December 2015

SAASE News

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions

www.saase.ca

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SAASE Convention - Nipawin 2016

The 2016 SAASE Convention and Annual Meeting will be taking place in Nipawin from February 26 - 27 - hosted by the Nipawin Exhibition. "We're all in this Together", and we are going to have the opportunity to share ideas and to find out what is working in communities and where we have challenges. It doesn't matter where we are located and what events we run - our challenges are similar, and we can all benefit from finding out what other Agricultural Societies are doing.

The convention sessions will take place at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, which is located at 328 1st Ave E. in Nipawin. This is a great location, as our host hotel is the Tobin Lake Motel, which is located right across the street.

The rate for a Standard Room with 2 Queen beds is $84/night + taxes. To book your rooms call - 306-862-4681 or toll-free - 1-877-667-4681. Their email address is info@tobinlakemotel.ca, and their website is www.tobinlakemotel.ca. When you call to book your room let them know that you are with the SAASE Convention. Make sure that you book your room before January 27th, as they

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President's Message: Vern Bexson

Hey all - it has been a very busy and beautiful fall as harvest has finished up and the weather has just been great. We are now full into the Christmas Season and I hope that everyone has a very merry and safe holiday season. The SAASE Board continues to be very busy, as we work on moving SAASE forward. The 2016 convention is coming up in Nipawin, we have an excellent program and a new major partner with Peavey Mart. We hope everyone makes an effort to attend this year's convention.

The Food for Saskatchewan-Food for the World provincial agricultural education program and Provincial Safety day programs continue to evolve as they each grow with the development of new partnerships. They made stops at both the Harvest Showdown in Yorkton and Canadian Western Agribition, where thousands of children learned about agriculture. I would certainly encourage any Agricultural Society that wants a great educational display to talk to the office and get it scheduled for next year. There will be an exciting announcement regarding a new partner in the program at this year's convention in Nipawin.

As we wrapped up our safety day program in Moose Jaw, a huge thanks goes out to all of our Agricultural Societies who hosted Safety Days this year. It is because of you that our Safety day program has become one of the biggest and best in Canada. Working with youth has always been a priority of our Agricultural Societies and this great program is just another way that our Agricultural Societies continue to show leadership within our communities. Thanks to all of our partners on the program for continuing to show their support - the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, SaskPower, Progressive Agriculture, Community Initiatives Fund (CIF), and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. We were also fortunate enough to work with Farm Credit Canada, ADM, Enbridge and Monsanto on a number of safety days. If you are not hosting a safety day and are interested give Glen a call at the office.

The Venture Project program continues to be a source of seed money to help get new events off the ground or to help redevelop existing events. At this year's convention in Nipawin we will be exchanging all kinds of ideas on events that are working - if there is an idea for a new event for your Ag Society, the Venture Project Program is there to help you out.

SAASE members have accessed money for small capital projects and events through the Community Investment Fund's (CIF) various programs. Our members have been approved and have received more than $500,000 in the last number of years to help out with programming, as well as to upgrade your facilities. The final deadline is October 1, 2016. If you have a project - talk to Glen if you have any questions on the project or the program.

Our convention will be happening in Nipawin - February 26 - 27. The Board has been working hard on the program - take a look at the article in the newsletter - the tentative schedule has been set. The Awards Luncheon will be taking place on Saturday the 27th at 12 noon. Our volunteers are what make our organizations successful and communities great places to live. Make sure you nominate a deserving volunteer to our awards program. The judging and board governance workshops will take place on the Friday during the day. Make sure you register in advance if you are planning to attend. A big thanks to Peavey Mart for partnering on the convention and presenting Liz Roberts - our keynote speaker. The convention is a great time to network and learn. I hope you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Vern Bexson - President

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions Inc.

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SAASE Newsletter is printed quarterly and mailed on the last day of February, May, August and November. Additional copies are available from SAASE Office.

Contributions to SAASE Newsletter are welcome and will be included as space allows.

The SAASE Office is located in the Canada Centre complex at EVRAZ Place (Regina Exhibition Park) grounds, next door to the Saskatchewan Livestock Association office on the 2nd floor. Visitors are always welcome—give Glen a call at 565-2121 and drop in.

will be only holding our room block until then.

On Friday there will be 2 workshops taking place before the convention opens for registration at 5 pm. There have been numerous requests for judges this past year, and as a result SAASE will be offering a train the trainer judges workshop. The workshop will give you insight into the resources that you have in your area that you can use to help judge at your events. A number of different judges in different disciplines will lead round table discussions on how you can use the resources and people that you already have in your community and surrounding area to help you out with judging at your fair. The workshop will begin at 9 am in the Nipawin Royal Canadian Legion Hall and will finish up around noon for lunch.

The second workshop we are offering is on bylaws and board governance. Tim Carson did a presentation at the SAASE convention last year in Moose Jaw, and it was decided by the membership that Tim should come to Nipawin and put together a longer workshop. Lisa Hardy from the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies will be helping him out. Join us for lunch at noon and then we will get into the workshop in the afternoon. Once again this workshop is free but you must register before.

The workshops will finish up around 4:30 in the afternoon, giving those attending an opportunity to get ready for registration taking place at 5:00. Make sure you bring your silent auction items and cheque book - on top of getting some great deals you will once again be supporting the SAASE scholarship program.

Royal Canadian Legion Hall - location of the SAASE Convention

Friday night will start with the SAASE business meeting followed by supper. After supper we have this year's Venture Project reports followed by great ideas. This is going to give us all an opportunity to hear some Great Ideas that worked for other Agricultural Societies this past year, and see which ones we may be able to use in our own communities. Many times the best part of conventions is the networking and what we can learn from each other. We are going to discuss the Venture Project program - where it is going, as well as the opportunities that are available to your Agricultural Society through the program.

The night will then finish off with the Nipawin Exhibition hosting all of us. They have some great plans and we know that everyone will have a good time. With the location of the Tobin Lake Motel right across the street from the Royal Canadian Legion if you have too good of a time you just have to walk across the street.

Saturday will open up with breakfast at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall at 8:30 and then we will move into our day. Peavey Mart is presenting our keynote speaker - Liz Roberts from Liz Roberts and Associates. Liz will be speaking on community development and the roles that our Agricultural Societies play in our communities. Liz has had extensive experience with Agricultural Societies and community development and will lead us through an entertaining and educational community development workshop.

After the workshop we will break into round table discussions lead by industry experts on a wide variety of topics. Topics will include insurance, liquor/security, youth, and volunteers. The round table discussions are meant to be informative through the sharing of information on what other Agricultural Societies are doing, as well as suggestions and discussion

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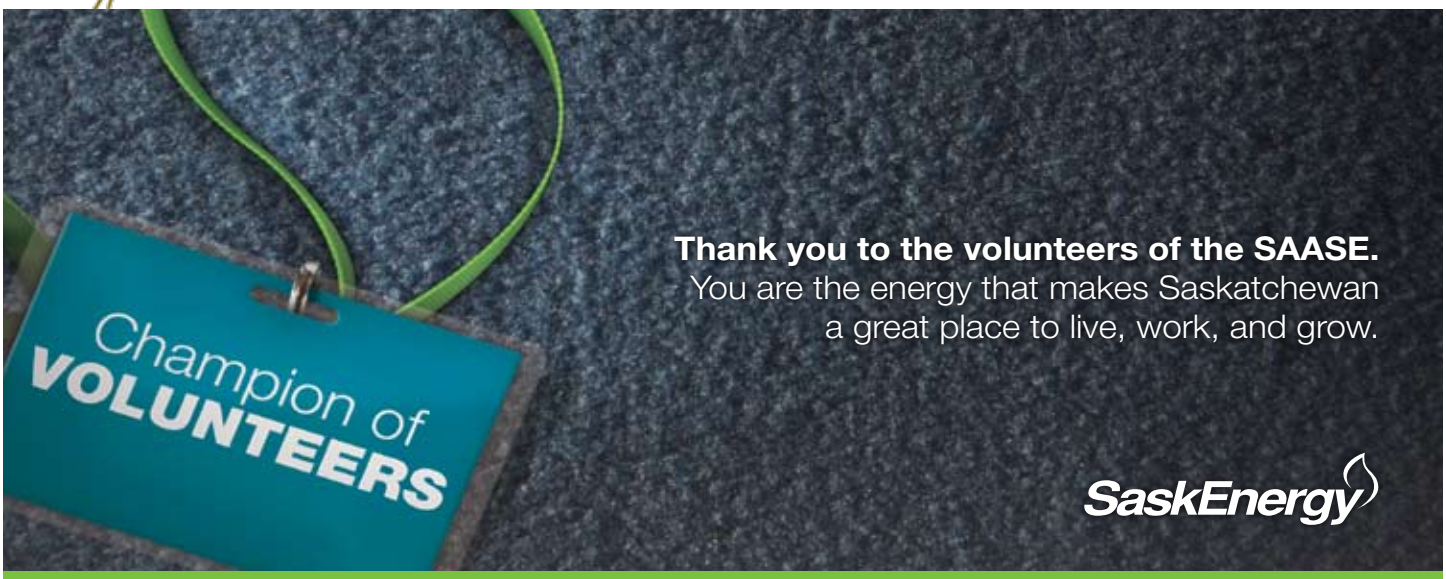

from the round table leaders.

The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards luncheon - recognizing our outstanding volunteers will then take place. Make sure that you nominate those special volunteers that have helped make your Agricultural Society the great organization it is. We have 4 categories - Volunteer of the Year, Honorary Life Member, Achievement of the Year and Agricultural Society Anniversaries. Applications have been sent out. After lunch we will continue with the round table discussions. An update on SAASE`s programming, including our Provincial Safety Day Program, as well as opportunities that are available will be given.

The convention will finish up with the annual meeting and election of the new board members. If you are interested in running for the SAASE board give Glen a call at the SAASE office. We are all in this together, and when we talk to other Agricultural Societies we realize that we all have common challenges, and by networking with those other Agricultural Societies we can come up with solutions. This year's SAASE convention will be a great opportunity to network and meet other volunteers who have the same issues. Join us in Nipawin as the Nipawin Exhibition rolls out the red carpet for the 2016 SAASE Convention and Annual Meeting.

2016 SAASE Convention
Tentative Schedule
All Sessions at the Nipawin Royal Canadian Legion Hall
Friday, February 26, 2016

9:00 am	Train the Trainer Judging Workshop (workshop is free, but you must register).
12 noon	Lunch
12:30 pm	Bylaws/Board Governance Workshop (workshop is free, but you must register).
5:00 pm	Convention Registration - Royal Canadian Legion Hall Receive Silent Auction Items
6:00 pm	SAASE Business Session Silent Auction Opens
6:30 pm	Supper - Cash bar
7:30 pm	Venture Project Presentations
8:00 pm	Great Ideas
8:30 pm	Nipawin Exhibition Host Evening

Saturday, February 27, 2016

8:00 am	Breakfast - Royal Canadian Legion Hall Silent Auction Opens
8:30 am	Peavey Mart Presents - Liz Roberts - Community Development and Agricultural Societies
10:30 am	Refreshment Break
10:45 am	Round table Discussions - topics to include: volunteers, sponsorship, insurance, liquor sales/security
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Awards Luncheon
1:30 pm	Round table discussions continued from the morning
2:30 pm	SAASE Safety Days/program updates
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break
3:30 pm	Silent Auction end SAASE Annual Meeting Election of board members
4:00 pm	Silent Auction pick up Safe Trip Home

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Agricultural Education at Harvest Showdown

The Food for Saskatchewan - Food for the World provincial agricultural education display has been on the road since the beginning of April. The display consists of the Mosaic Company potash display, the SaskPower farm and home electrical safety display, the Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan chicken display and the AG EXperience beef, poultry, pork, crops and dairy display.

Over the past year the whole display or part of the display has been at SAASE's annual convention in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert's Chillin' for Agriculture, Swift Current's Discover the Farm, Ag in the City in Saskatoon, Lloydminster's Colonial Days, Maryfield's 100th Fair, the Queen City Ex in Regina, the Saskatoon Ex, Battleford's Territorial Days, Yorkton's Harvest Showdown and Canadian Western Agribition. The SaskPower electrical safety display has also been touring the 17 safety days that have taken place to date.

From November 4 to 7 the display was part of the agricultural education program at Yorkton's Harvest Showdown. Over 3 days, 33 classes and over 750 students learned all about agriculture by going through fun and interactive stations. In addition to the Mosaic potash display and the SaskPower electrical safety display, students visited dairy, pork, poultry, canola crushing, grain, beef , and agricultural by products displays. The students were bused in first thing in the morning and then rotated through the 12 stations with a break for lunch, and then were bused back to their schools late afternoon. The Ag Ed program has always been an important part of Harvest Showdown, and SAASE was thrilled to be part of it. As the SAASE Agricultural Education program expands we are looking forward to playing a bigger role at the Yorkton Harvest Showdown.

6,000 School Children Visit Ag Ed Area at this Year's Record Breaking Agribition

Canadian Western Agribition ran from November 23 - 28, and set numerous show records over the course of the week. One of the highlights of the week is the Family Ag Pavilion where the agricultural education program takes place - Canadian Western Agribition's Education Program is now in its 29th year.

The Education Program has been one of the agriculture industry's best tools in educating urban and rural youth about where the food on their table comes from by using such tools as live animals and interactive stations. Since its first year the program has taught thousands of school children the important role agriculture plays in the food industry.

This year over 6,000 school children were registered in the school education program, with many other families walking through the area and learning about agriculture. Once again SAASE's Food for Saskatchewan - Food for the World Ag Ed displays were included in the programming. Children and adults alike learned about potash through the Mosaic Potash display, as well SaskPower's electrical safety display. The Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan display was a great addition to the live chicks display. With some big changes in the SAASE display to be announced in the new year, we are very excited about SAASE's agricultural education program for 2016. Agricultural education, and

the Family Ag Pavilion will continue to play an important role in the show, as Agribition continues to grow. This year's Agribition was a tremendous success, as numbers are up in all areas. Below you will find a news release sent out by Agribition regarding this year's show.

2015 Canadian Western Agribition breaks records

On Saturday, November 28th, the 45th edition of Canadian Western Agribition (CWA) came to an end, and organizers announced outstanding results. Overall attendance for the 2015 show was the highest it's been in five years with 130,200 visitors over the six-day event.

The Canadian Cowboys' Association Finals Rodeo opened with a bang courtesy of The Mosaic Company and numbers stayed strong all week resulting in a CWA record of 23,560 fans over 5 nights. The anchor of the event, beef cattle, saw an 8 per cent increase in entries as well as a 10 per cent increase in sale averages with a cattle semen package selling for $41,000.

The show's reputation as an international destination also marked increased interest. CWA saw a 25 per cent increase in active international buyers. The show was visited by over 800 international guests from 70 different countries.

"From the minute the gates opened, you could feel the buzz on the grounds. All aspects of the show seemed to be hitting the mark. From the Food Pavilion to the barns, everyone was having a great time," notes Stewart Stone, CWA President. Trade show entries reached new heights exceeding 430 exhibitors; a new show record.

"The show continues to exceed expectations on many levels. $37M in economic activity for a volunteer led event is something to celebrate," says Stone. Financial results of Regina's signature event will be released at the Annual General Meeting in April 2016.For more information visit: www.agribition.com.

Safety Day Coordinators Workshop Held October 5/6 in Regina

SAASE in partnership with the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and the Community Initiatives Fund hosted a Safety Day Coordinator training on October 5-6 in Regina. The training workshop took place in the Canadian Western Agribition Lounge, and had a total of 20 coordinators in attendance. The workshop was run by Bernard Geshkie from the Progressive Agriculture Foundation. He discussed what coordinators need to do and the partnerships they need to develop to run a successful safety day. Bernard also went through all of the resources available to those looking at hosting a safety day. Through our partnership with the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) we are able to pay the expenses of the volunteers attending the workshop, as well as the workshop costs. This training is allowing us to develop a network of trained safety coordinators around the province, ensuring that our safety day program continues to grow. If you are interested in hosting a safety day for your youth and community - give Glen a call at the office.

Moose Jaw Exhibition Partners with Prairie South School Division on Safety Day

On September 30th, the Moose Jaw Exhibition in partnership with the Prairie South School Division and SAASE hosted a safety day. Over 500 grade 7 and 8 students took part in the safety day with the students rotating through 11 safety stations. The safety stations included - SaskPower electrical safety, Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association, SGI alcohol awareness, Prairie South School Division life skills, Moose Jaw City Police drug awareness, EMT - first responder, bus safety, internet safety, ATV/lawn mower safety, hand washing and Worker Compensation Board with Curtis Weber.

The day started with the grade 7s gathering for keynote speaker Curtis Weber. Curtis was involved in an electrical accident, which left him a double amputee. Curtis's story is very powerful and motivational (see the following story) and it had a big effect on the students. From there the grade 7s moved through the 11 stations in the morning - had lunch and then were bused back to the schools. The grade 8s arrived for lunch, and like the morning, a presentation was done by Curtis Weber. The grade 8s then rotated through the stations in the afternoon, and were bused back to the schools at the end of the day.

The day was a tremendous success, with excellent feedback from the students, teachers and presenters. With there continuing to be accidents on the farm the provincial safety day program is becoming that much more important. If your Agricultural Society wants to host a safety day get hold of Glen at the office and he can talk to you about what needs to be done as well as the resources that are available to help you out.

Curtis Weber's Story Makes Big Impact at Safety Day

Curtis Weber was the keynote speaker at the Moose Jaw Exhibition safety day. He spoke to the over 500 grade 7 and 8 students who attended the safety day. In addition to the keynote address in both the morning and the afternoon, Curtis spent the whole day in the Workers Compensation Board station answering questions and showing the students various prosthetics. He delivers a message of inspiration and hope, and his presentation was one that none of the students attending the safety day will forget. Below is the story of how Curtis was injured taken from www.curtisweber.ca.

On July 29th, 1999, I was 17 years old and working as I did everyday as a Construction Labourer on the Saskatchewan prairies.

After a long day at work, my crew and I were attempting to transport a grain bin under a power line with our picker truck. Prior to performing the task, we assessed the risk of moving the bin under an overhead power line. After a brief discussion we talked about the power line and how it "had the potential to kill somebody". Just minutes later, it nearly did.

Had to be cautious. We thought we could get the job done safely. As we worked against the elements, I steadied the

bin from the high winds while we approached the overhead line. Then the predictable happened. The preventable happened. As we approached the overhead line, the operator of the crane did not boom down far enough and backed directly into the power line. I immediately became the ground point for the electricity as 14,400 volts of electricity surged through my body three separate times. I was surrounded by steel and as each cycle of 14,400 volts passed through my body, the electricity tried to eject me from the live zone, instead throwing me violently from one end of the steel structure to another as the 2nd and 3rd cycles of 14,400 volts of electricity passed through me.

I was given a 0% chance of survival, my family were told I would not survive my injuries. Instead I have 3rd and 4th degree burns to over 60% of my body and am now a double amputee. Let me tell you my story of triumph over tragedy and share with you how and why I was lucky that day

Curtis is committed to developing and changing safety culture in workplaces, conferences, schools and events across North America. Completing and needs assessment of each client, Curtis develops each presentation unique to his audience to provide the exact messaging appropriate for each client. Whether you are looking for a power safety message, motivational or inspirational presentation or an exceptional keynote address, let Curtis influence change at your workplace, conference or event. Visit Curtis's website at www.curtisweber.

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CAFE Announces Fair Champions

Each year the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions recognizes the volunteers that make our industry so great through the Canadian Fair Champions Program. 3 volunteers were recognized this year, with one of them being Neal Keefe from the Weyburn Agricultural Society - as well as a member of the SAASE Board of Directors. Below is the media release issued by CAFE.

The Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (CAFE) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2015 Canadian Fair Champions competition, which invites exhibitions and agricultural societies across Canada to nominate their "unsung heroes" for recognition. Up to 3 winners from across Canada are selected annually to receive an expense paid trip to the CAFE Convention, where they are honoured at a gala dinner. This year's convention is in beautiful Niagra Falls, ON

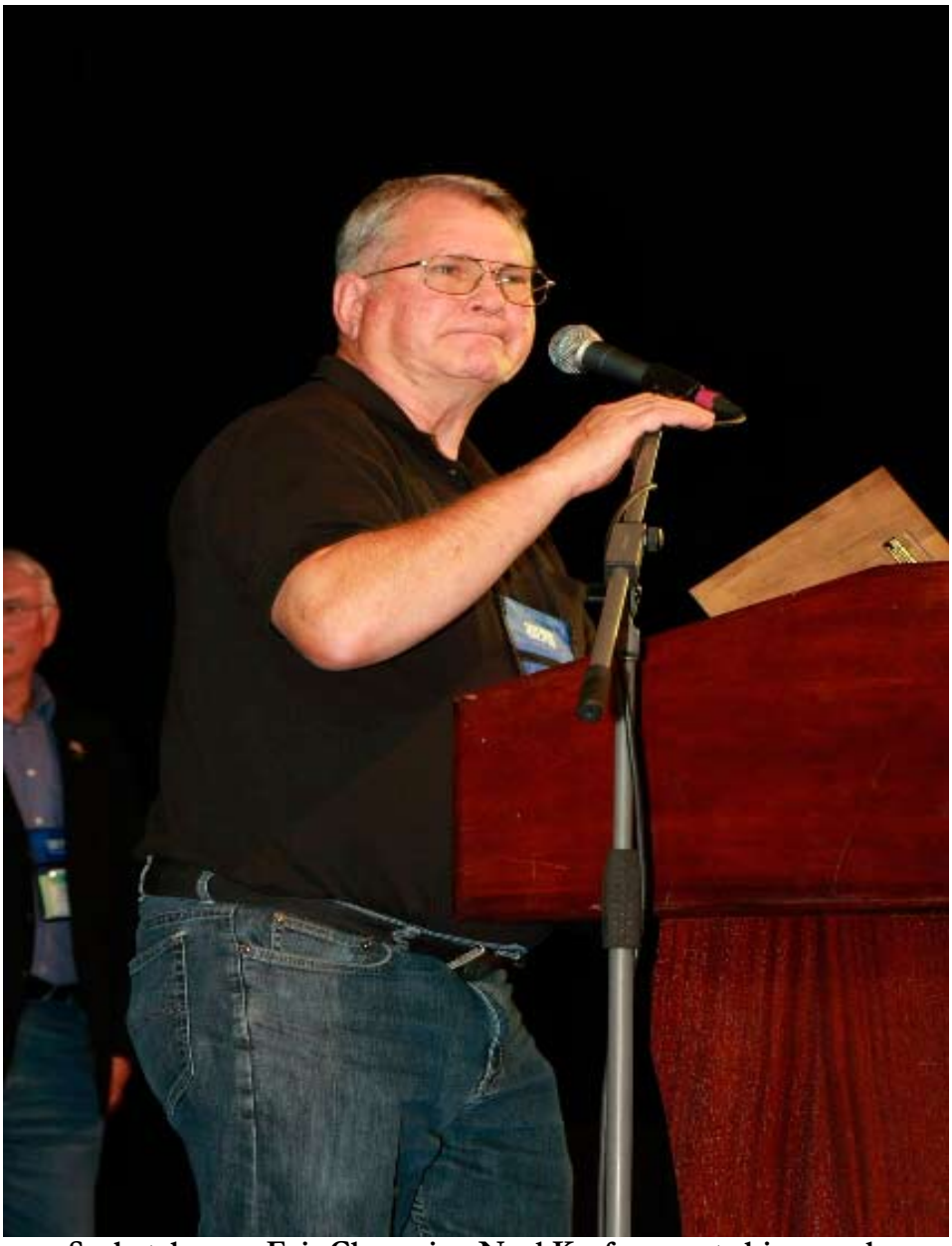
.

The 2015 Canadian Fair Champions are:

- Gladys Curry - nominated by the Renfrew Agricultural Society, Renfrew, ON
- Clifton Chapman - nominated by Edmonton Northlands, Edmonton, AB.
- Neal Keefe - nominated by the Weyburn Agricultural Society, Weyburn, SK.

These 3 outstanding individuals were selected from nominations from across Canada. Each of them exemplifies unselfish dedication to community, and has gone beyond and above the "call of duty" for their fair or exhibition. These very deserving winners will travel to Niagra Falls, stay at the Sheraton on the Falls as guests of CAFE, and be honoured at the Annual Convention which runs from November 19 - 21.

Do you know of an outstanding volunteer at your fair, who deserves recognition? Why not nominate them for 2016. Visit the CAFE website at www.canadian-fairs.ca for details. He or she could win an expense paid trip to Fredericton, New Brunswick to attend the 2016 Convention.



Saskatchewan Fair Champion Neal Keefe accepts his award

The Canadian Fair Champions Program is sponsored annually by North American Midway Entertainment and administered by the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (CAFE). CAFE is a national nonprofit organization which fosters excellence in the Canadian Fair Industry by providing programs, resources and leadership.

cafe
Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions
Association canadienne des foires et expositions

Harvest Feastival Continues to Grow

The Lloydminster Exhibition's Harvest Feastival continues to be a huge success as it just completed it's 6th year. The goal was to showcase local agricultural producers and their products, and the Harvest Feastival continues to do just that.

The event received funding from the SAASE Venture Project program to help get it off the ground 6 years ago, but was looking at making some changes to the event and applied for funding this year. As events grow and evolve over the years, in order to keep them successful changes constantly need to be made and the Venture Project program can also assist with that. This year the Harvest Feastival expanded their marketing, as well as making changes to their printed material. Below is the article submitted by the Lloydminster Exhibition on this years event.

Now in our sixth year, the Lloydminster Exhibition hosted HARVEST FEASTIVAL – a culinary fair of locally grown meats, produce, grains and more on November 4, 2015.

Did you know that when you buy direct from a farmer, 90% of the revenue goes directly to the farmer? When you buy from a retailer selling the same product, only 20% goes to the farmer. The Harvest Feastival not only featured a locally grown menu, but also connected consumers directly with producers and farmers whom they can support throughout the year. Eating local strengthens our local economy and tastes a whole lot better! The environmental impact of eating local is also significant as the average meal travels 1500 miles to reach your table. Why not drive 15 km to your

local U-Pick farm instead?

Harvest Feastival is a casual drop-in event. Our food stations featured sheep, cheeses, bison, lamb, beef, chicken, pork, vegetables, salads, soups, desserts and much more! The menu included:

- Bison Stew with Home made Bannock
- Curried Lamb with Wild Rice
- Chicken Tortilla Soup
- Cottage Pie with a Crispy Cheese Crust
- Chinese Roast Pork with Asian Cabbage Salad
- Squash Soup
- Lentil Soup
- Roasted Beet Salad with Feta Cheese
- Couscous, Chickpea, and Mint Salad
- Pumpkin Trifle
- Berry Dessert

Several local celebrities including Mayor Rob Saunders, Jason Whiting, Moses Waldu, Anika Knott, Deanna Reschney, Justin Rogers from the Goat, and Kurt and Heather from Newcap assisted us with serving up these delicious menu items.

This year ticket numbers were up and it was a full house! Many enjoyed the various dishes created by our Red Seal Chef Rob. Guests also enjoyed our redeveloped directory containing information on producers who had supplied produce, meat, or cheese for the evening. Many took it home to reference in the future.

Battleford's Flat Track Riders a Big Success

In an effort to continue to bring new events and programming to the community of North Battleford, the Battlefords Agricultural Society used the Venture Project Program to help fund vintage motorcycle flat track racing. The races took place on September 12th, with many classes, but all motorcycles had to be from 1985 or older. Because of their expertise, the Battleford's Agricultural Society partnered up with the Canadian Legion of Riders to ensure the success of the event. Below you will find an article that appeared on the Canadian Legion of Riders website by Kevin Jones, with the pictures appearing in this article also taken from the website article.

Canadian Legion of Riders and Battlefords AG Society Vintage Flat Track Racing - Kevin Jones

The Canadian Legion Of Riders No 1 partnered with the Battlefords Agricultural Society on hosting Vintage Flat track racing on the Agricultural Societies half mile track. Riders from as far away as Calgary, Edmonton, Wainwright and Athabasca along with some from Wilkie, Biggar, Regina and Melfort, SK, made the drive down to put on a spectacular day of racing.

The track was smooth and very fast with some classes radared at 83 mph. The fans got to see a full afternoon of racing with 3 heats of 9 classes from

amateur, novice to pro riders, some competing in more than one class.

The CLR and Battlefords Ag Society would like to thank all the riders, spectators, volunteers and also Mel Lamb and Cal McKee for there expertise in prepping the track and setting up the race heats.

The day couldn't of went any smoother and not 1 rider went down in 27 races consisting of 5 laps each. As hosts, we considered the day to be a success and will be planning next years event soon.

Peavey Mart Joins SAASE and Partners on Convention

Peavey Mart is the latest SAASE Service Member, as well as major partner on the 2016 convention in Nipawin. Peavey Mart has always supported communities and has worked to help make communities stronger through their partnerships, as well as their Community Agricultural Grant program. Agricultural Societies have been important in making all of our communities stronger, making it a great fit for Peavey Mart presenting our convention keynote speaker - Liz Roberts, who will be talking about Agricultural Societies and community development.

Peavey Mart is a 100% Western Canadian Owned company with 32 stores in Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Manitoba. The stores in Saskatchewan are located in Assiniboia, Estevan, Humboldt, Kindersley, Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, North Battleford, Saskatoon, Regina, Swift Current, Weyburn, and Yorkton. With their down to earth retail approach Peavey Mart has proudly served Western Canada for over 39 years.

The stores across Western Canada appeal to everyone, farmer and urban dweller alike and they pride themselves on top quality service. Peavey Mart remains competitive by offering a full line of agricultural and hardware supplies as well as workwear, automotives, housewares, lawn & garden and much more! You are invited to visit the your local Peavey Mart location and experience their superior customer service and extensive product line.

The Peavey Mart Community Agricultural grant is a source of funding for innovative local agricultural or community development projects that will help strengthen local rural areas, towns or cities. If you have a great community project and are looking for seed money you are encouraged to apply. For more information on the Community Agricultural grant, as well as information on Peavey Mart's stores and products you can visit - http://www.peaveymart.com.

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SAASE Receives Funding for 2016 Safety Days

The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) approved funding for SAASE's Provincial Safety Day program. This is the second year that SAASE has been approved, as the CIF also supported the safety day program in 2015. The funding will help out with the nutrition and lunch breaks by giving $3 per child attending. The funding will also help out by continuing to fund our volunteer safety day coordinators workshop held each October in Regina. This is the second year that SAASE has received funding supporting the Provincial Safety Day Program, allowing SAASE and our Agricultural Societies to continue this important program. Over the past number of years SAASE and our Agricultural Societies have accessed more than $600,000 for programming and small capital projects through the Community Places and Spaces program. Below is the press release announcing the CIF's funding.

Today, the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) is thrilled to announce the approval of 273 grants totalling $4,551,287 in funding from its October 1, 2015 deadline. With CIF support, Saskatchewan communities will benefit from having access to local projects that matter. These projects support opportunities that prepare youth for the future; celebrate community achievements; ensure communities have access to programming and services including sport, culture and recreation; and ultimately create a sense of belonging and pride in Saskatchewan communities.

Through its Community Grant Program, the CIF approved 183 grants totalling $3,195,847 supporting projects that contribute to the well being of children and youth, families and communities within Saskatchewan. Additionally, 90 projects were approved through the Community Places and Spaces Program, totalling $1,355,440 in grants. CIF is proud to invest in a diverse range of projects that support innovative local initiatives, build healthy and vibrant communities and enrich the quality of life for all Saskatchewanians.

The Community Places and Spaces Program has been extended with one final application deadline: October 1, 2016. This program supports small capital renovations that improve the sustainability, accessibility, and long - term use of multi-purpose community facilities such as halls, recreation facilities, and playgrounds. "Our Ministry strives to support programs that contribute to the quality of life of our province's citizens," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Mark Docherty said. "The Community Initiatives Fund not only supports projects that encourage active, healthy lifestyles, it also aids to instill a sense of pride in communities across our province." "We are committed to building healthy communities through supporting programs and projects that contribute to quality of life" shared Tracey Mann, Executive Director of the Community Initiatives Fund. "The wide range of projects announced today is a great representation of the important work happening at a community level throughout Saskatchewan." The CIF is a Special Purpose Fund created through The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act and governed by a volunteer board appointed through the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport. A complete list of the grant recipients and their projects, as well as information about the Community Initiatives Fund can be found at - www.cifsask.org.

Community Initiatives Fund

Connect • Engage • Thrive

SAASE Coming Events

January 2016

11-14	Crop Production Show	Saskatoon

February 2016

12-14	Saskatchewan Equine Expo	Saskatoon
16-18	Agri-Visions	Lloydminster
26-27	SAASE Annual Convention	Nipawin
27	Poker Cutter Rally for Cancer	Lloydminster

March 2016

4-6	Step into Spring Trade Show	Swift Current
5	Evening Out for Farmers & Friends	North Battleford
6-7	Pride of the Prairies Bull Sale	Lloydminster
19-20	Focus on Women	Prince Albert

April 2016

1-3	Home Garden, Sport & Leisure Show	Lloydminster
8-10	Agri-Mex	North Battleford
8-10	Yorkton Spring Expo	Yorkton
9	Rare & Exotic Spring Sale	Lloydminster
9-10	Saskatchewan Beef Expo	Saskatoon
14-16	Discover the Farm	Swift Current
16	Summer Dreaming Garden Expo	Swift Current
23-24	Fan Expo	Regina

If you have any events you would like to add to our list, please contact the SAASE office at 306-565-2121 or email gduck.saase@sasktel.net

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