chamber of commerce both in Biggar and Fort Qu'Appelle. He has volunteered his time and extensive knowledge in countless ways towards the betterment of our community."

A strong supporter of groups that help the disabled, Paul said Jones was instrumental in bringing Value Village to Saskatchewan and he was one of the original architects of what is now Sarcan.

In accepting the award, Jones said the business started as a hardware store and now "we've kind of gone off in a different direction," specializing in adult incontinence products and diapers.

"We kinda get a bum rap for that," he joked.

"We are so pleased to be able to be a part of what we do here and the people we are involved with."

Longtime businessman, developer, and chamber supporter Bill Lindsey was presented with a **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Paul said his "sheer commitment and dedication will live on for a long time."

Lindsey is a private general contractor who has transformed many properties around Fort Qu'Appelle into appealing and affordable residential housing. Ten or more local tradespersons are employed at any time during the development and construction of properties.

His nomination detailed that he is a long-time resident of Fort Qu'Appelle who has never been recognized for his dedication to this community. His efforts over many past years have resulted in the building of some 40 to 50 housing units throughout the town. In some instances unsightly properties were bought up and transformed into respectable, aesthetically pleasing residential units, affordably priced and attractive to seniors.

His projects represent pride within the community as well as the quality of life for the occupants of his dwellings.



Community Involvement Award recipient Dairy Queen's Kelly Mattern.

# OPINIONS

"A free press is the unsleeping guardian of every other right that free men prize; it is the most dangerous foe of tyranny . . ."  
Winston Churchill

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## Demand GTH answers

Dear Editor:

The Global Transportation Hub (GTH) land scandal stands to be one of the biggest controversies in our province's history, and amazingly it will only get the treatment taxpayers deserve thanks to a popularity contest.

The Saskatchewan Party's leadership race is showing the true colours of MLAs, some who vehemently denied that there was any wrongdoing in the GTH land scandal. The most noteworthy would be the former attorney general, Gord Wyant, who is now committing to a public inquiry into the GTH land scandal if he is elected party leader. Yet, as attorney general, didn't he have the power to call for a full inquiry into the situation? At the very least, he could have made a motion in the legislature during any of the past sittings.

While I'm glad to see some calls for

accountability by Sask Party leadership hopefuls, I have to wonder why it took this leadership race to get that accountability promise. Taxpayers deserve better from their elected officials, let alone the potential next premier of this great province.

The advantage here, though, is that maybe we can get them to come forward with even stronger commitments if elected leader. Like the highly questionable land deals on the East Side of Regina, along Tower Road and at White City.

We at whytowerroad.net have been investigating this for a long, long time. If you want answers to the many questions that have been left from the land transactions, demand them from your next potential premier.

I know I will be.

Donald Neuls,  
Coppersands

## Seniors must unite to fight gov't cuts

Dear Editor:

At this time we wish to comment on how the governing Sask Party has treated the seniors of this province since they have been in power. Our seniors worked hard to ensure Saskatchewan was a good place to live.

The first thing that happened is they increased the cost of prescriptions for seniors by \$10 per prescription. There are numerous seniors in this province who have to make a choice if they can pay for food or the prescriptions their doctor ordered for their health.

They are now stating they are going to sell off the affordable housing used by seniors on low income, especially in rural areas. This places undue stress on many as to where they could relocate to something they can afford.

In May 2017, seniors in long-term care received a letter on government letterhead that the rate for them was increasing by \$600 a month. This increase has nothing to do with level of care and the money collected goes to government, not to the building.

They have taken away the low income housing allowance that was available to those who qualified for it.

Seniors who live in rural Saskatchewan and small towns have lost their ability to travel to other centres for medical reasons with the closing of the STC bus routes. This is causing them to move from the communities they have called home, causing them to lose support in their daily lives of family and friends.

They have added the PST to any benefit life insurance plans that seniors on fixed incomes may have, which causes a financial burden to many.

It is time that seniors unite and speak up to the injustice of the government trying to lower the deficit they created on the backs of the seniors. Stand up and be counted and talk to your MLA and get them to wake up and treat with respect those who were the ones who worked so hard to make Saskatchewan the great province it is, and to stop the privatization of what we own as citizens.

Ron Monk, president,  
Saskatchewan Union  
Retirees Federation

## Gov't must assure sour gas is safe

The oil industry and rural Saskatchewan can get along.

Really, they have no choice.

Next to agriculture, oil is now the biggest player in the rural economy. Oil is also important to the success of the overall Saskatchewan economy and to dealing with the budgetary mess that saw increased taxes and service cuts in the 2017-18 budget.

But that doesn't mean the oil industry should get any special considerations when it comes public health, safety and the environment. The oil industry must comply with federal and provincial laws and regulations.

This in no way should mean restrictions preventing the industry from doing its job. There will always be points of contention — especially on the environmental front.

That may even mean putting in perspective the number of ducks who inadvertently die after landing on a oilsands sludge pond versus the numbers that die every year flying into wind turbines. After all, the greatest killer of birds is your front picture window.

But when it comes the most serious environmental concerns that relate to the health, safety and well-being of Saskatchewan people, there can be no compromise for any business or industry.

Unfortunately, the Saskatchewan Party has made a habit of allowing the industry to both dictate its own rules and even police itself.

This is the finding of a large-scale investigative report jointly conducted by the Toronto Star newspaper, Global TV and several journalism schools (including the University of Regina's) into dangers posed by hydrogen sulphide (H2S) prevalent in the oil sector.

High doses of H2S can be deadly — especially in confined spaces. In 2014, the Village of Torquay was fined by more than \$40,000 for a workplace fatality when a worker was exposed to the deadly sour gas.

The release of H2S sour gas is an occasional reality in the open spaces of the oilpatch. Usually,

### INCOME SPRINKLING



Guest  
Columnist

Murray  
Mandryk



this happens with little or no consequence. But as demonstrated by this investigative news piece, there are times when the consequences can be lethal.

The recent newspaper story noted that in October 2012, a teenager in the Oxbow area was left "gasping for breath" after suffering from H2S levels reading more than 100 parts per million. Also, 38-year-old oil and gas chemical salesman Michael Bunz died in 2014 as a result of being exposed to H2S gas in the course of his job.

That you likely haven't heard of these incidents is as puzzling as it is troubling.

After all, this is a government that has clearly taken occupational health and safety seriously — even if it has meant haranguing and embarrassing its normally supportive business base. Almost every week, we see government press releases on convictions for OH&S violations that often involve businesses such as small, local roofing companies.

Your television set is filled with ads for the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Mission Zero program that aims to prevent "all injuries — on and off the job" in "working toward zero injuries, zero fatalities, zero suffering."

We see SaskPower ads asking linemen to come home safe each night, highways ministry ads reminding us to slow to 60 km/h in orange zones, and the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) ads reminding us of the dangers of drunk driving.

What we don't see much of is a government willing to alter its position that it's OK for the economy minister and the industry itself doing its own policing on pipeline inspections or gas releases. According to the investigative report by the Toronto Star, this has very much produced performance by oil and gas companies, "including serious infractions, failed safety audits and daily H2S readings beyond provincial air quality standards."

It would seem to strongly suggest the Sask. Party government has to take a different approach to the oil industry.

We welcome your letters to the editor  
email your letters to: editor@grasslandsnews.ca

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# Grand Theatre announces 2017-18 entertainment lineup

## Submitted

The Indian Head Grand Theatre and Community Arts organization is presenting five talented and diverse shows during its 2017-18 year, including acts featuring country music, Celtic rock, a saxophone quartet, a husband-wife play, and a magician.

First up is country music artist Chris Henderson, on Friday, Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. Henderson is one of the busiest touring acts in Canadian country music. He will entertain audiences of all ages with his captivating voice, entertaining stories and songs about life.

The Derina Harvey Band is in town on Friday, Dec. 1. This Edmonton-based, East Coast-transplanted Celtic rock ensemble will provide an

entertaining and energetic night of fun. This will be a rousing Celtic experience like no other.

The Proteus Saxophone Quartet comes to The Grand on Wednesday, Feb. 14. Come spend Valentine's Day with this prestigious group that has graced audiences across Canada, the U.S. and France.

The four professional musicians will play works from the classical saxophone canon, popular tunes and modern interpretations of non-idiomatic works for the sax. If you understand this, you need to be there. The group provides a great performance for everyone, as its mission is to entertain and education the public about the wide range offered by the saxophone.

This group is also performing for elementary and high school students.

Fan favourite Tomato/Tomato — pronounced both ways — performs on Thursday, March 8, 2018. This quirky husband and wife duo from New Brunswick is a can't miss act. John and Lisa have an energetic presence and interesting set up, with Lisa multitasking on percussion instruments.

This humorous storytelling, made funnier as a couple, along with their great harmonies, makes the show shine from start to finish.

Are you a believer? The last show of the season brings in Chester Mc-

Bain: Mind Over Magic on Saturday, June 2, 2018. Chest the magician and his daughter, Jacene the mind mystic, will keep audiences captivated, fascinated and engaged. These area professionals have more than 75 years of combined experience. Be a witness to more mystery and magic at the old Grand.

You can call Lisa Horsman at 306-660-7706 or Robin Sveinbjornson at 306-660-7717 to purchase your season tickets. Although minors are welcome and encouraged to attend the first four shows, a parent or guardian must accompany them.

## PVSD grad rates among highest

### Submitted

Graduation rates in Prairie Valley School Division are among the highest in the province.

The on-time graduation rate (three years to graduate from Grade 10 to 12) for all Prairie Valley School Division students is 10 percentage points higher than the provincial average and increased from 85 per cent in 2015-16 to 86 per cent in 2016-17.

The Government of Saskatchewan released provincial graduation rate results on Sept. 22.

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students' on-time graduation rates are also more than 10 percentage points higher than the provincial average at 54 per cent for the 2016-2017 school year.

"The success of our students is a direct reflection of not only their own hard work and dedication, but that of our teachers, administrators and support staff," said Ben Grebinski, direc-

tor of education for the Prairie Valley School Division. "We set the bar high for our students and staff, and every year, they meet the challenge."

The division's overall five-year graduation rate (five years to graduate from Grade 10 to 12) stayed at 90 per cent in the 2016-2017 school year. While the First Nations, Métis and Inuit five-year graduation rate dropped slightly from 65 per cent in 2015-2016 to 64 per cent in 2016-17, the rate has increased nearly 20 percentage points over the last five years.

"This year we are developing a graduation rate team to support our students in meeting their graduation goals through our framework for student success," Grebinski explained. "We know we still have work to do to close the achievement gap and give every student the best possible opportunities, but we've come a long way and I am proud of what our students and staff have accomplished."

## File Hills police respond to lockdown at Carry the Kettle

### Submitted

File Hills First Nations Police Service and the RCMP Indian Head detachment responded to a lockdown at the school on the Carry the Kettle First Nation Oct. 2.

A student was overheard by a staff member making a comment about getting a gun and shooting people. The comment was reported to the principal and the Nakoda Oyade Education Centre immediately initiated lockdown procedures at 11 a.m..

The 16-year-old student was taken to the school's office and police were alerted. Police attended and the youth was taken into custody. The school remained on lockdown until 3 p.m. while police searched

the school and a residence in the community.

The youth cannot be identified and was to appear in youth court at Indian Head on Oct. 3 when a psychiatric assessment was to be requested.

"The youth states that it was just a bad joke, and maybe it was, however, given recent events at Lac La Loche, Edmonton and in Las Vegas, police have to treat incidents like this very seriously," said Lennard Busch, chief of police, File Hills First Nations Police Service said. "I would like to congratulate the principal, the staff and the students at the Carry the Kettle School for their quick and appropriate response in the matter."



**FORT TIMES DEADLINE**  
Tuesday noon - 1-844-GNG-NEWS



## Town of Fort Qu'Appelle

160 Company Ave., S. - P.O. Box 309 S0G 1S0

Phone: 306-332-5266

Email: [forttownoffice@sasktel.net](mailto:forttownoffice@sasktel.net)

Website: [www.fortquappelle.com](http://www.fortquappelle.com)



Valley of Festivals

## Congratulations to the Piapot First Nation

Congratulations to the Piapot First Nation for winning the 2017 Premier's Award of Excellence in Design with Kreate Architecture for the Arbour.

The arbour hosts events throughout the summer months, culminating in a Powwow gathering on the third weekend in August of each year. This gathering provides a celebration of First Nation's culture, heritage and activities; all centrally located within the arbour/powwow grounds.



2017 Premier's Awards of Excellence in Design

Award of Excellence

Category  
**ARCHITECTURE**  
Awarded to  
kreate architecture & designs ltd  
Project  
Piapot First Nation Arbour

## Council Meeting Dates

The Town of Fort Qu'Appelle next council meeting will be held on Thursday, Oct. 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Questions? Please contact the Town Office at (306) 332-5266.

## Fall Clean Up

Will be October 10 – 13, 2017, the following will be excepted;

- Tree branches • Bagged grass clippings • Garden waste

## Garbage Reminder

In order for everyone to help the Town to stay clean and tidy please put all of your garbage in a sealed garbage container. We thank you for your cooperation.



# Petitions to council call for land sales audit

## Submitted

The Concerned Citizens group that had been collecting signatures on two land matters since early August, presented its petitions to the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Oct. 2.

The petition calling for an independent audit of land sales back to 2007 has more than 750 voter signatures. Spokesman Jim Harding said this more than meets the threshold of 33.33 per cent of the population that is required under provincial legislation, to compel an independent audit.

The petition calling for the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle to create easements for residents now blocked from their homes by Abaco Energy, or who could be blocked since the town sold the adjoining land to Abaco, has more than 600 names. Harding said this is much higher than the 15 per cent of the population required to petition the Town of Fort Qu'Appelle to remedy this problem of public access.

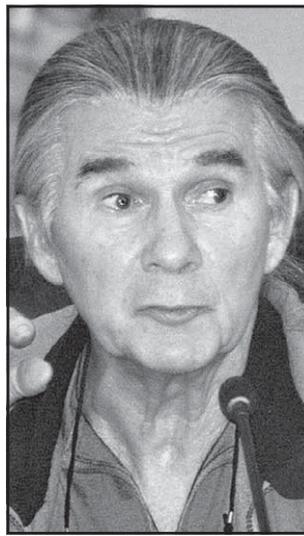
"We trust that the mayor and council will give these petitions serious attention," Harding said. "Within 30 days after the date on which it is filed, the town administrator must inform council if the petition for a financial audit is, or is not, sufficient. The audit must then be completed within 180 days

from the date the petition was received by council.

"This is a very serious matter; councillors, the mayor and CAO have all publicly admitted that some relevant documents are missing in town files. On Aug. 9 the Qu'Appelle Valley Environmental Association (QVEA) made a formal request to the town for 33 related documents."

Harding said having more than 700 Fort Qu'Appelle residents call for this independent audit is significant.

"This is a loud and clear democratic call for the town to address serious issues left from the previous council, including questions of conflict of interest, lack of public offering and fair market appraisals of land, public transparency,



JIM HARDING

adherence to municipal rules and regulations and the environmental implications of these land deals."

There is widespread concern in the community about the transfer of 17 acres of valuable land to Abaco, he said. Abaco also purchased lakeside Crown land from the Water Security Agency (WSA) without the duty to consult process being followed, and Pasqua First Nation has taken the government to court. There is concern that this land was sold without providing access easements for all affected residents, for the long-term care home and for drainage infrastructure.

For more than a year the QVEA has been raising its environmental concerns about Abaco plan to build a big-boat marina in the vulnerable marshland, at the mouth of the Qu'Appelle River. Fifty-five residents attended its Aug. 9 monthly meeting where these issues were discussed.

"It is our hope that Pasqua First Nation, Wildlife Federation, Trans-Canada Trail and local marshland owners will soon be able to work with the QVEA and the town on an alternative: a Historical Marsh Interpretive Centre.

"We believe some good can still come out of all this turmoil."

# Councillors to be paid indemnity for community events

## By Jason G. Antonio Grasslands News

Town councillors will be paid their usual stipend amount when attending committee meetings in the future, while council as a whole will be paid its regular daily indemnity when attending community events.

Councillors who are an alternate for a committee will receive the same pay if they attend for the regular member.

Councillors receive \$150 per council meeting, \$150 for attending workshops or conventions, and during committee meetings, \$150 for a full day and \$75 for a half day. Meanwhile, the mayor receives a monthly per diem of \$1,000.

Council would also decide ahead of time who would attend an event when an invitation is received.

During its September meeting, council clarified how much it receives for an indemnity and what was appropriate to claim for attending committee meetings. Councillors were concerned about what and if they should claim for attending meetings.

Mayor Jerry Whiting excluded himself from the indemnity side, saying he was under the impression his monthly stipend covers his attendance at various meetings.

There was a vague resolution sometime ago saying the mayor was to submit all his expense claims for all meetings he attends, said Gail Sloan, chief administrative office.

As for councillors, it is council's decision as to what they should receive for committee meetings, but Sloan couldn't find a policy handling this issue. She sought similar information from other communities, but found are no consistency.

"If they get asked to attend (an event), they should get paid," said Coun. Doug Blatter.

Blatter explained he usually asks Coun. Rebecca Hill to call Calling Lakes meetings with him since there is so much information presented. It helps to have two councillors taking notes so council receives a full report. He thought she should be paid for attending.

If council is invited to community meetings, it should get paid an indemnity since it's giving up its time, said Blatter. Right now it's not.

There are some meetings or events that councillors attend on their own and don't claim expenses, said Coun. Lee Finishen. But if council has been invited to attend an event — the opening of the Pasikow Muskwa Rising Bear Healing Centre, for example — it should get paid.

"Hell, if we do this for the money, we're in the wrong boat," Finishen said. "You give up a lot of your time for this."

Hill thought if attendance is only optional then councillors should not get paid. Councillors don't have to attend every event to which they're invited.

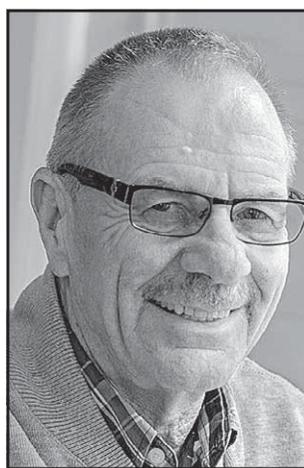
"I'm worried people will run up a bill and attend everything," she added.

Coun. Brian Casper was unsure how he felt about being paid for attending events. He pointed to a recent meeting with residents from the Okanese reserve, where five councillors spoke with only five Okanese residents about safety and protective services.

That is a "fair amount" of taxpayers' money spent to listen to such a small group, he said. He as a taxpayer wouldn't be happy with that many councillors meeting that size of group.

Instead, one councillor could attend and bring back concerns to council.

"That's where we need to have control," Casper said. "If tomorrow three guys unhappy with snow clearing rent the seniors' centre and we all go over there and pay for it, that's where the control has to



COUN. BRIAN CASPER

be."

Regular or alternate committee members should be paid regardless, said Finishen. An example of optional attendance was the three-hour hospital tour. Every councillor was invited; it gave them a better understanding of the building.

There needs to be consistency, noted Hill. She believes there needs to be a written policy so either everyone claimed or everyone did not claim.

Casper reiterated his position about some form of control being in place. If council receives an invitation, the request could go to Whiting first. He could then ask who wants to attend, thereby deciding who gets paid and who doesn't.

The Okanese meeting was known a month in advance, said Whiting. With other grey areas, councillors can be given the opportunity to attend an event or not.

**CHILD FIND SASKATCHEWAN**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
\*contribute to the safety of children in your community  
**\*call today: 1-800-513-FIND (3463)**

**ROOMS AVAILABLE NOW!**  
**Memory Lane Lodge in Grenfell has rooms available NOW!**  
Phone  
**306-697-8151**  
**or 306-697-2663**  
for details

# School divisions to buy fuel from Co-op

## Submitted

All 28 Saskatchewan school divisions have agreed to enter into a bulk fuel purchase agreement with Federated Co-operative for the 2017-18 school year, according to a Ministry of Education news release.

This agreement follows the work of the Advisory Panel on Educational Governance Renewal, where school divisions worked with the Ministry of Education to find savings to ensure available resources can be directed to the classroom.

Each year, school divisions use more than 14 million litres of fuel for student transportation. It is estimated the cost savings from this agreement will be \$1 million per year across the entire province.

"We asked school divisions to work together to find cost saving alternatives that would free up resources for classrooms and front line supports," said Education Minister Bronwyn Eyre. "These savings will help ensure resources continue to be focused on where they belong, in the classroom."

FCL is owned by Co-ops across the western provinces and works with all of Saskatchewan's local

Co-ops. This latest efficiency follows the announcement that Prairie Spirit School Division and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools have teamed up to offer bussing for the new joint-use schools in Martensville and Warman.

Saskatoon Public Schools and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools have agreed to use shared bussing where economically viable. Regina Public Schools and Regina Catholic Schools will also be working together on possible joint transportation of students in the City of Regina.

"We are really excited to see how the school divisions have come together to find savings," said Liam Choo-Foo, chief project officer for Education Governance Renewal. "This agreement is a result of their collaboration and commitment to finding these efficiencies."

Earlier this year, the Advisory Panel on Educational Governance Renewal highlighted the importance of finding efficiencies among school divisions in the areas of transportation and bulk purchasing such as fuel.

*Thank You*

A sincere thank you for your support, caring, affection and acts of kindness bestowed on us at the time of and following the death of our Son, Nephew, Cousin and Friend, Robert T. Smith (Bob, Bobby).

We are truly grateful. Bob's light will continue to burn bright in the hearts and minds of all those who knew them.

*Sincerely,*

Stan and Audrey Smith of Balcarres (Parents)  
Les and Marg Smith of Katepwa (Uncle and Aunt)  
Jeanne Smith of Balcarres (Aunt)  
Paul, Susan, Matthew, Rachelle and Stephan Smith of Abernethy (Cousins)  
Melonee, Michael, Joshua and Emma Rose of Calgary (Cousins)



# Anatomy of a fire call

By Darcy Gross  
Grasslands News

When you're a firefighter in Fort Qu'Appelle, you have to be prepared for a number of different scenarios once you get the alert that your help is required.

"When you dial 911, the call goes to an operator in Prince Albert and when they answer the phone they'll ask what kind of emergency you have, whether it's police, fire or ambulance," said Fire Chief Dave Sabirsh. "Then, they'll ship the call off to the appropriate dispatch centre. If it's for Fort Qu'Appelle, they know we have our own fire, EMS and RCMP."

If the call is for a fire, the call will stay within the P.A. call centre, because they dispatch for all the fires in rural Saskatchewan outside of Regina or Saskatoon.

"A message will come to all of our phones and once we know who is coming, we can start making a plan," Sabirsh added. "Once we get to the hall, we'll call dispatch and they'll give us more information, because they've remained on the phone with the caller taking additional information."

Having to stay on the phone causes some caller grief, due to the fact that they don't understand why they must remain on the line.

"Some people find it frustrating, with all the questions, but they're still getting more information and updates on what's happening," Sabirsh explained.

Once the firefighters show up at the hall, they're given their jobs for the fire in accordance to their own areas of expertise or experience.

"We start assigning right at the hall, who will be doing what," continued Sabirsh. "We'll also check our maps for water supply (hydrants) in town, so we can plan our route to the closest hydrant."

"When we arrive on scene we'll size up what we have to deal with and we'll start fighting the fire."

Being prepared is an important aspect of fighting fires.

"Everything has to be ready to go," added Sabirsh. "We have the department divided into three platoons. For a one month segment, one platoon will be in charge of maintenance and vehicle checks."

As the department gets the fire

under control, some personnel is sent back to the fire hall to put non-essential equipment away. Some firefighters have to stay on scene and make determinations about the blaze.

"It's our responsibility to determine the cause and origin of the fire as well, so we'll stay on the scene after the fact to try and figure that out," said Sabirsh. "Some of us are trained in investigation, but depending on the severity, we might call in additional resources."

There's no such thing as a lone wolf or individual on a fire department.

"Teamwork is a huge part of it," Sabirsh said. "You have to be able to trust the guys who are working beside, especially if you're in a burning building."

Firefighters get \$25 an hour per call and they earn it, being put in dangerous situations whenever they get any kind of call.

"Whether you're going inside a building at a structure fire, performing an ice rescue or directing traffic around an accident, you're in a dangerous spot. The important thing for us is to minimize the amount of danger we're in and still get the job done."

## Carbon Monoxide Safety



Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas. It has no odor. CO gas is poisonous. It can make a person feel sick and can be deadly. In the home, heating and cooking devices that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

### CO ALARMS

- CO alarms should be installed outside each sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. It is best to use interconnected alarms. When one sounds, all CO alarms in the home sound.
- Follow the instructions on the package to properly install the CO alarm.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month.
- Replace CO alarms according to the instructions on the package.
- Know the sounds the CO alarm makes. It will sound if CO is detected. It will make a different sound if the battery is low or if it is time to get a new CO alarm.
- If the battery is low, replace it.
- If the CO alarm sounds, you must get fresh air. Move outdoors, by an open window or near an open door. Make sure everyone in the home gets to fresh air. Call the fire department from a fresh air location. Stay there until help arrives.

### PREVENT CO POISONING

- When warming a vehicle, move it out of the garage. Do not run a fueled engine indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not blocked. Clear snow away.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- Clear all debris from dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace vents.
- A generator should be used outdoors. Use in a well-ventilated location away from windows, doors, and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO. Only use them outside.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- Open the damper when using a fireplace for adequate ventilation.
- Never use your oven or stove to heat your home.

**FACT!**

CO is called the silent killer because the gas cannot be seen or smelled. Take action to stay safe from CO poisoning.

Your Source for SAFETY Information  
NFPA NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education

## Quick facts on CO

**WHAT IT IS:** A colourless, odourless and tasteless gas.

**SIGNS:** Stuffy air, water vapour, backdraft and soot from a fireplace.

**SYMPTOMS:** Headaches, weakness, nausea, vomiting and loss of muscle control. They can be mistaken for flu symptoms.

**EFFECTS:** If inhaled, carbon monoxide deprives the blood of oxygen. Prolonged exposure can lead to unconsciousness, brain damage or death.

**CAUSES:** Blocked or dirty vents, flues, chimneys and furnaces, as well as improper ventilation of burning fireplaces or woodstoves.

**DEATHS:** Approximately 200 per year.

**SAFETY TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING**

**INSTALL** at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home.

**ENSURE** a wood or coal-burning stove is properly installed and vented.

**DON'T** operate a gasoline-powered engine, kerosene stove or charcoal grill in a closed space.

**BARBECUE** grills should never be operated indoors.

**CHECK** clothes dryer vents that open outside the house for lint.

**CHECK** forced air fans for proper ventilation.

If you suspect carbon monoxide in your home, get out immediately and call the fire department.

**GET OUT & STAY OUT**

Fire and smoke spread so quickly, the fire department may not arrive in time to save you in a fire.

When the smoke alarms sound, get out immediately and call 9-1-1 from outside. **Never** re-enter a burning building.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOME FIRE ESCAPE PLANNING.

## Fire Prevention Week

October 8-14, 2017

**KALVIN HORSMAN**

**Position:** Captain

**Years of Service:** 32 years

**RM of North Qu'Appelle**  
306-332-5202  
136 Company Ave. S., Fort Qu'Appelle

**KEVIN GURALUICK**

**Position:** Firefighter

**Years of Service:** 8 years

**Banbury Plumbing & Heating**  
306-332-1234  
842 Broadway St. E., Fort Qu'Appelle

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

**Safety Tip** Download the Monster Guard: Prepare for Emergencies mobile game to teach kids about fire safety and other disasters.

**Coles Meat, Video & Confectionary**  
306-332-1832  
140 Broadway St., Fort Qu'Appelle

**JOSH BOEHME**

**Position:** Captain

**Years of Service:** 13 years

**Resort Village of Fort San**  
306-332-5979  
136 Company Ave. S., Fort Qu'Appelle

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

**Safety Tip** Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Be sure to locate alarms outside sleeping areas.

**Fries Tallman Lumber**  
306-332-2833  
197 Victoria Ave., Fort Qu'Appelle

**SHAD GULBRANSON**

**Position:** Firefighter

**Years of Service:** 6 years

**Profile Tire**  
306-332-5444  
202 Boundary Ave. N., Fort Qu'Appelle

# Develop and practice your fire escape plan

## AT WORK:

- Do you know:
    - Your fire escape plan?
    - Your designated meeting place in the event of a fire?
    - The location of the nearest fire extinguisher?
    - The location of the nearest fire alarm station?
    - The location of the nearest two exits?
    - Who needs assistance in the event of an emergency?
- IF YOU DON'T KNOW, FIND OUT NOW**

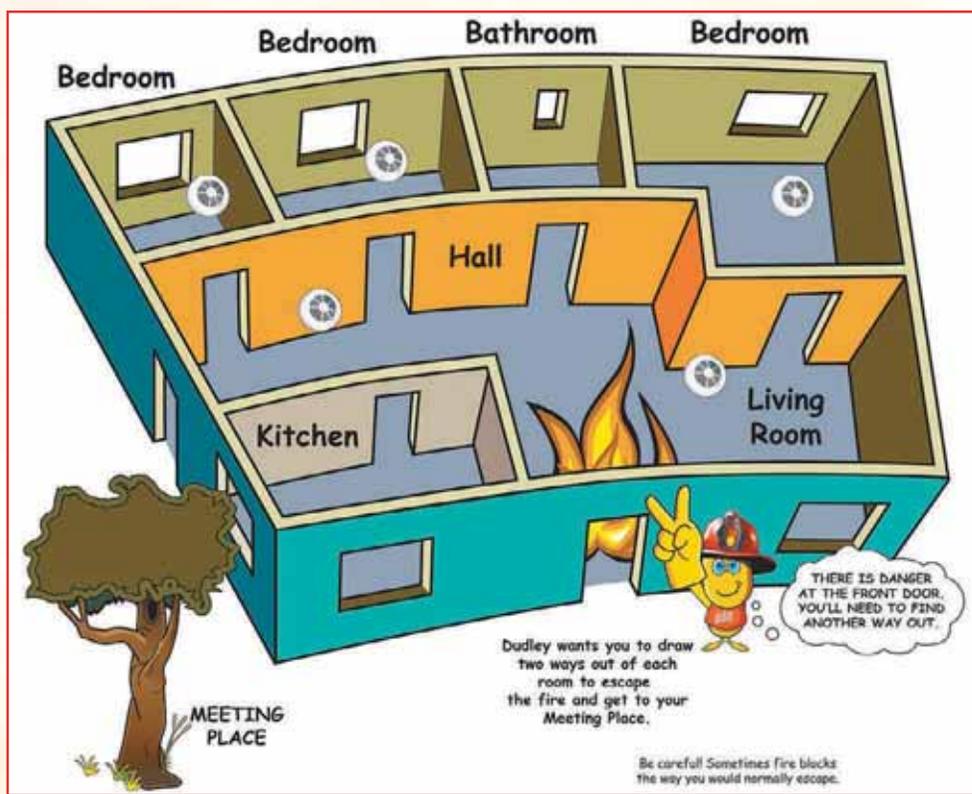
## AT HOME

Statistics reveal that 78 per cent of deaths from fire occur in the home, with most of the fatalities taking place between 2 and 4 a.m., while occupants are asleep. That is why it is critical to develop an escape plan, because one needs to react quickly since with a fire:

- The smoke is black and thick, making it impossible to see.
- There is no time for indecision; an entire home can be engulfed within five minutes.
- Most people are killed by smoke inhalation, not the flame of the fire.

## DEVELOP AND PRACTICE A FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

- Install smoke alarms on every level. Keep smoke alarms clean and dust-free, checking them monthly.
- Replace batteries yearly and alarms every 10 years.
- To be able to react quickly to fire, draw a floor plan of your home showing all possible exits from each room.
- Where possible, plan two exits: a main route and an alternate route from each room.
- Since the majority of fire deaths occur while you are sleeping, you should practice your plan at night as well, getting down on your hands and knees with a flashlight while crawling to safety.
- Heavy smoke impairs breathing, which is why staying close to the floor increases chances of escape.
- Heat and smoke rise — the air is more breathable and cooler close to the floor.
- Make certain that everyone understands that if they hear the smoke alarm, or someone shouting "FIRE," they should immediately evacuate the home.
- Designate a meeting place outside your home in the event of a fire.
- Small children unable to escape should be taught to open their windows and wave an article of clothing to attract attention. Instruct them to wait at the window



until someone comes and to never hide from the fire in places like under a bed or in a closet.

- Discuss with a fire department official whether an escape ladder would be appropriate to install.
- Sleep with doors closed. If children are frightened, parents can close doors after the children fall asleep and use a room monitor to hear them during the night.
- If awakened by a smoke alarm or a fire, instruct family members to feel the door for heat and check air at the bottom. If you don't smell smoke and the air is cool, kneel and open the door slowly, turning your face away from the opening. If smoke is present or the door is hot, use another exit.
- Purchase an A-B-C fire extinguisher, whose rating is based on the fuel: 'A' originates from a wood or paper fire, 'B' is caused by flammable liquids and 'C' is an electrical fire. Learn how to use this fire extinguisher by remembering the acronym PASS. Pull the pin, aim the extinguisher, squeeze or press the handle and sweep side to side at the base of the fire.
- If you live in an apartment building, develop your escape plan taking into account fire escape procedures provided by building management.
- Make sure your babysitter understands your fire escape plan.
- Practice Your Escape Plan: regular practice is essential so that every family member knows what to do and will be able to react quickly.
- If anyone in your home is unable to evacuate without assistance, assign someone to assist them.
- Ensure that everyone in your home knows not to re-enter.

Call the Fire Department from a neighbour's home.



Planning an escape route and a safe meeting place in case of an emergency is good fire safety practice.

- Draw a map of your home and include all doors and windows.
- Visit each room in your home and practise two ways out.
- Practise going to the designated meeting place from every room in your home.
- Push the test button on all smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Make sure all windows open easily.
- Make sure all doors fully open.
- Make sure your home or building address number can be seen from the street.
- Write the expiry date on the outside of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to know when they expire.
- Learn the emergency numbers for your community.
- Practise your HOME FIRE DRILL!

Don't forget to call 911 or your local fire department after you get to your SAFE MEETING PLACE.

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



Make sure you never overload electrical circuits. You could cause overheating that produces a fire.

**Village of Lipton**  
306-336-2505  
201 Main St., Lipton

## GERARD LAGACE

**Position:**  
Firefighter

**Years of Service:**  
16 years



**Duraline Medical Products**  
DMP 306-332-5010  
126 2nd St., Fort Qu'Appelle

## DAVE SABIRSH

**Position:**  
Fire Chief

**Years of Service:**  
28 years



**Valley Ambulance Care Ltd.**  
306-332-2800  
159 Boundary Ave., S. Fort Qu'Appelle

## JAMES TAYLOR

**Position:**  
Firefighter

**Years of Service:**  
8 years



306-332-6696  
Box 652  
Fort Qu'Appelle

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



Store matches and lighters in a safe spot, out of children's reach and teach your kids how to use 911 in an emergency.

**Tru Hardware**  
306-332-5424

302 Broadway St. E., Fort Qu'Appelle

## EVAN CECHANOWICZ

**Position:**  
Firefighter

**Years of Service:**  
6 years



**KFC**  
306-332-1888

189 Broadway St. N., Fort Qu'Appelle

# Manpower still an issue for volunteer brigade

By Darcy Gross  
Grasslands News

When Dave Sabirsh started out as a member of Fort Qu'Appelle's Fire Department 28 years ago, things were done much differently than they are today.

The department's chief for six years, Sabirsh says the main challenge remains the same as it was back when he was just a beginner.

"It's difficult to have enough manpower," Sabirsh admitted. "A lot of people who are on the department work out of town and some of the guys live out of town, so it can be difficult to get a full crew when we get a call."

The process of knowing who and how many firefighters can respond to a call has become more streamlined over Sabirsh's almost three decades with the department.

"Back when I started, everyone got a 'fire phone,' which was like a party line in your house. There were others at key locations like the town hall that had one. We also had a town siren set up," he recounted. "If you were outside and not in earshot of your fire phone, then you might hear the town siren and respond."

"What happened was, a person would take down the information and then he'd do a roll call on the



Volunteer firefighters practice regularly to be comfortable with new techniques and equipment. Photos courtesy of Fort Qu'Appelle Fire Department

phone, and if there wasn't enough guys, he'd hit a button on his phone that would set off the siren."

Technology has changed the way firefighters are called and how they respond.

"Now, we get our calls as text messages on our phone, so we don't have to be in the house," Sabirsh added. "Along with getting the text, we have an app on our phone and it gives you a choice to respond to the scene or to the fire hall."

"That registers at the fire hall, so we know exactly how many guys will be at the scene and how many are heading to the hall."

Learning new skills and working with different

equipment to fight fires has also changed the way the department goes about its own work.

"We've really expended our scope of practice," Sabirsh added. "We've also gotten into ice rescue and water rescue, along with alarm calls. All those skills require a different piece of equipment, so everyone has to train on them."

"Some guys have training in different areas and they get preference in those jobs during a call."

Continuing education means firefighters have learned new ways to deal with fires in particular.

"Back when I started, you just put the wet stuff on the red stuff," chuckled Sabirsh. "Now, there's a little more science to it. We have different extinguishing methods for different purposes."

"Fire is based on a fire triangle. One side is heat, one side is oxygen and one side is fuel. If you take away any one of those three elements, your fire will go out."

Community involvement is important to the department.

"We always do stuff for Fire Prevention Week. We always help with the Polar Bear Dip at the Fort Winter Festival and we did a Blizzard Day at the Dairy Queen to raise money for a defibrillator," Sabirsh said. "We do school tours as well, because the first step of firefighting is prevention, and that's a big part of what we do."



Serving a lakeside community, Fort Qu'Appelle firefighters practice water rescues.

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

**Safety Tip** Always use stable candle holders made of material that won't catch fire such as metal or glass.

**HUB** 122 Main St, Lipton, SK 306-336-2500

**ALISTAR WHITTINGTON**

*Position:* Firefighter  
*Years of Service:* 1 year



**OW Towing Services**  
306-331-8833  
Highway #210

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

**Safety Tip** Test Fire Alarms every Month. If a fire does occur in your home GET OUT, STAY OUT & CALL FOR HELP. - From all the staff at Valley Drug Mart

**Valley Drug Mart**  
306-332-5663  
103 Broadway St. W., Fort Qu'Appelle

**KENTON SOLVEY**

*Position:* Firefighter  
*Years of Service:* 7 years



**Parkland College**  
306-332-5416  
Sioux Ave., Fort Qu'Appelle

**JASON POLISCHUK**

*Position:* Firefighter  
*Years of Service:* 12 years



**Parkland College**  
306-332-5416  
Sioux Ave., Fort Qu'Appelle

**DAVE CARTER**

*Position:* Firefighter  
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# Scott Moe offers 'best chance' to win next election

By Jason G. Antonio  
Grasslands News

Scott Moe is one of five people attempting to become the next Sask. Party leader and premier of Saskatchewan.

Grasslands News sat down with Moe to discuss a variety of topics during his recent visit to the community.

**Candidates are calling this Sask. Party leadership contest an opportunity for change and renewal. What has Brad Wall and the party done wrong that you, as premier, would change?**

Voters will see policy matters come from each leadership candidate during the next few months, said Moe. This will be a great opportunity for the Sask. Party to frame the conversation going into the 2020 election.

"It's also an opportunity ... for the province to have a conversation on what we want our province to look like in 10 years and how we make decisions to get there," he said.

Moe had several questions in mind, including what residents want the province to look like from an export perspective; what residents want communities to look like from a population growth perspective; and what careers and industries should be targeted in the future.

**What is your vision for Saskatchewan's future?**

Moe's vision revolves around three ideas. The first is to stand up for the province's export industries. He wants to ensure they have every opportunity to expand their reach around the world.

"We export about \$30 billion worth of products to some 150-plus countries every year," said Moe. "Those are our source points of wealth."

One policy would replace the Ministry of Economy with a Ministry of Trade and Exports. A premier's council would support this minister, which would be composed of members of industry advising the premier and minister on decisions to expand the province's exports into more markets.

In top markets, there would be trade commissioners on the ground to further enhance the province's trade there.

Moe's second plank is to support families and communities through "traditional ways." He plans to unveil policies about as the leadership race continues.

His third plank is committing to a balanced budget so services are sustainable in the future.

**How would you balance the budget if Saskatchewan residents are unwilling to accept tax increases or service cuts?**

To balance the budget, you have to spend less money, invest less money, increase revenues through taxation or borrow money. Those are the options available to government, businesses and households, he said.

The government committed to balancing the budget in three years' time, he pointed out. The government made some difficult decisions. It's important to work with the residents so the budget doesn't have such a negative effect, while remaining focused on balancing the budget.

"We've always said we won't shock the economy," Moe said. "We feel, where we've had to make changes after the fact, we will make those changes. We've done that in the past."

The government must continue to work with residents and industries to ensure it finds the most manageable way through this difficult economic time, he added. Voters will hear about his economic policies soon.

**Is this leadership race just a popularity contest? Does it matter which of you is the next premier?**

It does matter who is premier, said Moe. There is an opportunity for all candidates to put forward their vision for how the next decade of this province will look. This is an important conversation for the party and the province to have.

"This leadership campaign will be the precursor for that 2020 election, when the Saskatchewan Party and others go to the people asking for their support," he added.

**Can the Sask. Party succeed as a big-tent party?**

The party has succeeded as a big tent for the last 10 years, he pointed out. Former Liberal MLAs and former Conservative MLAs formed it. It is important for the party to have these types of conversations, of how it can be an inclusive, big-tent organization.

**The government has waffled on its budget position, first cutting services and then putting them back. Do you have the spine to make the tough decisions and stick with them?**

"I wouldn't refer to it as waffling," said Moe. "There



“It's also an opportunity ... for the province to have a conversation on what we want our province to look like in 10 years and how we make decisions to get there.”  
Scott Moe, Sask. Party leadership candidate

were significant decisions made this past budget due to a drop in natural resource revenues.”

Some of those decisions had negative effects on people, communities and industries. The government has to have an ongoing conversation with those groups about if the effects are larger than forecasted. It's important for the government to have the ability to change, whether it's taxation or services.

The goal is to get back to a balanced budget, Moe added. This is a possibility that other provinces don't have.

**Do you support the idea of selling long-term care homes?**

A conversation needs to happen, not just with seniors' housing, but all housing the government owns across Saskatchewan, said Moe. The conversation needs to focus on if they are being used for what they were created to be.

There are a number of long-term care homes and Sask. Housing Authority homes in Moe's constituency. Some are used as seniors' residences, however, that focus changes in other communities. There needs to be an open, inclusive conversation between Sask. Housing and the communities about this issue.

"It's important for us to take input from those individuals affected or through the community indirectly," Moe said. "Each one of these will be an individual conversation."

**Selling off long-term care homes, STC and Crown corporations seem like money grabs. What's your long-term plan for sustainability?**

"Some of them are not money grabs because some of them are actually money losers," Moe said. "We have had to make some challenging decisions this past year. STC is an example of one of those decisions."

Throughout the province, the general consensus has been the four main Crown corporations are Saskatchewan-owned and should remain so. People have invested in them over the years.

**What are your plans to support small businesses?**

There will be policies about this coming out within the next few weeks and months, said Moe.

However, he noted Saskatchewan's wealth is its exports, whether agriculture or manufacturing. These exports generate income. There are 43,000 small businesses in the province. They participate in that export wealth directly or indirectly through goods and services offered.

The Sask. Party reduced the corporate income tax rate, he said. What's important is the regulatory environment is positive right now. Meanwhile, this is a challenging time across the country, particularly with the federal government's proposed corporate income tax changes.

"We will stand and represent small businesses (and) families in our communities when needed," he

said. "What we need is an environment where these businesses are able to flourish and expand."

**Does Saskatchewan have the necessary public infrastructure, such as schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, to create the environment businesses need to operate and help boost the province's productivity?**

Whether the infrastructure is schools, hospitals, recreation, transportation or highways, the government has invested heavily in all of them since 2007, said Moe. There was an infrastructure deficit when the Sask. Party took office.

The provincial government laid the groundwork to expand the economy, which led to expanded businesses. This resulted in a population increase.

"Our growth agenda worked in the last decade. It resulted in more infrastructure," said Moe.

Communities saw investments in infrastructure. There have been new schools, hospitals and long-term care homes, he continued. The government also invested in people; there are more doctors, nurses and specialists than when it took office.

**Will you demand an inquiry into the GTH/Regina bypass land scandal? Why not just force Premier Brad Wall to do it now?**

The bypass as an infrastructure project should be separated from the Global Transportation Hub in this conversation, Moe said. There are questions around conflict of interest with the GTH. Those were deferred to the conflict of interest commissioner.

All possible information was provided to the commissioner for her investigation and final audit, he explained. She provided her opinion on the land transfers at the GTH.

"There is an investigation with the RCMP. It would be prudent to allow them to make their decisions around their investigation prior to any decisions that would be made with public inquiry or forensic audit," said Moe. "I would allow the RCMP to do their work. But I wouldn't preclude that there may or may not be further action if it's required."

**Why not just force Brad Wall to do something now?**

A forensic audit or inquiry wouldn't happen when the RCMP is still investigating, said Moe. It's important for RCMP to finish its work and come to its conclusions before next steps are taken.

**Would you create a Heritage Savings Trust Fund for Saskatchewan similar to Alberta's or Norway's?**

The province asked Peter McKinnon to create a study of what it could do, said Moe. He recommended a futures fund.

Meanwhile, the province has invested heavily in infrastructure the last decade, along with people and services. The province also reduced taxes. All of this has been received well by families across the province.

"We are an export-related economy," he said. "We should continue to have a conversation about a savings account. When our commodities are in a stronger market, it's a discussion we should have as a government on behalf of people across the province."

**What is your plan to support municipal infrastructure renewal with predictable funding?**

The province has a predictable funding model with municipal revenue sharing. The rest of the country looks at it favourably, said Moe. It is stable, predictable and substantial, for rural and urban municipalities.

The government participated with its share of capital infrastructure through Crown corporations, such as SaskWater. Melville-Saltcoats MLA Warren Kaeding and Moe worked with SaskWater on Melville's water projects.

"There has been tremendous support for, not only stable and predictable funding, but also for additional support for capital infrastructure across the province," said Moe. "Whether it's rinks or pools, or water and wastewater, or transportation infrastructure, so we can commute between our communities and export out of our province."

**Would you keep the PST at one per cent for revenue sharing?**

"I think it's been a good model for municipalities, with stable and predictable funding they have access to," said Moe. "It's also been a good model for the government of Saskatchewan. We've had the opportunity to know, out into the next year, what our municipalities will be receiving and where it's coming."

**Why do you want to be premier?**

"We think our team has the best chance of being successful in that 2020 election," said Moe. "We'll be putting forward policy initiatives that we're fully prepared to run on. We'll put forward our vision of what Saskatchewan will look like a decade into the future."



# Sports

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It was that kind of a night for the Bert Fox Bison in high school football action at home against their Indian Head rivals. Bisons ball carriers were either smothered by the Broncos defence...



... or they couldn't quite get a grip on their opponents. The Sept. 29 game under the lights was a 62-6 blowout for the visitors. Photos by George Brown

## Chiefs double Knox in PJHL season opener

Fort Knox kicked off their Prairie Junior Hockey League season Sept. 30 and came out on the short end of the score in their first home game.

The Delisle Chiefs scored three the game's first three markers and cruised to a 4-2 triumph in the season opener for both hockey clubs at the Fort Qu'Appelle Rexentre.

Goals by Levi Morin and Jarrett Metheral got the Knox to within a goal but the Chiefs tacked on one more marker to salt it away.

Tyler Stratechuk, Brennan Wilson and Andrew Hulbert each notched an assist in the loss.

The Knox outshot the Chiefs 36-35 with Jakob Taylor taking the loss for Fort Qu'Appelle.

Delisle had one power-play marker while the Knox took six of the game's nine minor infractions, including five in a row in a seven-minute span in the final frame.

Next action for the Fort Knox is at 8 p.m. on Oct. 10 when the Pilot Butte Storm provide the opposition.

Fort Knox players Andrew Hulbert (91) and Logan Leslie (4) help guard the goal in their PJHL home opener against the Delisle Chiefs on Sept. 30. The Knox lost 4-2. Photo by George Brown



## Teams take backseat to NBA's Cavs, Warriors

For the last three NBA seasons, the two teams that hooked up for the aptly shaped championship trophy were the Golden State Warriors and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Last season, the Warriors, led by Steph Curry, bounced the champs from the previous year in the final series and the way the off-season is looking so far, these teams could hook up in yet another final.

I have no problem with dynasties in any sport, but when the top free agents or players looking for a new home are only interested in playing for one of these teams or the other, I lose interest.

In the last off-season, it was Golden State who walked away with the top prize: Kevin Durant.

Durant was a monster in the playoffs and certainly helped the Warriors get to the top of the heap, and I understand that guys want to win a championship, but seriously, why join a team already full of superstars?

This time around, Dwyane Wade, who invited his pal LeBron James down to South beach to play for the Miami Heat some seasons ago, has had his contract bought out in Chicago so he can rejoin LeBron in Cleveland and play with the Cavs.

The Cavs lost one of their superstars in Kyrie Irving, who seemingly wanted to get out of LeBron's shadow, but they traded him for Isaiah Thomas, an up-and-comer with a ton of talent.

Where, a typical non-serious basketball fan such as I might ask, does this leave the rest of the NBA?

The answer so far is: in the dust.

I don't want to say that there aren't any other good teams in the NBA, because cases could be made for a couple out of the West; the San Antonio Spurs and the Houston Rockets spring to mind immediately.

My question, with all the love-ins with players in respect to the Warriors and the Cavaliers, when did superstars in any sport decide to join other superstars to win titles?

Back in the day, no one ever questioned Bill Russell playing for the Boston Celtics, and Wilt Chamberlain suiting up for the Los Angeles Lakers.

No one ever had to wonder why Larry Bird and Magic Johnson didn't join forces to dominate the rest of the league and nobody ever expected Dr. J., Julius Erving, to play for any team that wasn't based in Philadelphia.

In baseball, it would have been sacrilege for Ted Williams to join the New York Yankees or for the Bronx Bombers to attempt to lure him away from the Boston Red Sox.

In the NHL, Wayne Gretzky left Edmonton for greener pastures in Los Angeles and Mark Messier decided to take his act to the Big Apple and bring a championship back to the Rangers.

In those leagues, there wasn't any of this funny business that turns two teams into clubs with all-star rosters while the rest of the league keeps adding guys in an attempt to keep up.

Whatever happened to a guy wanting to help the team that drafted him, was loyal to him, and gave him a huge payday for signing on the dotted line instead of bolting to a team laden with stars?

Does it show how basketball players are more team-oriented than those who play other sports, or does it show that guys don't care what it takes to win?

The Cavaliers know all about the chemistry D. Wade and King James have from the two playing — and winning — with the Miami Heat.

Whether they can capture lightning in a bottle and compete with an already stacked Warriors team remains to be seen.

Doesn't there come a time when fans get fed up with their teams' also-ran status and throw their hands up and walk away from the game? Is it enough to make the playoffs every year, when there isn't much of a chance to win a championship?

I can't say for certain, but as it sits, it's looking like Golden State and Cleveland in the final once again, based on the teams' personnel, anyway.

Does a team like the Toronto Raptors have any chance to play in a final with the players they have now, or will their top guys seek an exit to join one of the super teams at some point?

Much like many lament about a basketball game, the first 45 minutes are meaningless and all the action happens in the final three, is there any point in watching a season where the same two teams are going to line up in the final once again?

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Written objections to the granting of the permit may be filed with SLGA not more than two weeks from the date of publication of this notice.

Every person filing a written objection with SLGA shall state their name, address and telephone number in printed form, as well as the grounds for the objection(s). Petitions must name a contact person, state grounds and be legible. Each signatory to the petition and the contact person must provide an address and telephone number. Frivolous, vexatious or competition-based objections within the beverage alcohol industry may not be considered, and may be rejected by the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Licensing Commission, who may refuse to hold a hearing.

Write to: Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, P.O. Box 5054, Regina, SK S4P 3M3. 37-2c

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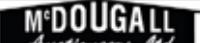
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# Clowns Who Care entertain with tricks and stories

By **JUDY HERSHMILLER**  
Balcarres Correspondent

## Balcarres Integrated Care Centre News

On Sept. 25 residents gathered in the Activity Room for a singalong time with Linda Bray, who came in to play the piano. It was a fun-filled musical morning. In the afternoon, Clowns Who Care from Regina visited the centre and entertained the residents and visitors with their tricks, stories and songs.

Games of OKO were enjoyed in the morning of Sept. 26. In the afternoon the Alzheimer Bingo was played, with proceeds raised going to the Alzheimer Society. Straightline winners were Mary Veirling, Debbie Bayerle, Mike Piasta, Allen Hasenfratz and Bill Thompson. Don Hershmillier won the picture frame game and Bill Thompson won the letter H game. Debbie Bayerle and Margaret O'Kell won the blackout. A big thank you to all who came to support this bingo.

Horse races games were enjoyed on Thursday morning.

In-house activities took place Friday and over the weekend.

Work is progressing on replacing the shingles on the centre. It is a large roof and the crew have spent long hours on the project, which is about half complete.

## Balcarres Extended Care Centre News

Max Sabeti, owner, from the Calgary area, came to visit residents and staff and stayed several days.

June Betham enjoyed a visit with her friend Bev Desnomie of Moose Jaw on Sept. 30, and during the week with her son Tim. She went out with son Jim on Sunday for a family afternoon and supper that also included family photos.

Joe Englot went out this week with his scooter, and also with his son Mark to the farm at Abernethy to visit the family.

Jozsef Hegyi enjoyed a visit with his brother-in-law Ken and sister Liz on Sept. 25.

Tom Kirk welcomed a visit with niece Heather Bridges of Saskatoon on Sept. 30.

Nora Nakonechny enjoyed going out with her niece Monica on Sept. 27.

Elsie Pekrul also enjoyed going out with Nora's niece, Monica, on Sept. 27 and during the week had a nice visit with her brother, Ervin Baber, and another day with her nephew Scott Baber.

Mina Stueck enjoyed a visit with her daughter, Lenore Hammers of Sylvan Lake, Alta. She has also been sitting out at the emergency entrance where it is sunny and warm and she can watch the school buses and kids in their activities at Balcarres Community School.

Isabel Warmke enjoyed several visits this week with Bruce and Cheryl Caughlin.

Dorothy Wilkes has been busy lately knitting her great granddaughter Charlie a blanket. She also enjoyed a visit with her son Brian on Sept. 30.

## Balcarres Community Coming Events

From Oct. 13 to 15 a hockey school takes

place in the Centennial Arena. This is an excellent opportunity to get into shape for the up-coming hockey season. Contact Craig 306-334-2566 for more information or to register.

There will be an announcement about Hockey Day in Saskatchewan at the rink on Oct. 14 at 1 p.m. Hockey Day in Saskatchewan will be held from Jan. 19 to 21. Details will follow. This will be an exciting weekend.

On Friday, Oct. 13 Soup and Sandwich Day will be served at the Golden Age Centre from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone welcome. Adults, \$8; pre-school, free.

On Thursday, Oct. 19 Family Game Night will be held at Balcarres Community School from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome and bring a friend.

Balcarres Lioness Club are bringing a Talent Night at the Lions Town Hall on Friday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. All talents of all ages are wel-

come to participate. To participate you may do so on Facebook or contact Katie Henry at 306-581-8615 or katiehenry@gmail.com or Rebecca.holden16@gmail.com or Amanda Dixon at stilly\_@hotmail.com. Admission for adults, \$10; students, \$5; children aged six and under free. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy an evening of entertainment.

On Friday, Oct. 20 the Bison football team will play a game at Bert Fox Community High School in Fort Qu'Appelle at 4 p.m. There are Balcarres students on this team and proceed from the game will be going to breast cancer research.

## NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT OF POLL

Rural Municipality of North Qu'Appelle No. 187  
By-Elections 2017  
(Form 77 of The Act)

Whereas **Lee Carlson**, Nominated for the office of Reeve, was the only candidate, I hereby give notice that no voting for the office will take place on Wednesday, November 1, 2017.

Dated at Fort Qu'Appelle, this 28th day of September, 2017.

*Marcy Johnson, Returning Officer*

## Notice of Nominations for Members of Area Authority

The Egg Lake Conservation and Development Area. No. 93

### Public Notice

is hereby given that for a period of fourteen days after the date stated hereunder, I will accept duly completed written nominations of owners or occupants of land in the area for membership of the area authority. The number of vacancies to be filled is 3 and forms of nomination papers may be obtained from the undersigned.

Completed nomination papers may be mailed to P.O. Box 44, Balgonie, SK S0G 0E0 or delivered to me.

Date of commencement of the fourteen day period: 6th day of October, 2017.

Dated at Balgonie, Sask. this 5th day of October, 2017.

*Edith Selzer, Returning Officer*

38-1c

## NEED AN AUCTION?

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## Obituary



**MILLER**  
**Florence Elizabeth**  
October 9, 1922  
– August 3, 2017

She has achieved success who has "lived well, laughed often and loved much".

On Aug. 3, 2017, in Pent- icton, B.C., Florence looked beyond her life of almost 95 years, and went to her eternal home.

Saskatchewan was her home for 75 years and she never lost sight of her prairie roots and spirit. Her love of life and people touched the lives of all who knew her.

Well loved for her humour, generous spirit, a thoughtful and devoted friend, and a never-ending ability to be content in all circumstances, Florence resided for the past 20 years in B.C.'s Okanagan Valley. She enjoyed 18 years of independent living in Pent- icton, followed by two years of assisted living in Summer- land.

Florentine Elizabeth Hepting was born in Lipton, SK on Oct. 9, 1922. She married William Frederich Miller and they were blessed with almost 51 years of marriage and five children. They worked together at farming and business in the Lipton district.

Florence had a myriad of interests and because of this she was an exceptional conversationalist. She enjoyed various church and ladies' groups, politics, music, sports and travel.

She loved sharing her preserving, cooking and baking, sewing and hand- work talents and was highly respected in her matriarchal position in the Miller and Hepting families.

Many lasting and valued relationships were cultivated at her kitchen table with the good people of the Prairies and British Columbia.

After valiant efforts, Bill passed away in June, 1993; her eldest son, Garry, in Jan. of 2015 and daughter-in-law, Linda in March of 2005. Florence's long life surpassed her and Bill's parents and siblings.

Left to cherish Florence's life is Garry's wife, **Judy** of Regina, SK.; son, **Lloyd** (Dene) of Winnipeg, MB; son, **Douglas** of Winnipeg, MB; daughter, **Denise** (Dave) Nielson of Peachland, B.C.; and son, **Gregory** (Laura) of Penticton, B.C. Five granddaughters; **Daina** (Dean) Gagne, **Pamela** (Ed) Johnson all of Winnipeg, MB; **Miranda** (Jeff) Duggan of Kenora, ON; **Sheena** (Leland) Clarke of Salt Spring Island, B.C.; and **Cherise** (Jady) Lowe of Calgary, AB. Four grandsons; **Ashley** of Winnipeg, MB; **Tyson** (Alex) Nielson of West Kelowna, B.C. and **Brendan** of Kelowna, B.C. She was further blessed with 12 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, numerous nieces, nephews, special cousins and friends that will forever hold her memory.

Florence's lifetime love and passion for beautiful natural or man-made landscapes, trees and shrubs, growing flowers and plants, fruits and vegetables culminated with her countless hours of volunteer work at the Summerland Ornamental Gardens.

If so desired, family and friends may contribute a gift to The Gardens to keep Florence's memory lasting for hundreds of future visitors to enjoy, (Summerland-Gardens.org), or to a charity of one's choice.

A celebration of Florence's life will take place at "Home," in Lipton, at the Living Christ Lutheran Church, on **Oct. 14th, 2017, at 2 p.m.** She will join Bill at the Lipton Memorial Cemetery with a social gathering to follow at the Lipton Seniors' Centre.

**She Lived Well, She Laughed Often and She Loved Much.**

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The hours of work vary between elections, but increase significantly in the year leading up to an election.

To qualify as a returning officer, you must be a Canadian citizen, at least 18 years old, and live in the federal riding where you're applying to work.

To find out more about the role of a returning officer and how to apply, go to elections.ca and click on Employment or call 1-800-463-6868.

**The online application will be available from September 22 to November 10, 2017.**

**Ready to vote**

Elections Canada is an independent body set up by Parliament to conduct federal elections, by-elections and referendums.



# Survivors allow their memories to become ours

By Connie Schwalm  
Special to Grasslands News

Among the many stories that have emerged from the residential school experiences of Canada's First Nations people, the story that led to the creation of Orange Shirt Day bears a particular poignancy. Even though this story comes out of one woman's memories, there is much about the story that might feel familiar to anyone.

For example, no matter what colour the skin is that you happen to live in, any one of us can recognize the innocent excitement that a small child feels when they step into something new. Some of us might even remember the adventure that was our "first day of school." There are a few of us who can still taste the wide-eyed anticipation that flavored the days leading up to that adventure.

Maybe you can even remember the clothing that you wore that day.

But right here...is the place where the connections might...snap.

Unless you were among the children whose "adventure" took them through the door of an Indian residential school; you will not know what it feels like to have your identity stripped away. You will not understand the hurt and confusion that comes from being told that all you have ever known as 'right' is now 'wrong'.

You will not know the fear of suddenly realizing that you have stepped into a place — where who you are doesn't matter.

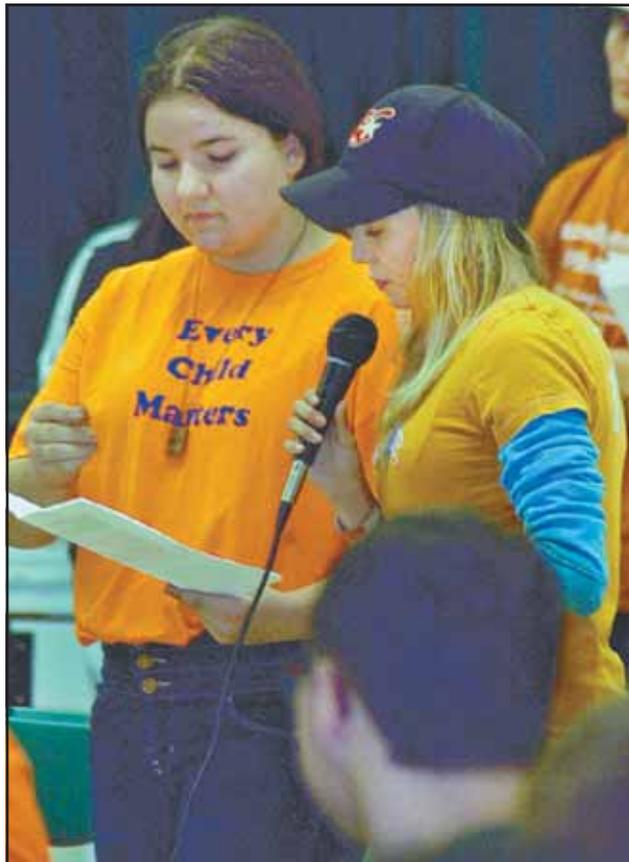
Orange Shirt Day was created in the hope that these connections could become possible

Sheena Koops, a teacher at Bert Fox Community High School, explains that those connections begin with an understanding of what the residential schools were within the context of the treaties.

"I see things through treaties," Koops says. "The treaties were supposed to be about all of us walking together. They were meant to be about all of us being one and sharing the land. The treaties were about kinship. This was the First Nations philosophy that they brought to the treaties when they signed. This was the 'beautiful vision.'"

"Residential schools are the pinnacle of all the promises that were broken. They were the places where that beautiful vision was lost. Nobody ever signed up for that."

Koops points out that acknowledging what happened through initiatives such as Orange Shirt Day can allow First Nations students to understand a history that may still be impacting them today, and open up an opportunity for healing.



**Bert Fox students speak about what Orange Shirt Day means to them at a special assembly held at the school Sept. 29.**

Photo by Connie Schwalm  
Special to Grasslands News

"Learning about what happened is the 'truth' side of 'Truth and Reconciliation.' Approximately 60 to 70 per cent of the students here are First Nations. Many of them have had personal experience with the inter-generational trauma that came out of the residential schools. That old wound might be something that they might have to deal with every day. Knowing what happened — knowing why — has to be healing on some level."

"And for First Nations students, seeing non-indigenous people joining with them to acknowledge what happened is so important. It's about more than simply hearing 'I'm sorry'. It's about finding ways that all of us can work together to make a better future."

For younger students, the connections are

“Residential schools are the pinnacle of all the promises that were broken.”  
Sheena Koops, a teacher at Bert Fox Community High School

made through what they learn during Orange Shirt Day are formed at an even deeper level.

"When we talk to younger students about the residential schools, we are very careful that the things they hear are age-appropriate. But, it's amazing how little kids just 'get it.'" said Sandy Pinay-Schindler, principal at Fort Qu'Appelle Elementary Community School.

"I did some activities with the Grade 3 kids for example. We talked about what the first day of school was like for them. Then, we talked about what it would be like to be the little girl in the story about the Orange Shirt. They asked some very good questions. One student wanted to know if the little girl ever got her shirt back. Other students asked about what kind of food the children at the residential schools ate. Some wanted to know why they couldn't go home and be with their parents at night. You can really see empathy in questions like that."

Pinay-Schindler has heard the objections some make about initiatives such as Orange Shirt Day.

"I've heard people ask, 'Why can't you just get over it?' Justice Murray Sinclair came up with a very good answer for that. He likened it to Remembrance Day. Remembering is necessary for healing. If we are going to work together to break the patterns of oppression, we have to know what those patterns look like."

The analogy is fitting.

Wounds leave scars, no matter whether they are inflicted on a battlefield, or inside of a place that should be much safer. And the divisions that those scars have been can only ever be healed; if we allow the truth about Canada's Indian residential schools to become our truth.

The story of the Orange Shirt may be one woman's memories.

But the future that can be created if we allow those memories to become part of our story belongs to our children.



## FINANCE MANAGER

Nestled in the scenic Qu'Appelle Valley and approximately 75 kilometres north east of Regina, Fort Qu'Appelle is a progressive Saskatchewan community of over 2000 people.

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RE: Town of Fort Qu'Appelle, SK Finance Manager Competition

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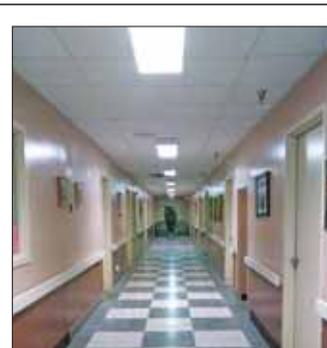


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