

SAASE News

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions

www.saase.ca

INSIDE:

SAASE Convention	Page 1
President's Message	Page 2
Farm Safety Days	Page 3
Farm Safety Days cont.	Page 4
Vanscoy Farm Safety Day	Page 5
Vanscoy Farm Safety Day continued	Page 6
SAASE/SaskCulture Program	Page 7
SAASE Convention cont.	Page 8
Convention Tentative Schedule	Page 9
SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards	Page 10
SAASE and Swift Current Winners at IAFE Awards	Page 11
CIF Announces New Program	Page 12
SaskPower Clean Team Renewed	Page 13
Tourism Saskatchewan's Hosting Strategy	Page 14
Swift Current Young Ranchmans	Page 15
Swift Current continued	Page 16
Mortlach Fall Fair	Page 17
Rosthern High School Rodeo	Page 18
Ministry of Agriculture Premises Identification Program	Page 19
Bits and Bites	Page 19
Coming Events	Page 20

Get a colour PDF version of SAASE News online at: www.saase.ca



With all the growth Saskatchewan is experiencing, as well as the changes we are seeing in our communities, it seems the only thing that is constant is change. We as Agricultural Societies are reflections of our communities - with changing communities come changing Agricultural Societies. What we will all find out is that "Everything Changes When You Do."

The SAASE convention and annual meeting is taking place February 28 - March 1 in Melfort and is being hosted by the Melfort Agricultural Society.

This year's convention promises to give those attending a great opportunity to network, attend some great workshops as well as see what all the other Agricultural Societies are doing across the province.

The convention this year will energize and give our delegates some ideas on what they can do to not only improve their events, but also their communities. Registration for the convention will open at 5:00 on Friday February 28th. After we get everyone

Continued on Page 8



SAASE News

President's Message: Lisa Haynes

Well winter is finally here - some of us have already had more winter than others. It has been an extremely busy year for the SAASE Board of Directors, with many projects on the go. We are continuing to develop great partnerships with business, government and other nonprofit organizations. As we develop this network some outstanding opportunities for programming and funding are presenting themselves, which will give us the tools we need to make a big difference in our communities. As volunteer run organizations, the big challenge is trying to find the time to get everything done.

The partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture on the Farm Safety Days is very exciting and continues to grow. 7 Farm Safety Days were held in 2013, with a total of 15 to be held in 2014. Keeping our kids safe around the farm is a huge priority, and if your Agricultural Society has not hosted a Farm Safety Day, I would encourage you to take a look at it. Thanks to the Ministry of Agriculture for their continued support and to our partners from Progressive Agriculture and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association for all their help.

The Venture Project Program is now wrapping up for 2013. Once again there have been some tremendous programs that our Agricultural Societies have come up with that have been supported by the program. A big thanks goes out to Tourism Saskatchewan for once again supporting this program in 2013. We are currently in discussions to get the program extended into 2014.

The Community Vitality Program has also proven to be an excellent program offered through the CIF for our members. SAASE's Agricultural Societies have accessed almost \$400,000 for improving their facilities since the program began. The CIF has announced a new program and Tracey Mann - Executive Director for the CIF will be at our convention in Melfort to let us know the opportunities available to us. SAASE would like to thank the CIF for this great program - it has really made a difference, and we look forward to working with the new program.

With our communities changing, we have many opportunities to get newcomers involved in not only our community's activities, but also our Agricultural Society's programs. This past year SAASE has worked with SaskCulture and 3 of our Agricultural Societies on a pilot project to do just that. There is an article in the newsletter on the project, as well Dave White from Synergy solutions will be doing a workshop in Melfort on what took place, and our 3 Agricultural Societies involved in the project will fill us in on the project they will be working on in 2014.

The SaskPower Clean Team program has once again been renewed for 2014. This program has made a huge difference in 35 of our communities around Saskatchewan by supporting youth and community groups, as well as making a positive impact on the environment. Thank you to SaskPower for their continued support of this great provincial community program. Your support of youth and community groups, as well as our Agricultural Societies truly makes a difference.

Congratulations to our Executive Director - Glen. He was named to the Board of Directors for the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions as the board member representing Canada's Provincial Associations. He also continues to serve on the Provincial/State Associations Board of Directors for the International Association of Fairs and Expositions.

With Christmas approaching it is once again time to be thinking about the SAASE convention. This year's convention will be taking place in Melfort from February 28 - March 1. Our board has put together a great program - the convention packages are included with the newsletter. The convention is a great place to get some ideas, as well as to network with other Agricultural Societies and find out what they are doing. Make sure that you get an application in for the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards. The applications were sent out with the Directors reports - if you need an application give Glen a call.

A big congratulations goes out to SAASE, as SAASE's newsletter was named best State and Provincial newsletter for the second year in a row by the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. Our members continue to be doing great things in the province - this gives us great things to write about. Keep up the good work. Also I would like to send out a huge thanks to our Executive Director Glen Duck for all of his hard work producing such a great, award winning newsletter. It makes me proud to know that what we do here in Saskatchewan can compete and win on an International level! I hope that everyone has a safe holiday season, and that everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Take care and I will see you at the convention in Melfort.

Lisa Haynes - President

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

Executive Director: Glen Duck
Box 31025, Regina SK S4R 8R6
Phone: 306-565-2121
Fax: 306-565-2079
website: www.saase.ca
email: gduck.saase@sasktel.net

Officers and Directors

President: Lisa Haynes
Biggar 306-948-3886
Vice President: Vern Bexson
Lloydminster 306-285-3513
Director At Large: Susan Kuzma
Saskatoon 306-931-7149
Past President: Dave Young
Prince Albert 306-764-1711

Directors

Brenda Patton Regina
306-780-7071
Ken Taylor EVRAZ Place
306-781-9200
Neal Keefe Weyburn
306-842-7509
Ray Wiman Mortlach
306-355-2587
Shaun Morin Yorkton
306-783-4800
Jaqueline Watt La Ronge
306-425-5225
Wade Jensen Swift Current
306-778-7666
Ron Monette Saskatoon
306-933-6128

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.

SAASE to Partner with Ministry of Agriculture - Progressive Agriculture on 15 Safety Days for 2014

Farm Safety and keeping our children safe has always been a huge priority in our communities. In 2012 the Ministry of Agriculture entered into a 3 year partnership with SAASE on the delivery of Farm Safety Days by our Agricultural Societies across Saskatchewan. In 2012 there were 2 Safety Days held, this year there were a total of 7 held and continuing with the momentum the program is gaining, 15 are scheduled to be held in 2014.

In addition to the Ministry of Agriculture. SAASE has developed partnerships with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and the Progressive Agriculture Foundation. The partnership has ensured that SAASE and our Agricultural Societies delivering the program have access to the most up to date training and to the best resources to make sure that the kids get the most out of our Farm Safety Days.

If you are interested in hosting a Farm Safety Day you must apply for that day by July 15th of the year before to host a day. Once approved a Safety Day coordinators workshop will be organized. SAASE applied for and was approved for a total of 15 Farm Safety Days in 2014. The locations approved are in Lloydminster, Swift



**Government
of
Saskatchewan**
Ministry of Agriculture

www.saase.ca



December 2013

Safety Days continued from page 3

Current, Canora, Weyburn, Yorkton, Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Kelvington, Nipawin, Maryfield, Moose Jaw, Glenavon and Vanscoy.

Progressive Agriculture put on a Farm Safety Day Coordinators workshop hosted by SAASE, which was held in Regina on September 30/October 1. A total of 25 people took part in the workshop. Progressive Agriculture's Bernard Geshke led the participants through a 2 day certification course. SAASE has hosted a Coordinators Workshop in each of the last 2 years. Because of the commitment of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and SAASE's Agricultural Societies, the training workshop has become the largest in Canada. There were some great ideas brought forward, as Bernard went through the program, as

well as making everyone aware of the tremendous resources that are available through both Progressive Agriculture and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. During the 2 days a number of presenters were brought in to the meeting using Skype. Glen Blahey from CASA did a presentation on the various programs and resources available through CASA. Sarah Pilgrim and Susan Reynolds Porter talked about Progressive Agriculture's administration, reporting and support available.

Bill Thibodeau from Saskatchewan's Farmers with Disabilities came in and did a presentation on the various programs and resources available through their program. The Farm Safety Day Coordinators workshop is helping SAASE and our Agricultural

Societies develop a tremendous network of Farm Safety professionals across Saskatchewan. This is not only valuable for the Safety Days taking place in the next year, but is providing a valuable human resources for the future.

At this point SAASE has reached the maximum number of Safety Days that would be able to be coordinated for 2014. If you are interested in hosting a Farm Safety Day for 2015 please let the SAASE office know. the application for 2015 must be in by July 15th 2014. SAASE would like to thank the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture for their support of this program. SAASE also looks forward to working with Progressive Agriculture, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and our 15 Farm Safety Day sites for 2014.



Vanscoy Hosts Farm Safety Day

The Vanscoy Agricultural Society played host to a Farm Safety Day on September 17. 150 students from 6 schools around Vanscoy took part. The safety stations that the students went through included chemical safety, ATV, PTO, lawnmower/tractor, bicycle, small animal, first responder, and fire. At the end of the day all the students gathered where a local police officer talked to them about internet safety, the police, as well as recapping what the students had seen during the day.



One of the highlights of the day was Bob Simpson from CTV coming out from Saskatoon to do a story on the day. Bob and his cameraman joined the children for lunch and

then spent much of the afternoon walking from station to station and talking to volunteers. The news story they did was quite extensive and was

shown across the province on the CTV affiliates on both the evening and afternoon newscasts, as well as during an edition of Farmgate. The



CTV's Bob Simpson records news footage for the story he did on Vanscoy for Farmgate

story was even picked up by CTV affiliates across Canada. A big thanks to Bob and CTV for the great coverage of this event.

Linda Wright from the Vanscoy Agricultural Society and her volunteer committed a tremendous job of organizing the day. The students were given Progressive Agriculture T-shirts, take home bags with a wide variety of safety items and goodies for the kids, snacks and a lunch. The Vanscoy Agricultural Society were able to get numerous businesses to help out and donate items. The weather cooperated



and the kids had a great time and learned an awful lot about safety. As part of the Progressive Agriculture program follow-up surveys were done with the students, volunteers, presenters and teachers. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive from everyone involved with the day, and those involved can't wait to put on next years.



SaskCulture Approves SAASE Cultural Program

SAASE was approved by SaskCulture earlier this year on a Capacity Building grant. This was a pilot project with 3 of our Agricultural Societies - Moose Jaw, Biggar and Swift Current. Dave White from Synergy Solutions was brought in to facilitate the process, and below is a summary of the project.

In keeping with SAASE's vision of "...communities coming together in positive interaction, experiencing a deep appreciation for our rural heritage, while embracing new cultures and expanding borders" this project was proposed to create and enhance the connection and sense of community with the various ethnic groups involved in a given community – as a template would be developed that could be used for future initiatives in other communities.

Three community Agricultural Societies we selected to collaborate with in the development of this culture capacity building initiative: Swift Current, Biggar, and Moose Jaw. Discussions were facilitated within each of these communities, comprised of various leadership, volunteers and ethnic representation.

The purpose of the facilitation was two-fold: that the group would come to a greater awareness of the common bonds of community among various ethnicities, and secondly that these multi-ethnic groups would generate and host initiatives that would enhance this awareness through their region. For further clarification, it was not simply the goal to create an event, but that through the coming together of multiple ethnicities as leader volunteers to create an event, the volunteers themselves would experience a greater sense of community awareness and understanding.

Synergy Solutions partnered with SAASE in hosting and facilitating these sessions in the communities. The initial format of

the facilitation of these sessions was based in the 4-D cycle of Appreciative Inquiry, and specifically as the following:

Orientation

1. What is our purpose?
2. Where have we seen evidence of this happening?
3. What has been the most potent?
4. What challenges have we had enroute to fulfilling our purpose?
5. What decisions served us well?

Discovery

1. How has our community changed - what demographic?
2. Where do we see growth in understanding and acceptance?
3. What is unique about the new demographic?

Brainstorming

1. What do we envision our purpose looking like if we had success?
2. What could we do to take steps toward that vision?
3. Who would we have to involve / engage?

Following these questions, the core group was encouraged to identify additional relationships from alternate ethnicities that may be open to being involved in creating, planning, organizing and hosting the event. Caution was given to ensure that all volunteers were to be included in the development of any new initiative, allowing the opportunity for co-creation, ensuring that all "owned" the result of the planning, and that no one group felt used or manipulated by another. This also served to ensure that no one group of volunteers became overwhelmed in the implementation.

An action plan for that initiative including timelines and budgets was then created between the groups and SAASE with resulting events/activities scheduled to take place during the summer of 2014.

Recommendations Arising from Pilots

Additional communities could benefit from the cultural awareness and understanding that has been experienced within these pilot projects. The key to achieving this end will be engagement of volunteer leaders from representative cultural backgrounds, allowing them the freedom to shape specific activities within the general context of an event. The three question categories of "orientation", "discovery" and "brainstorming" can be used verbatim to begin the process of establishing the necessary dialogue for this to happen. If the volunteer group within the community identifies potential projects through these steps, then design and delivery stages can follow. The delivery stage must also include a component of celebration and the recognition of where cultures have been made more aware and understood, such as individual testimonies and stories.

One key that emerged through each facilitation: The groups should be encouraged that it is not just important to create an event, but rather to experience their own growing awareness and understanding of culture through their volunteer positions in creating whatever event is to be.

Once each group caught on to this key principle, their clarity and impacts advanced noticeably!



SAASE Convention continued from page 1

registered we are all in for a treat. The Melfort Agricultural Society is really giving us a taste of the north, as they are putting together a fish fry for us. After the business meeting, those Ag Societies who have received funding through the Venture Project Program will be doing presentations on their projects. This is a great opportunity to find out more about the Venture Project program, as well as get some ideas on what might work in your community. Ken dueck from Tourism Saskatchewan will then do a presentation on Tourism Saskatchewan new Event Hosting Strategy. Ken will talk about the program and give us some ideas on the opportunity the new program will present form our Agricultural Societies. Friday night will then finish off with our host night put on by the Melfort Ag Society.

Saturday we have an excellent slate of speakers. Peter Male from the Pacific National Exhibition in Vancouver will be our keynote speaker. Peter will challenge and inspire. Peter is known for coming up with creative solutions to build an event. He understands the importance of building permanent relationships and partnerships within the community. Peter will relate how he has brought people from diverse backgrounds together to work for a common cause. No matter what size of organization you are with, Peter will provide insight on the value of creativity, innovation and collaboration.

Tracey Mann - the Executive Director for the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) - will be discussing some new programming and funding opportunities for SAASE members

through the new Community Places and Spaces program. This program will be replacing the Community Vitality program and will be running the next 2 years. The Community Vitality - small capital/community pride program has allowed SAASE members to access nearly \$400,000 in funding to assist with small capital projects to upgrade community facilities. This workshop will be very valuable to those Agricultural Societies looking to make facility improvements over the next 2 years.

Over the last few years the Lethbridge Exhibition has undergone some tremendous change. Rudy Friesen and Doug Krzyanowski will be discussing the changes Lethbridge has gone through. These include changes to the Board of Directors, staffing, programming, sponsorshi, events - basically the whole operations. Rudy and doug will not only discuss the changes, but more importantly how they were managed.

SaskEnergy is once again working with SAASE on our awards program. The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards will take place on Saturday March 1 at the Awards Luncheon. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our Agricultural Societies and communities - these awards give us an opportunity to recognize them. All Agricultural Societies are encouraged to nominate a volunteer for these awards. The nomination forms were sent out with the Directors Reports. If you need additional forms contact Glen at the SAASE office.

In the afternoon Dave White from

SAASE Convention

Synergy Solutions will be discussing with us a program that SAASE partnered with SaskCulture and 3 Agricultural Societies on. Dave will talk about the process he used, as well as the opportunities that this will present to work with newcomers to our communities. We will then hear from the Moose Jaw Exhibition, Swift Current Ag & Ex, as well as the Biggar Agricultural Societies on the process and the projects that they will be working on in the summer of 2014.

The SAASE Annual General Meeting will finish the convention off. Once again we will be holding an election for our Board of Directors - if you are interested in running for the Board give the SAASE office a call. The Convention will have a silent auction as well as 50/50 draws. The silent auction and 50/50 proceeds go to the Clark and Anne Lewis/Dalgliesh Family memorial scholarships. Each year SAASE awards 4 scholarships totalling \$5,000 to 4 outstanding young people nominated by our Agricultural Societies. Support the program by bringing silent auction items, as well as purchasing them. Thanks to everyone who participates, as well as to Bob and Wendy Hauser from West Coast amusements for their continued support of the is program.

This year's host hotel is the Canalta Hotel Melfort. It is located at the Stonegate Access in Melfort. The room rates are \$125.00/standard 2 queen beds and \$135.00/king or kitchenette plus taxes. To book your room call 306-752-4242 Join us for the fun, the learning and networking at this year's SAASE convention in Melfort from February 28 - March 1.



SAASE Tentative Convention Schedule

Melfort - February 28 - March 1

Friday, February 28, 2014

5:00 pm - Registration (Melfort Agricultural Society - Main Hall) - Drop off Silent Auction Items - Pick up Clean Team Shirts and Entry Tags
(Shuttle Service from the Canalta Hotel to the Melfort Agricultural Society will be available beginning at 4:30)

6:00 pm - Shore Lunch Friday - the Melfort Agricultural Society will be hosting a fish fry - come and enjoy the taste of Northern Saskatchewan

7:00 pm - SAASE Business Meeting/Venture Project Reports

7:30 pm - **Tourism Saskatchewan's Event Hosting Program** - **Ken Dueck** from Tourism Saskatchewan will discuss the new Tourism Saskatchewan event hosting program and the opportunities the program will present to SAASE's members.

8:30 pm - Host Evening (cash bar and entertainment) - Be ready to be entertained as the Melfort Agricultural Society plays host to a great evening of entertainment

Saturday, March 1st, 2014

Breakfast (Available at the Canalta Hotel)

7:30 am - **Continental Breakfast** - **Melfort Agricultural Society Main Hall**

8:30 am - **Keynote Speaker - Peter Male - Pacific National Exhibition** - Peter will challenge and inspire you. He will provide examples of innovation and creativity to deal with change and the current uncertain economic times. Peter will talk about how he has brought people from diverse backgrounds to work collaboratively on projects. No matter what size organization you are dealing with Peter will provide insight on the value of creativity, innovation and collaboration.

9:30 am - **"Programs and Funding Available Through the CIF"** - **Tracey Mann - Executive Director CIF** - SAASE's Agricultural Societies have accessed nearly \$400,000 in small capital and community pride funding from the Community Vitality Program through the CIF - Tracey will discuss the new programs and opportunities available through the Community Investment Fund (CIF).

10:15 am - Coffee Break

10:45 am - **"Everything Changes When You Do"** - Rudy Friesen and Doug Kryzanowski from the Lethbridge Exhibition - Rudy and Doug will talk about the change the Lethbridge Exhibition has gone through to rejuvenate their organization right from the Board of Directors to marketing, sponsorship, events, volunteers and staff.

12 noon - **SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards Luncheon**

1:30 pm - **"Deepening Your Community through Culture"** - Dave White - Synergy Solutions - Dave will report on a project partnered on by SAASE, SaskCulture, Swift Current Ag & Ex, Moose Jaw Exhibition and the Biggar Agricultural Society. The project is linking multicultural groups with our Agricultural Societies - Moose Jaw, Biggar and Swift Current will all give updates on the projects in each of their communities.

3:00 pm - Coffee Break - Silent Auction Closes

3:30 pm - SAASE Annual General Meeting

SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards

The SaskEnergy Volunteers Champion Awards will be taking place at 12 noon on Saturday March 1 in Melfort at the SAASE Convention and Annual Meeting. This is the 4th year that SaskEnergy have partnered on the Awards and SAASE would like to thank SaskEnergy for their continued support.

The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards categories will be Volunteer of the Year, Honorary Life Membership, as well as SAASE Achievement of the Year. The applications for nominations have been sent out and there will be a number of awards presented at the banquet. If you have not received the applications and you have a volunteer or event you would like to nominate

give Glen a call at the office and he will get an application out to you.

SaskEnergy continues to support the SAASE convention, and have long been supporters of rural Saskatchewan and the volunteers that make our communities and Agricultural societies so successful. Leslie Gosselin - Manager, Advertising and Community Relations for SaskEnergy said "At SaskEnergy, we know that behind every true success lies a group of committed volunteers. We are very proud to sponsor the Volunteer Awards, and recognize each of the selected individuals who make it possible for communities to celebrate through local Saskatchewan events hosted by Agricultural Societies and

Exhibitions."

SAASE President Lisa Haynes says that, "SAASE would like to thank SaskEnergy for their continued support of our Agricultural Societies through the Volunteer Champion Awards, as it reaffirms SaskEnergy's commitment to not only SAASE, but also to the communities and our volunteers that our Agricultural Societies represent. The support for this program and our convention helps SAASE make sure that we are able put on a first class awards ceremony. Our volunteers are our lifeblood and this program ensures that we are able to recognize their contributions to our Agricultural Societies and the communities they represent."



SAASE and Swift Current Ag & Ex Winners at the 2013 IAFE Awards

Both SAASE and the Swift Current Ag and Ex were recognized for excellence at the 2013 International Association of Fairs and Expositions convention in Las Vegas in the beginning of December.

For the second year in a row the SAASE newsletter was named best newsletter in the K&K Communications Awards for State and Provincial Associations.

The Swift Current Agricultural and Exhibition Association received two international awards: an Agricultural Award of Excellence

and an Award of Distinction for Communications. The Agricultural Award was received for the Discover the Farm: a Farm Facts Experience along with the Ag & Ex Hatching School Program. The communications award was received for the fair anniversary program. Congratulations goes out to both SAASE and the Swift Current Ag & Ex for their great showing in the international competition.



SAASE President Lisa Haynes accepts the Best Newsletter Award



Tracy Stevenson accepts Agricultural Award of Excellence



Agribition Selling Stock Panels

Canadian Western Agribition have a number of Keen 400 Series stock panels for sale. If you wanted to look at buying a bulk number of them they are accepting offers. Below is a listing of the panels, gates and posts available - if interested please contact Ken Fuchs (306-536-6288) or kfuchs@agribition.com

- 123 - 12' panels @ \$125.00 each
- 43 - 12' panel gates @ \$175.00 each
- 22 - 10' alley gates @ \$175.00 each
- 4 way posts - \$40.00 each



SAASE Members Approved for Funding CIF Announces New Program

SAASE members continue to access money through the CIF Community Vitality Program. Over the course of the program SAASE members have accessed nearly \$400,000 for small capital projects and Community Pride events. For the final deadline 3 SAASE member projects were approved. The Fairmeade Agricultural Society was approved for \$10,000 for fairgrounds upgrades. The Ogema Agricultural Society was approved for \$6,305 for their 100th Anniversary celebration, and the Mortlach Agricultural Society was approved for \$5,700 for Historical Plaques to be placed around the community.

In addition to the funding announcements, the CIF also announced changes to the Community Vitality Program.

CIF Awards Almost \$4 Million in Grants and Announces New Programming for Saskatchewan Communities

The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) today announced approval of 226 grants totaling \$3,981,021 in support of enhanced quality of life for Saskatchewan residents.

The CIF's programs contribute to individual, family and community wellbeing through grants for childhood development, positive life choices, active living, community celebrations and facility upgrades, and volunteerism.

Today, through its Community Grant

Program, the CIF approved 102 grants totaling \$1,596,765 in support of the wellbeing and health of Saskatchewan's children and youth, families and communities. Grant approvals through the Community Vitality Program total \$1,309,731 with 104 grants to help improve community facilities or support significant milestones and cultural community celebrations. The CIF also approved 20 grants totaling \$1,074,525 through its Physical Activity Grant Program to encourage increased physical activity among Saskatchewan residents.

In addition to the grants, the CIF today announced programming changes that are designed to simplify access to its funding and better align its programming with the needs and priorities of Saskatchewan communities. The CIF's Community Grant Program will be broadened to accommodate physical activity and problem gambling prevention initiatives, support of nonprofits, youth engagement and leadership development, and community cultural and milestone celebrations. The program will continue to help support healthy development of children and youth, community inclusiveness and accessibility, and positive life choices. It will include aspects of the CIF's former Physical Activity, Community Vitality (Pride Projects and Events), Urban Aboriginal, and Problem Gambling Prevention Programs. Small capital projects such as energy efficiencies or community facility upgrades will be supported through the new, two year

Community Places and Spaces Program, replacing the Community Vitality Program. A community facility may be a rink, hall, arena, outdoor playground or ball diamond, or other community meeting place. Both programs become effective April 1, 2014.

"With these improvements, the Community Initiatives Fund will continue to support Saskatchewan communities and contribute to the health and wellbeing of children, youth and families," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said. "Since its inception, the CIF has provided grants to communities, organizations and programs that have been enhancing the quality of life we enjoy here in Saskatchewan." "We're pleased to be able to continue our contributions to an enhanced quality of life for Saskatchewan people," says Tracey Mann, executive director of the Community Initiatives Fund. "And we're excited that through our new programming, the CIF will more directly align its grants to respond to the current needs of Saskatchewan communities."

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. Grant recipients, their projects, and more information about CIF's new programming is at www.cifsask.org.

CIF Looking for Volunteers

The Community Initiatives Fund is inviting interested individuals to volunteer as an adjudication committee member for its Community Grant Program. Four adjudication committees are being established in early 2014 and will be responsible for reviewing applications and providing funding recommendations to the CIF Board. Previous grant adjudication experience is not required, but applicants should be available to participate 3 times per year for 2 years. The CIF recently announced changes to its grant programs that will come into effect April 1, 2014 and is encouraging individuals from a variety of backgrounds and experience to participate as adjudicators. Further information about the CIF, its new programs, and the adjudication committees is available at www.cifsask.org. The deadline for committee applications is January 15, 2014.



Connect • Engage • Thrive

SaskPower Renews Clean Team for 2014



SaskPower has announced they have renewed funding for the SAASE Clean Team program for 2014. The \$45,000 commitment will fund the program for the 35 Clean Team locations around Saskatchewan

2013 marked the 11th year of the SaskPower Clean Team program. The Clean Team has grown from an initial membership of 10 Agricultural Societies to the current 35 Agricultural Societies and communities involved with the program. The Clean Team has meant a great deal to all the groups involved. The youth and community groups, who are the Clean Team, have been able to raise

much needed funds for their continued programming, but more importantly this program has given their members a great deal of responsibility and allowed them to grow as individuals within their communities. The program has given the Agricultural Societies involved opportunities to develop new partnerships within their communities, as well as doing something very important for the environment. For SAASE the partnership has been very special in that we have been able to be part of a program that is truly provincial in nature.

Over the past 11 years the Clean

Team program has made a huge impact on several fronts around the province. The amount of trash and recycled material has been enormous, with there being a tremendous impact on the environment. The Clean Team has had a very positive impact on the communities it is in, as well as the youth and community groups that have been supported by the program. The Clean Team "brand" is now synonymous with youth, Agricultural Societies, SaskPower and the environment in 35 communities around Saskatchewan, as the program has been seen in action by millions of people attending Saskatchewan events. The profile of the program has also gained national and international exposure.

2014 will mark the 12th year of the program. SAASE and SaskPower are currently in negotiations as far as a longer term agreement is concerned. On behalf of SAASE, our Board of Directors, Agricultural Societies and community groups involved with the program SAASE would like to thank SaskPower for their continued commitment to the environment and Saskatchewan communities. SAASE looks forward to working with SaskPower on the Clean Team program in the future.



Tourism Saskatchewan's Event Hosting Strategy

Events are one of the common threads that weave throughout all communities in our province. They enhance the quality of life for our province's citizens, represent our culture and sense of pride in our communities and are a critical part of our province's history and future.

In addition to the contribution that events make to economic impact and employment within Saskatchewan's tourism sector, they also attract visitors to the province and enhance our positive reputation as an event hosting destination of choice. On December 9th Tourism Saskatchewan unveiled the province's new event hosting strategy. Below is the press release :

SASKATCHEWAN EVENT HOSTING STRATEGY UNVEILED

Today, Minister responsible for Tourism Saskatchewan Tim McMillan was joined by Tourism Saskatchewan CEO Pat Fiacco to unveil the Saskatchewan Event Hosting Strategy. The announcement marked the opening of Tourism Saskatchewan's HOST Saskatchewan Conference in Regina, attended by approximately 150 representatives of the tourism sector.

"The Grey Cup has capped off a remarkable year for events in Saskatchewan which included the JUNOs and the Memorial Cup," McMillan said. "This plan will help grow the tourism industry and ensure Saskatchewan will remain the best spot

in Canada to host an event."

Developing a provincial strategy for major event hosting was a priority identified in the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth. The framework that is now in place will make the province more competitive in terms of attracting events and expand capacity for hosting national and international sporting competitions and cultural celebrations.

"Saskatchewan hospitality is renowned," Fiacco said. "We have a reputation for success in hosting events that provide attendees and guests of our province with memorable experiences. At the same time, these events have a strong economic impact, bring profile to Saskatchewan and enhance business and tourism."

The new program seeks to enhance the province's capacity for hosting events by providing stakeholders with assistance in terms of mentorship and advice, and promotional and financial support. The strategy is designed to prompt growth in visitor attendance and tourism spending, as well as enhance the visitor experience. Consultations took place with stakeholders, event organizations and hosting groups throughout the development of the new strategy.

Communities, organizations and event committees are eligible to apply to four program categories:

Community Annual Events - provides project-based funding to help event organizers develop tourism festivals

and events in communities across Saskatchewan (public celebrations with a total operating budget of less than \$100,000).

National and International Events

- provides support to encourage the attraction and hosting of one-time, national and international sporting and cultural events to Saskatchewan.

Marquee Annual Events - provides project-based funding to help organizers develop tourism festivals and events in communities across Saskatchewan (generally with an operating budget of over \$100,000).

Special Tourism Products - provides support to activities which positively contribute to the image and perception of Saskatchewan as an enticing destination and demonstrate strong potential to generate significant visitation to our province

The Saskatchewan Event Hosting Strategy outlines criteria for each category. The document can be downloaded from Tourism Saskatchewan's industry website at www.industrymatters.com.

SAASE's Agricultural Societies host many of Saskatchewan's tourism events every year and this new program will present some great opportunities for funding or enhancing events. Ken Dueck who is the Executive Director of Industry and Community Development for Tourism Saskatchewan will be doing a presentation at the SAASE convention in Melfort.



Swift Current's Young Ranchman's Show

Kinetic Exhibition Park came alive September 27-29, 2013 with the Swift Current Agricultural and Exhibition Association hosting the 'Young Ranchman's All Breeds Youth Livestock Show'. Being held in conjunction with the 'Ranchman's Ridin' and Recitin', Young Ranchman's added a youthful flare to a weekend steeped with old West traditions. The Beef Pen Show, Heavy Horse Pull, Stock Dog Trials and the Ranch Horse Competitions were a good mix of activities for all ages and interests to enjoy. Hooves and Feathers Show and Sale along with the Cowboy Poetry made for a fun filled weekend.

The Young Ranchman's Show is an event open to all youth 21 years of age and under. After many months of planning, 108 young Agricultural enthusiast gathered together for three days of not only livestock events, but also Public Speaking, Art, Photography, Team Show Judging and most importantly networking and team building. The overwhelming response to this show

confirmed the need to provide an event that encourages our provincial youth to remain involved in agriculture.

Thirty public speakers filled a board room waiting for their turn to present a speech. Topics ranged from 'Scuba Diving', 'Driving across the USA to the Denver Stock Show' to 'Swimming with the Dolphins' and 'Raising a Million Cats'. Some participants were seasoned speakers and others first time participants. The poise and confidence of the youth involved certainly impressed the panel of judges. Judges were teachers, Aldermen, ranchers and toastmasters - all individuals who have practiced public speaking within their professions. They noted the importance of this skill to the juniors, applauding them for a job well done and encouraging the group to keep excelling with this life skill.

Along with promoting youth to be responsible for livestock and to work alongside one another, this week-end offered help to those who were in need of a little extra expertise. This show was not just a cattle show for exhibiting livestock; a minimum of 2 'Skills competitions' had to be entered. Judging, showmanship, grooming, public speaking and art and photography were part of this year's skills category. Being that this was our first year, we wanted the youth that have never attended a show like this to have a good experience entering classes that were somewhat familiar.

Photos with a 'Beef Cattle Influence' theme were judged and displayed, as well as: pencil sketches, paintings, Modge Podge Skulls and jewellery boxes, Lego art, stall signs and hand drawn posters. All were an excellent exhibition of the young people's talents. Plans for next year are to include marketing and literature, as the intention is to include a few new additions every year.

Friday night was an evening to get acquainted



and have some fun after a feed of Pizza and Pop! Although it was in a mixer format, a lot of questions were asked about the agricultural industry to create a quiz bowl competition. Along with this, the marshmallow toss and other games, teams used strategies to get the Oreo cookie that was stuck to one team members face moved down to their mouth. You can imagine the excitement that caused! We ended the evening with a fun old fashion game of musical chairs.

Saturday morning would come very early for those who were involved in the show team judging competition. After instruction on the formalities; exhibitors worked in pairs to judge a class of bred yearling heifers and fill out a judging card in the preliminaries.

Twenty-three teams of 46 participants competed, most had no prior experience or knowledge of this type of competition. At the end of the day three senior teams and three junior teams made their way to the show ring 'one duo' at a time. One person took on the role of judge while the other was the ring man. Reasons given to the crowd on a microphone were well presented.

At the end of the competition the top two senior teams and two junior teams were announced. It was interesting to receive the feedback we had on this competition as many pairs were already planning their strategy for next year.

Because we followed their criteria and met all the requirements, we are the first Saskatchewan- based youth livestock show that qualifies youth to move on to compete at the Canadian National Young Cattleman

Continued on Page 15



Young Ranchman's
ALL BREEDS LIVE



of the Year Program. Chase Miller, Cody LaFrentz, Sadie Anwender and Georgia Pawlitza will advance and our show team judging winners will go to the Western Canada Show Team Judging Finals in Bashaw, Alberta. Senior show teams of Chase Miller & Cody LaFrentz, and Julia Pawlitza & Cheyenne Catley along with our junior teams of Sadie Anwender & Garrett Liebreich and Kyle Wall & Shane Hanel will be off to Bashaw in 2014!

The little Rancher program had 41 registered youth 8 years old and under. This program was geared to provide age appropriate information about the agricultural industry and safety, along with games, arts and craft and lots of snacks!

At the end of the day, this group of enthusiastic participants made their way to the show ring to wait for their turn to tell the crowd a few things about themselves using the microphone. Most were very eager to participate in this while others needed a little prompting. Whether they realized this or not, it was a fun way to introduce these Little Ranchers to public speaking and in the future, show team judging

This program may have been the most

important part to start to introduce youth to today's Agricultural Industry. We expect this portion of the Young Ranchman's show to grow quickly with both rural and urban participation. Perhaps this is the key to have a better understanding of the Agriculture Industry. In today's world of social media, it is our industry's responsibility to provide age appropriate factual information.

The banquet Saturday night was attended by 300 people. Sponsors were acknowledged for their commitment to the show and the daily award winners were asked to come to the front of the room for applause for their success in the skill competitions that day.

Our guest speaker for the night was Robert Dixon. He was born and raised in Vermilion on a mixed farming operation. Robert runs a small herd of purebred Shorthorn cattle that are shown and sold across North America. He manages and markets his herd through distinctly contemporary venues, such as online sales and multi-media marketing campaigns.

Robert is a graduate of the Agribusiness Diploma program at Lakeland College. He now instructs at the college in the

Agribusiness program. Among the courses he teaches is Agricultural communications, Business Management, Livestock Genetics, Public Relations and Event Management and Livestock Marketing. Before coming to the college, Robert worked for the United Farmers of Alberta (UFA) in public relations/communications and as a business analyst. He also serves as the chairman of the board for Green Hectares, a non-profit agricultural organization. He was also recognized this year as one of Alberta's 'rising stars' as one of 'The Next 10'. In his spare time, Robert enjoys traveling and riding horses. He travels to all the major livestock exhibits and shows throughout North America connecting with producers, businesses and organizations. Robert enjoys speaking at agricultural events, and particularly to youth involved in agriculture. He is passionate and dedicated to connecting people to agriculture.

We were thrilled to have Robert share his experiences with our participants, inspiring them to tackle the agricultural industry! His message to everyone was to be proud of an industry that feeds the world! Gone are the days as describing ourselves as Just a Farmer or Just a Rancher. He reassured us it was OK to think outside the box and that anything is possible.

The Young Ranchman's Youth Livestock Show was a huge success and plans for next year's show are well under way. With some additional events and experience, our hope is to make this 'The Premier Youth Agricultural Show in Saskatchewan'.

Thank-you to SAASE, Tourism Saskatchewan and the Swift Current Agriculture and Exhibition Association along with all sponsors, for providing funding to help start the Young Ranchman's All Breed Youth Livestock Show. This valuable program will be here for the betterment of the future of the Agricultural Industry.



Mortlach and Area Fall Fair

The Mortlach Agricultural Society was looking to partner with the local school on putting together a Fall Fair. The whole community got involved and the Fair was held on September 27. The Venture Project program assisted with some seed money, and plans are already under way for next year. Below is the report submitted by the Mortlach Agricultural Society.

Mortlach School has held a Fall Fair each September since 1989. In an effort to bring school and community together, it was expanded to include entries from both school children and the community. With the SAASE and Tourism Saskatchewan Venture Project Fund and under Glen Duck's guidance we got the project planned and organized.

The school gymnasium was transformed into a display area for the entries which started to arrive at the school early in the morning. Adult categories included: flowers, grains, garden produce, canning, baking, sewing, quilting, crocheting, knitting handicrafts, art work and photography. Children categories included: creative arts, artwork, baking, handicrafts, vegetables, and photography.

The judges were local volunteers who inspected, tasted, smelled, measured, checked articles for details, and determined the winners. They worked diligently and had decisions made by lunch time.

Joan Searle, the Mortlach Museum Curator, set up a display about previous community fairs. Her research has shown that Mortlach Agricultural Society was active in 1909. The 15th Annual Exhibition was held July 25, 1923. Mortlach Agricultural Society's 18th Annual Fair was held July 21, 1926 with \$2,000.00 in prizes being awarded! Admission to the fairgrounds was fifty cents. Mortlach's last fair, Wheatlands Agricultural Fair, was held July 1991; the theme for

this fair was "Happy Days are Here Again".

During the afternoon, the Fall Fair was open to visitors to view the entries. Students with their classroom teachers stopped by as did folks from the community. Everyone was excited to look for red ribbons!! There was also a table of garden produce for sale that people had donated – many folks purchased vegetables for their family's meals.

A beef-on-the-bun supper was held at the Mortlach Hall with proceeds going to support next year's Fall Fair. The committee was very thankful to the Molde family who donated the beef

for the supper.

The day ended with the Awards Ceremony held in the gymnasium. It was a very exciting evening as children and adults both collected their prize money for their entries.

Overall the day was very successful –the school had many visitors that day, competition was keen, and local talents were on display. This year was the first community fair in twenty-two years – and we are only looking for bigger and better next year – happy days are here again.

Thank you to the SAASE - Tourism Saskatchewan Venture Fund.



Rosthern Host High School Rodeo

The Rosthern Ag Society held our 1st annual high school rodeo on September 1st and 2nd 2013. It was an amazing weekend, we had beautiful weather and the event was a huge success. We had over 70 horse trailers and over 100 rodeo entries. Youth competitors came from all over the province and everyone was pleased with how well the event went over. Our rodeo weekend started on Sunday with a junior high rodeo, followed by the high school rodeo. After supper we had a "family fun-raiser" to help support the Saskatchewan High School Rodeo Provincial Finals. It was a fun evening with many laughs as parents competed against each other and their families. Events included, adult goat tying, hide races, and bucket races. Monday events once again started with the junior high rodeo followed by buckle presentations to the winners of each event. The high



school rodeo concluded our weekend with buckle presentations following that event. We would like to thank our stock contractor Willick Rodeo, grounds crew, Roth Road Landscaping and excavating, our local business for

sponsoring buckles, SAASE and Tourism Saskatchewan for the new venture grant. Without all of you this rodeo would not have been a success, we are already planning next years' rodeo, to be bigger and better. (Submitted by the Rosthern Ag. Society)



Ministry of Agriculture Begins Premises Identification Program

Recently, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture began operation of a Premises Identification (PID) registry. Over the next few months, the Ministry plans to contact agricultural exhibitors and assist them to register on the new voluntary database. This new registry will take over the current PID database operated by the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA).

Premises identification is one of three pillars of a full traceability system. The other two pillars are animal identification and animal movement reporting. Together the three pillars enable veterinarians and others to track the locations where animals have been located and to identify other animals with which they have been in contact.

Premises Identification:

- allows for rapid notification of livestock and poultry stakeholders
- helps prepare for animal health and environmental emergencies (e.g. livestock disease and any compromise to food integrity)
- facilitates rapid evacuation of animals in the event of a natural disaster or man-made emergency (e.g. flood, fire, hazardous chemical spill)
- helps track animals in an emergency
- reduces the impact of an emergency
- helps maintain or provide for greater market access

A premises identification number is a unique number assigned to a parcel of land, on which animals are grown, kept, assembled or disposed. The

system will be voluntary; however the Ministry and industry will encourage producers and operators to enroll.

Over the next several months, Ministry staff will be in contact with specific sectors of the livestock industry to participate in the launch and testing of the database. In addition to Agricultural Exhibitions, we will be contacting vet clinics, community pastures and abattoirs.

In the case of Agricultural Societies, I will contact each location by phone and encourage enrollment (it is voluntary to enroll). The phone interview should take approximately 15 minutes, obtaining information such as contact information, legal land description of the exhibition, species of animals held at the exhibition and numbers of animals of each species. A consent form will also need to be signed.

I can be contacted at 306-787-7702 for further information.

Joe Novak, P. Ag.
Senior Legislation and Policy Analyst
Livestock Branch
Ministry of Agriculture



Bits & Bites

- Judging entry tags are once again available from the SAASE office. There is no cost for the entry tags. If you need tags give the SAASE office a call and let Glen know how many you need and he will get them shipped out to you or you can pick them up at the SAASE Convention in Melfort.
- If your Agricultural Society is interested in hosting a Farm Safety Day Camp in 2015 give Glen a call at the office. There are no more Farm Safety dates available for 2014
- This year's SAASE Convention and Annual Meeting will be held in Melfort and hosted by the Melfort Agricultural Society. The convention will take place February 28 - March 1, 2014. The convention packages have been included with the newsletter.
- SaskEnergy is once again sponsoring our awards program at the convention. Get your applications 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. The awards also recognize the Achievement of the Year and Honourary Life Memberships. The Awards Applications were sent out with the Directors Reports.
- If you are looking for a great deal on stock panels - Agribition are looking at selling off a bunch - check out the article on page 11 for more details.
- Make sure you get your Directors Annual Reports in as soon as possible, as well as the SaskPower Clean Team reports for those Agricultural Societies involved in the program.

Coming Events

December 2013

31 New Years Eve Party Saskatoon

January 2014

13-16 Crop Production Show Saskatoon
15 Centennial Day Opening Extravaganza Swift Current

February 2014

1-2 Groundhog Special Horse Show Moose Jaw
11-13 Agri-Visions Lloydminster
14-16 Saskatchewan Equine Expo Saskatoon
22-24 Prairieland Youth Leadership Saskatoon
28 - 2 Snow Drags Saskatoon
28-1 SAASE Convention & Annual Meeting Melfort

March 2014

1 SAASE Convention & Annual Meeting Melfort
1-2 Snow Drags Saskatoon
2-3 95th Pride of the Prairies Bull Sale Lloydminster
7-9 Step into Spring Trade Show Swift Current
8 Evening Out for Farmers and Friends North Battleford
15-16 Focus on Women Trade Show Prince Albert
21-23 Showcase 2014 Lloydminster
28-30 Gardenscape Saskatoon

April 2014

4-5 Agrimex Trade Show North Battleford
5-6 Sask Beef Expo Saskatoon
10-11 Western Canadian Dairy Expo Saskatoon
10-12 Discover the Farm Swift Current

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

Connecting our province
to the world.



SaskTel is committed to helping both rural and urban people in Saskatchewan. In addition to reaching 98 percent of the population with wireless coverage and 99 percent with high speed internet access, SaskTel is proud to support community groups and events across the province.

It's all for you.

sasktel.com

SaskTel
Your Life. Connected.™

