

SAASE News

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions

www.saase.ca

INSIDE:

Community Vitality Funding	Page 1
President's Message	Page 2
Community Vitality Funding continued	Page 3
Succession Planning Workshops	Page 4
Farm Progress Show #1	Page 5
SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards	Page 6
Minister Hutchinson to Speak at SAASE Convention	Page 7
Bits and Bites	Page 7
SAASE Convention	Page 8
Convention continued	Page 9
Yorkton Tractor Pulls	Page 10
Vanscoy Pulse Workshop	Page 11
AG-EXperience Program	Page 12
Harvest Showdown	Page 13
Harvest Festival Wins National Award	Page 14
MLS Productions New SAASE Member	Page 15
Coming Events	Page 16

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SAASE Members Receive Funding From Community Vitality Program



The Nipawin Exhibition Pavilion Building on the Exhibition grounds

Three SAASE members have received approval for funding through the CIF Community vitality Program. The Nipawin Exhibition received approval for \$47,774, the Lancer Agricultural Society received funding for \$750 and in Maryfield the Maryfield Recreation Board received funding of \$8,342 which will benefit the Maryfield Agricultural Society.

The projects that were approved are as follows:

Nipawin Exhibition Pavilion Building - \$47,774

The Nipawin Exhibition applied for funding to renovate the Exhibition Pavilion located on the Exhibition

grounds. The building is used for stabling, as well as housing the public washrooms. It also houses a kitchen, dining room and the general office of the Nipawin Exhibition. In addition to the fair, the building is used by 4 H, and the Northeast Riding Club throughout the spring, summer and fall. It is also used for a community garage sale with the proceeds going to troubled youth, and in the winter the building is rented out for storage, which assists the Nipawin Exhibition with the revenue it generates. In order to meet the needs of the users the grant money will be used to;

- Renovate the public washrooms. This will not only better utilize the space,

Continued on Page 3

President's Message: Dave Young

Once again we are coming to the end of another year. This year again has had many challenges as far as the weather is concerned, but we certainly had one of the best falls on record. The holiday season will soon be upon us, and I would like to wish you and your family all the best.

I would like to thank the SAASE Board of Directors, as well as our Executive Director for all the hard work that has been put in this year. SAASE continues to work hard on developing and implementing new programming. SAASE also continues to work with the provincial government on new partnerships that will be of benefit to everyone.

There have been many bright spots this year, but certainly the two brightest are the SaskPower Clean Team and the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport expanded Venture Project Program. The SaskPower Clean Team program saw the addition of 8 more agricultural societies to the Clean Team family. In the 10 years this award winning program has been operating the number of participants has increased from 10 agricultural societies to a total of 35 in 2011. The current agreement runs until the end of 2012, and SAASE will be approaching SaskPower about extending this amazing program.

The Venture Project Program has once again seen tremendous results. 2011 was the second year the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport added an additional \$50,000 to the program to support new events and programming. These great events and programs have been highlighted throughout the year in the SAASE newsletter and once again there are some great ones in this newsletter. At our convention this year in Lloydminster we will be celebrating these projects on Friday March 2. Make sure that you attend the Friday night of the convention to not only see the great projects, but to also take some ideas back that may work in your community.

The Community Vitality Program has also proven to be an excellent program offered through the Community Initiatives Fund for SAASE members. Over the past year many small capital projects have been approved totalling over \$120,000. Tracy Mann from the CIF will once again be on hand at our convention to give us some tips on applying. The program only has two more application deadlines, so don't miss this great opportunity to apply for capital funding.

Make sure that you get an application in for the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards. These awards recognize the volunteers that are so important to the success of our agricultural societies and communities. Also make sure that you make plans to attend this year's SAASE convention in Lloydminster March 2 - 3. The speakers lined up this year are excellent, and the convention gives you an opportunity to network with other agricultural societies across the province.

As the holiday season approaches all the best to you and your family. Christmas is the time of year filled with good will, love and peace of mind, as well as a thankfulness for what you have and for those you love. Have a very Merry Christmas.

David M. Young - 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.

SAASE OFFICE

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.

Community Vitality Program continued from page 1

but will also bring the washrooms up to code. The washrooms will also be made much more wheelchair accessible than they currently are.

- Repair to the roof, fascia and soffits. The roof is leaking and must be repaired in order to ensure that no further deterioration of the building takes place, as well as ensuring the longevity of the building.

Lancer Agricultural Society Community Center upgrade - \$750.

The renovation and upgrades to the Lancer Community Center include replacement of the eavestroughs, repairs to the main entrance, as well as replacement of the water heater. The Community Center is very important to the community of Lancer, as not only is it used in Lancer, but it also hosts numerous functions from the surrounding areas.

Maryfield Rec Board renovations to Curling Rink/Community Hall - \$8,342.

The curling rink plays host to numerous events that happen in Maryfield including the Maryfield Annual Fair. The grant money will allow for the purchase of temporary flooring mats, which will allow volunteers an easier time in installing the floor, as well as supplying a level smooth

surface that will be able to be used by the Maryfield Agricultural Society and other community groups. The floor in the rink will be a dustless, safe, slip resistant surface that will allow users the ability to use the facility in a more safe manner.

Below is the press release issued December 14th by the Community Initiatives Fund:

Almost \$1.9 Million in Saskatchewan Grants to Communities

The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) today announced that 88 Saskatchewan non-profit and volunteer organizations are collectively getting almost \$1.9 million in grants to help deliver their community projects. The 64 capital projects grants total \$1,461,429 and the 24 Community Pride projects and events total \$420,222.

CIF's Community Vitality Program is designed to respond to community priorities by helping volunteers and non-profit organizations deliver community projects that benefit Saskatchewan residents.

"Our three-year Community Vitality Program continues to be well received by Saskatchewan communities," Tracey Mann, CIF Executive Director said. "With only two application deadlines remaining for this program - April 1 and October 1 next year - we're encouraging every Saskatchewan community to apply and benefit from our support."

The program has two components: Small Capital and Community Pride Projects and Events. Small capital projects could include renovations to community halls, rinks, or pools, or improving accessibility for residents. Projects that enhance community pride involve special events such as community anniversaries and volunteer recognition.

To date the CIF has disbursed more than

\$6 million in grants for Saskatchewan Communities through its Community Vitality Program.

"The Government of Saskatchewan thanks and congratulates the Community Initiatives Fund Board for all their great work on the Community Vitality Program so far," Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Bill Hutchinson said. "This program supports an extensive number of communities and that kind of help is part of the Saskatchewan advantage."

CIF programs offer grants that support community efforts to enhance the quality of life for residents as they benefit children, youth and families. CIF programs also encourage active living and promote culture, sport and recreation for all Saskatchewan residents.

The CIF is a Special Purpose Fund created through *The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporations Act* and governed by a volunteer Board appointed through the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.

The two remaining deadlines for the Community Vitality Program are April 1 and October 1, 2012. More information about the Community Initiatives Fund is available at www.cifsask.org.

Tracey Mann - CIF Executive Director will be at the SAASE convention in Lloydminster. Tracey will be there to answer any questions on the program, as well as give some pointers as to the writing of successful grant proposals. Glen Duck will be reviewing the agricultural society projects that have been successful in receiving funding to give examples of the kinds of projects that are being approved. If you are looking at any type of small capital project next year you are encouraged to attend the SAASE convention in Lloydminster March 2 - 3.



**Community
Initiatives
Fund**

Connect • Engage • Thrive



WHO WANTS THE FAMILY FARM AND WHEN?

FARM SUCCESSION TOOLS TO ENGAGE FAMILIES TO DEAL WITH CONFLICT AND CHANGE

Saskatoon
January 23, 2012

Regina
January 24, 2012

Elaine Froese is a certified farm family business coach who helps farm families address and act on tough communication issues. She is a mediator, and a member of the Certified Agricultural Farm Advisor. Elaine and her family farm in southwestern Manitoba and run a certified seed business. She is widely known for her work and application of practical tools for conflict resolution and succession planning.

During these one day workshops Elaine will focus on two key areas:

Who Wants the Farm... and When?
Farm Succession Planning Tools for Action

Discuss the Undiscussabull™
Tools for Talking about Tough Issues in Farm Transfer

CONTACT THE AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE AT 1-866-457-2377 TO REGISTER.

Registration is \$50 for individuals (including lunch) and family discounts are available. Seating will be limited so register early.

For more information about Elaine Froese and her workshops, visit her website at <http://www.elainefroese.com/>

Note: Succession planning is eligible for funding under the Farm Business Development Initiative.



Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Agriculture

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Western Canada Farm Progress Show Named Number 1

The Western Canada Farm Progress Trade Show was named the number 1 trade show in Canada by the Trade Show News. Congratulations to Evraz Place, as well as show Manager and SAASE Board Member Rob O'Connor - well done. Below you will find an excerpt from the Trade Show News article that was run on November 9 by Rachel Wimberley.

Western Canada Farm Progress is the No. 1 show in Canada. Trade Show News Network is pleased to announce the debut release of the TSNN Top 50 Canadian Trade Shows list of rankings. Culled from show management and data supplied to TSNN, the list represents the top 50 trade shows held last year ranked by net square footage in Canada. The full list can be found at <http://www.tsnn.com/datasite-cdn>.

Snagging the No. 1 spot was Regina Exhibition Association's Western Canada Farm Progress Show, with a whopping 1,189,783 net square foot showfloor. Despite overall negative economic trends, the showfloor grew in 2010 from 969,783 sq. ft. at the 2009 show.

Last year's show, which serves the agricultural industry, was held in June at Evraz Place in Regina, Saskatchewan, and drew 715 exhibitors and more

than 40,000 trade show professionals. "We're very proud of the ranking," said Rob O'Connor, Western Canada Farm Progress show manager. "This show has really grown over the past several years." He added, "The economy in agriculture actually has been quite good, especially in Western Canada." In fact, O'Connor said, there is a waiting list to get into the show, so they'd like to grow it even more in the future.



June 20th - 22nd, 2012

SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards

The SAASE convention in Lloydminster March 2 - 3 will once again play host to the SAASE/SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards. Last year was the first of a 3 year agreement with SaskEnergy supporting SAASE's annual awards. SaskEnergy has always been a great supporter of organizations in Saskatchewan, and their involvement in these awards shows their continuing commitment to Saskatchewan's agricultural societies and the communities that they represent.

The applications for the awards were sent out with the Director's reports in the beginning of November. All agricultural societies are encouraged to nominate someone for the awards. Volunteers continue to be the lifeblood of the fair industry and it is so important that we recognize them. The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards give us that opportunity

The awards categories this year will be Volunteer of the Year, SAASE Honourary Life Membership, as well as Achievement of the year. The awards luncheon will take place in Lloydminster at the SAASE convention on March 3.

Use your **energy** to...



SaskEnergy is proud to congratulate
the volunteers of the SAASE
and the positive ways they use their energy.



Minister Bill Hutchinson to Speak at SAASE Convention

The Minister for Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport - Bill Hutchinson - will be speaking at the SAASE Annual Convention in Lloydminster on Friday March 2. Friday night at the SAASE Convention will once again feature reports from the very successful expanded Venture Project Program from 2011. The reports will include the approved projects that will have taken place, with representatives from the agricultural societies that received funding sharing their stories. Minister Hutchinson announced an expansion of the program at the 2011 SAASE Convention in Weyburn by adding an additional \$50,000 to the program. 2011 was the second time that the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport had added an additional \$50,000 to the program, with 2010 being the first year. The success of the program has been tremendous and SAASE looks forward to celebrating the accomplishments of the program with the Minister on Friday, March 2. The Minister was gracious enough to join us in Weyburn in 2011 and SAASE would like to thank the Minister for taking time out of his busy schedule to join us at our 2012 convention in Lloydminster.

Bill Hutchinson is an architect whose record of community service includes four terms on Regina City Council. As the Councilor for Ward Two, Mr. Hutchinson earned a reputation



for being accessible to residents of the ward, and for providing them with effective representation on Council.

Mr. Hutchinson also has an extensive record of community volunteerism. He has been associated with the Regina Family YMCA, the Canadian Mental Health Association, Regina Exhibition Association, SIAST, Tourism Regina, the University of Regina Senate, Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, Agribition and the Royal Red. Mr. Hutchinson was first elected to the Legislature as the MLA for Regina South in the 2007 provincial election, and was reelected in the last provincial election. Mr. Hutchinson and his wife Jocelyn live in south Regina, where he has been a resident for more than 25 years.

Bits and Bites

- A reminder that the Directors Annual Reports are due the end of December. If you are unable to get them back by then give the office a call.
- Over the last number of years there have been many requests for exhibit tags. SAASE has had some printed and they are now available to our members at no charge. You can pick these up at the convention.
- Clean Team reports are due back in the SAASE office by the end of December.
- The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards applications forms have been sent out with the Directors Reports. We have thousands of volunteers that make our events run – nominate that special volunteer for the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards.
- The SAASE convention is taking place in Lloydminster – March 2 - 3. Mark it in your calendar and plan to attend. Convention packages will be out before the new year.
- SAASE will be holding elections for the SAASE board of Directors at the annual meeting in Lloydminster on March 3. Nominate someone from your agricultural society to sit on the SAASE board.
- The next deadline for the CIF Community Vitality program will be April 1, 2011. Agricultural societies are encouraged to apply for either the small capital grant program or for the community pride program. These programs are ideal ways for agricultural societies to get needed funds for those smaller infrastructure projects, as well as money to help celebrate an event. If you have an anniversary coming up or need some money for a small project apply now. You can get information on the program at www.tpcs.gov.sk.ca/CIF, or give Glen a call at the SAASE office.

“Building Together” SAASE Convention 2012



This year's SAASE convention will be taking place in Lloydminster from March 2 - 3, 2012. "Building Together" is this year's theme, and it is certainly appropriate as we continue to build our agricultural societies, communities, SAASE and the province.

The convention will begin on Friday night, March 2. Registration will begin at 5:30. The registration will take place on the Lloydminster Exhibition grounds in the Prairie Room. You will be able to register, pick up your SaskPower Clean Team shirts, entry tags, as well as drop off your items for the Silent Auction. At 6:30 supper will be served, with the SAASE business meeting taking place. After the business meeting we are once again lucky enough to have the Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport - Bill Hutchinson join us. The Minister will say a few words then we will have brief presentations from those agricultural societies that received

funding for projects through the expanded Venture Project program. We will then be hosted and entertained by the Lloydminster Exhibition. Everyone is encouraged to wear their favourite sports teams jersey. There will be prizes as well as raffle draws of all kinds of sports memorabilia. Proceeds from the Friday night, the silent Auction, as well as the 50/50 draws will once again go to the Clark and Anne Lewis Scholarship. There will be shuttles running back and forth from the hotel, to make sure that everyone has a great and safe time.

Saturday we will get going right away at 7:30 with breakfast at the Lloydminster Exhibition. Barney Cosner - a speaker through the IAFE speaker program will then give us a presentation entitled "Y R We Here". Barney's message will be informative, very motivating and will certainly set the tone for the day - it is something that you don't want to miss.

Tracey Mann will then join us from the Community Initiatives fund (CIF). We will be reviewing the projects that SAASE members have been successful in accessing money for through the Community Vitality Program. SAASE members have accessed over \$170,000 in the past 2 years, and we want to give you some ideas of what you might be able to do on your ground and in your community to access money in the final year of this program. We will then honour our volunteers during the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champions Awards Luncheon.

After lunch Tamara Shields and Zane Lammers from the Perdue Agricultural Society will do a presentation on the ways that Perdue have dealt with fewer volunteers. They will go through the creative partnerships that have been developed within the community for not only the fair, but also other community events.

Dave Young - SAASE President - will then give a report on the SAASE long range plan that the board has been working on the plan for the past year, and this will be an update to the members. After the planning report we will move into the SAASE Annual Meeting. Once again we will be looking for people to run for the SAASE Board of Directors. If you are interested in helping shape the future of our provincial association you are encouraged to run for the SAASE Board. Nomination forms, with all the convention registration information will be sent out later in December.

This years host hotel will be the Lloydminster Best Western Wayside

Inn and Suites. The hotel address is 5411 - 44th St. Lloydminster. Standard room rates are \$135 plus taxes, with the queen rooms being \$150 plus taxes. You can book the hotel by calling (780) 875-4404. The rooms are under the block called SASSY. Deadline for

booking is February 3. To check the hotel out you can go online at www.bwwis.com.

The big deal for this year's convention will be that if you bring someone who has never been to the SAASE

convention before, their registration is free. There are a lot of great things going on with our agricultural societies, SAASE and the province - don't miss this opportunity to network with other agricultural societies. See you at this year's SAASE Convention in Lloyd.

Friday, March 2nd, 2012

5:30 pm - Registration (At the Prairie Room on the Lloydminster Exhibition Grounds) - Drop off Silent Auction Items
- Pick up Clean Team Shirts and Entry Tags (Shuttle Service from the hotel to the Lloydminster Exhibition will be available throughout the evening)

6:30 pm - Supper

7:30 pm - SAASE Business Meeting/Venture Project Reports
Honourable Bill Hutchinson - Minister - Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport

8:30 pm - Host Evening (cash bar and entertainment)

Saturday, March 3, 2012

7:30 am - Breakfast (Lloydminster Exhibition - Prairie Room)

8:30 am - Session: "Y R We Here?" - Barney Cosner, CFE, sponsored by IAFE

Overall view of the fair business and why we come together for conferences. Individually we may not think we can make much of an impact in the fair business, but that thought process may not be completely valid. This is an opportunity to gain some ideas as to how important you are, or can be, in strengthening your fair for the "edutainment" of all those special guests that participate in your fair.

10:00 am - Coffee Break

10:30 am - Community Vitality Program - Projects that SAASE members have applied for and have been successful will be highlighted. Tracey Mann - Executive Director of the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) will talk about the opportunities within the program, as well as give tips on how to write a successful application to any funding program.

12 noon - SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards Luncheon

1:30 pm - Making Community Partnerships Work - Zane Lamers and Tamara Shields - President and Secretary of the Perdue Agricultural Society will highlight what the Perdue agricultural society has done to get new members involved with their board, as well as how they have developed new partnerships with community groups for their fair.

2:30 pm - SAASE Long Range Strategic Plan - The SAASE long range strategic plan will be presented to the membership.

3:00 pm - Coffee Break - Silent Auction Closes

3:30 pm - SAASE Annual General Meeting



**Lloydminster
Agricultural
Exhibition
Association**



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Tractor Pull Competition Returns to Yorkton

The SAASE/Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport expanded Venture Project program is meant to encourage agricultural societies to try new events for their organization and community. Seed money is supplied to relieve concerns that if the event does not go as planned it doesn't leave the agricultural society with a huge loss. Since the program was expanded two years ago, it has been tremendously successful in funding new events and programs. The Yorkton Exhibition had not run a truck and tractor pull competition for about 20 years, and were looking at running one this summer. The event is very costly to run so the Yorkton Exhibition applied to SAASE to supply some seed money for the event through the Venture Project Program. The event was a tremendous event and below is an article that appeared in the Yorkton News Review.

Pulling Competition Returns after 20 Year Hiatus

Pinnacle Motorsports brought truck and tractor pulling back to Yorkton for the first time in a while. Ken Beauchemin who operates Pinnacle Sports observes that it's been 20 years since the competition was held here last. "I believe we brought her back in pretty great style," Beauchemin adds.

The show featured 25 pulling vehicles each of the two nights. Judging by their response, Beauchemin thinks the capacity crowds really enjoyed what they'd been missing for a long time. "I think we're here to stay," he predicts.

The competition began with the antique tractors which encountered some difficulty early Friday evening. The rain mid week created some difficulty pulling the sled. Once the problem was corrected the show continued.



Two classes of diesel pick-up trucks include the street modified class and the unlimited diesel class. Highway tractors and the unlimited supermodified tractors rounded out the show.

Beauchemin who won his class on Boss Blue, an unlimited super modified tractor, claims he's only come second once in his career on that machine, having won every other tractor pull in his 34 year career. He estimates this win probably cost him about \$25,000 as he smashed the motor on Boss Blue. Given the strain put on his tractors, it's impossible to avoid breakdowns, Beauchemin points out. He designs, builds, paints and does the body work on all his vehicles, Beauchemin claims. "My vehicles are totally built by myself and my helpers," he says. The Dirt Wrangler, Beauchemin's other tractor placed second. He believes everybody who attended the show enjoyed what they watched and he promises to return.

Monty Getz from MacLean, Saskatchewan was one of two drivers from Saskatchewan competing at the tractor pull competition. Getz was entered in the stock semi class, campaigning a 2008 Volvo with a

485 horsepower motor, automated transmission and supersingle tires. Getz, who started in the sport 25 years ago, recently returned to pulling after a lengthy hiatus. His first competition was in Yorkton the first year he got his driver's license. On returning to the sport he opted to compete in the semi class with his regular highway tractor that he uses for work everyday. "I figured why not play with it? It ain't any harder work on it doing this than what I do everyday with it," he suggests.

The object of a pulling competition is to go as far as one can pulling the big, heavy sled, Getz explains. "The further you go, the heavier it gets, the more drag it (the sled) puts on the ground until you just can't move it anymore," he elaborates.

It was his first run on returning to pulling. He was quite satisfied with his performance in a stock highway tractor. His pull of 230 feet wasn't far behind the super modifieds. He enjoys the noise, the challenge and the people involved in the sport. "Everybody works together. It's not a full out competition. Everybody helps everybody," Getz closes.

Vanscoy Hosts PULSE FOODS WORKSHOP

On September 24th the Vanscoy and District Agricultural Society held an educational workshop on pulse foods. Pulses include all the different beans, split peas, chick peas and lentils. 24 ladies attended the workshop from around the community. Some from Vanscoy, as well as Delisle, Asquith, Kinley, Conquest, Saskatoon, and on from as far away as St. Albert Alberta. Betty Burwell, a home economist from Saskatoon, presented a short power point presentation describing where most of the pulse crops are grown, which is actually Saskatchewan, why pulse foods are important for our health, how to prepare them, and how to cook them in a variety of recipes. Betty had 9 varieties



of pulses set out to identify, while she set out the prepared dishes to taste. She had 7 dishes prepared for the group to taste including muffins, cookies, a loaf, salad, soup, main dish and humus. They were all great. The afternoon ended with some door prizes including a slow cooker won by Ciana Lafebvre from St. Albert, a cookbook for a slow cooker won by Gwenda Payne from Delisle, and a vegetarian slow cooker cook book won by Trudi Bintnell from Kinley. Several people also got to take home the 9 packages of sample pulses. A very big thank you goes out to the Saskatchewan Pulse Association and to SAASE and the SAASE Venture Project fund for helping out with this great educational afternoon.

AG-EXperience for Students Program

Prairieland Park's AG-EXperience for Students took place from October 25-27, 2011. The Prairieland Park Ag Centre and Hall C was a buzz of activity hosting 841 Grade 4 students during the 3-day event.

Students began the morning with a safety orientation and then were split so that six classes started the circuit at the Ag Centre and six started in Hall C. At the conclusion of the morning activities, all classes met in Hall C for lunch. Each student was provided with milk, compliments of Prairieland Park and the Saskatchewan Milk Control Board. Also at lunch time, two professional auctioneers provided a brief history of auctions and instructed the students on how to bid. Each class was provided with enough play money to purchase cookies for their class. Following the auction classes continued with the afternoon sessions, completing the program at 2:30 pm.

The Program

Students were taken on a guided tour through stations where industry personnel presented information on their agriculture sector. The stations included:

- Beef, Bison, Dairy
- Poultry, Eggs, Pork
- Dairy - Milking demonstration



- CropLife Canada
- Canola Crushing
- Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan
- Crops of Saskatchewan
- Sheep Herding
- Wheat/Flour Milling
- Nutrition/Fitness
- Saskatchewan Beekeepers Association
- Byproducts (Animals & Crops)

Upon departure teachers were given an enviro-friendly bag that contained resource material from each station. Also each student received an Activity Book containing interesting facts and games relating to what they had

experienced throughout the day.

Prairieland Park's school tour program was started in 1990 and has provided agriculture education to over 30,000 Grade 3-6 students. Industry experts and volunteers guide students through stations providing them the opportunity to learn about agriculture in Saskatchewan and how it is part of every day lives. Hands-on interactive sessions allow students to get an up-close view of agriculture, including animal care, the environment, and how some products are processed. Live cow milking, sheep herding, canola crushing, milling wheat and a fitness and nutrition presentation were popular stops on the tour in 2011.



New Program at Harvest Showdown

One of the new events at the 23rd Annual Grain Miller's Harvest Showdown in Yorkton, November 2nd – 5th, 2011 was Cowboy Poetry on the Yorkton Hyundai Stage in the Trade Show building. This new event was supported by the SAASE Venture Project fund which helped us to bring in 3 well known Cowboy Poets Lee Bellows from Moose Jaw, Morley Thorpe, Esterhazy and Ed Brown, Oak Lake, Man.

The Poets were very well received and it helped to draw more people to the Trade Show displays. The poets entertained throughout the afternoons and into the early evening. Each poet entertained for 30 minutes in rotation. The event costs were reasonable and sponsorship from SAASE and Yorkton Hyundai covered much of the costs. We look forward to hosting this event again in 2012!



Harvest Festival Wins National Award



The Lloydminster Exhibition was given the Best of Show Award at the recent CAFE convention in London, Ontario for the Harvest Festival. The Best of Show Award recognizes a new event, program, concept, or technique introduced to the public and/or improved methods of operation, adaptability, activity and success compared to plans and budgets. The Best of Show can relate to any program, activity or service provided at any time during the year.

The Harvest Festival was supported through the SAASE/Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport expanded Venture Project Program in 2010, with the show in 2011 being the second. This is a perfect example of what the Venture Project Program is for, as seed money was given to the Harvest Festival to get it up and running. The first year was a tremendous success, but the second year proved to be a lot bigger. Below you will find an article that appeared in the November 6th edition of the Lloydminster Source, written by Thomas Miller.

Lloyd Eats Up Harvest Festival

A volunteer who helped put on the Harvest Festival, Kelly Sidoryk, said she expected in excess of 300 people to

attend. "I think people are interested in food, they're interested in where their (food) comes from and trying to purchase it locally," she said. "This is a way that people can explore some of those avenues and connect with the producer so they know where their food is growing."

Sidoryk said the festival invited several local celebrities to serve food. Among those serving were Meggan Hougham and Tim McMillan, candidates in tomorrow's Saskatchewan election.

"What a great way for people to eat wholesome and from their own local farmers," said Hougham. "But also a great way to come into the community and hang out and have some fun before the election is over."

"Ultimately serving the community is what you do as an MLA," added McMillan. "Events like this are a very hands-on way to chat with people and promote products of entrepreneurs right here in Lloydminster."



Be FRESH ... Eat Local!
Harvest Festival

MLS Productions SAASE's Newest Service Member

MLS Productions are Saskatchewan's Live Sound Specialists. Centrally located five minutes from Regina, MLS Productions are Saskatchewan's premium live sound and lighting company, providing live production for all types of · Concert · Cabaret · Community · Corporate · Festival · Media Events. Now with over 15 successful years, MLS has grown to bring production and entertainment across the entire province and western region. MLS Productions offers SAASE Members professional · Live Audio · Lighting · Indoor / Outdoor Screen Projection · Staging · Entertainment Booking Services.

MLS Productions is extremely pleased to announce their new Associate Service Membership with SAASE, and invite SAASE Members to contact them with any questions they have about planning an exhibition, festival, concert, or cabaret event. MLS Productions plans to partner with SAASE Members to help them achieve cost effective production, while bringing top class entertainment and revenue opportunities to their communities. MLS has several production packages suited to different event sizes and budgets. "We're the little company that does big shows", says Mike Shymko with an easy smile. Being the Owner / CEO / Lead Sound Technician of MLS Productions, with over a thousand successful live events to his credit, Mike would know. He adds: "We concentrate on the highest quality live audio and production first. Audio is our cornerstone, all the rest flows from that."

It's a solid cornerstone considering the more than 200 event posters scrawled with accolades to Mike's event production, signed by artists of all styles and genres, covering the company's office and shop in Pilot Butte, Saskatchewan. "We've had the privilege of working with a lot of diverse talents." Mike chuckles and pauses, gesturing at the walls when asked about the collection "Also, it helps when you have the ability to tour all of Saskatchewan as we do, there are even a few from Alberta and Manitoba. I think one of our career highlights was providing audio tech services for the Saskatchewan Pavilion in Vancouver during the 2010 Winter Olympics. More importantly," he continues, "we use the highest quality equipment, regardless of event size or venue. All of the production staff and sound techs from myself on down are trained to make the most of that gear - our artists and community partners appreciate that effort."

"That Gear" as Mike casually states, begins with an impressive state of the art collection of

audio components: featuring world renowned Electro-Voice X-Array mid high cabinet speakers, Electro-Voice MTL-2B bass bins, with matched Electro-Voice digital processing and power amplification. A staple of high end audio companies, Electro-Voice continues to acknowledge it as their benchmark concert / touring system.

MLS Productions uses professional Midas concert series audio mixing consoles exclusively, "They round out the audio package nicely," states Mike. The Midas Verona 400 front of house and Midas Seana monitor consoles exceed the maximum requirements of nearly any touring act. They have the advantage of being equipped with the cleanest pre-amps in the industry, and will pretty much produce the best live sound in the hands of any professional audio tech.

MLS adds to the production choices with light shows including standard 500 watt par 64, or high tech digital LED lighting packages. "I'm really proud of our digital lighting packs," remarks Dale Quintin, the Lighting Director and Marketing Manager at MLS Productions. The LED lights are a much greener technology, use less than 10% of the energy over their standard cousins, while producing better light and effects. They have the added benefit of allowing MLS to offer a much larger, more professional light show in venues that would normally be restricted due to power limitations. The LED light packs are safer too, operating at temperatures hundreds of degrees below standard lights, reducing fire risk and bringing safe operation to larger number of venues. MLS Productions is excited to offer SAASE Members this secure new technology as an ongoing part of SAASE environmental and green efforts.

Completing the MLS line up is indoor / outdoor screen projection, and business conference and convention AV Services. "The screen and AV service really began at the request of our business and community partners," Mike says. The continued growth in the Saskatchewan economy led to an increase in the amount of business and corporate activity. MLS Productions responded offering AV services throughout the province at rates normally only seen in larger centers. "We are already active all through the entire market," Dale adds "A great deal of the need occurs outside the major centers, so we simply offer the best rates everywhere." The projection service includes a giant inflatable outdoor screen, suitable for community film nights or media events.

Being centrally located allows MLS Productions to bring entertainment to the entire province, at the same time a location outside of a major center, lets MLS pass cost savings in building and facilities rent on to SAASE Members. "Our shop and business location definitely offers an advantage both in terms of reaching our partners, and helping us to remain cost effective," Dale says. "Pilot Butte is a fantastic small community to work from."

Moving all that gear around the province can sometimes be a difficult task. "Actually it's no problem at all," says Mike. MLS Productions provides all its' own logistics. Depending on event size, a five ton, one ton, and a 4x4 truck and trailer combination are employed to bring shows around the province. Dale says, "Being in control of our own transport ensures we don't run into logistics problems, and allows us to hand transport savings on to our partners." MLS Productions avoids passing transport rental costs and trucking fees on to their partners by owning their own fleet.

"I encourage SAASE Members to contact me with any questions they may have about event production," Dale continues. "We offer several production packages, and have cost effective options for SAASE Members who wish to plan single or multiple events." Entertainment events are an important part of SAASE activities, often forming the centerpiece of a fair or exhibition. Events have the ability to facilitate networking within the community, and provide an important revenue generator. MLS is active all through Saskatchewan, and look forward to bringing their advantages to SAASE Members. Check out the website at www.mlsproductions.com

Contact:
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Call the office: 306-781-1022



Coming Events

December 2011

15	Small Business Christmas Party	Prince Albert
31	New Years Eve Party	Saskatoon

January 2012

9-13	Western Canada Crop Production Show	Saskatoon
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February 2012

17-19	Saskatchewan Equine Expo	Saskatoon
25-26	Youth Leadership Conference	Saskatoon

March 2012

2-3	SAASE Convention and AGM	Lloydminster
3	Evening out for Farmers and Friends	North Battleford
9-11	Step into Spring Home & Leisure Show	Swift Current

17-18	Focus on Women Trade Show	Prince Albert
20	East Central Bull Power	Yorkton
30-1	Gardenscape	Saskatoon

April 2012

12-14	4 H Spring Steer & Heifer Show	Yorkton
13-15	Spring Expo	Yorkton
13-15	Western Canadian Livestock Expo	Saskatoon

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



Large and small,
Saskatchewan communities
one and all.

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