

From small town to the NHL Sanheim's hockey dream has come true

BY KARA KINNA Like most small town kids on the prairies, Elk-horn's Travis Sanheim has had a pair of skates strapped onto his feet since he was four years old. And like many young kids growing up playing hock-ey in small town rinks, Sanheim wanted to be an

ey in small own rinks, Sanheim wanted to be an NHL player one day. Today, in his rookie sea-son with the Philadelphia Flyers, Sanheim can say that hockey dream has come true come true.

The 21-year-old defenseman has played 34 games with the Flyers, earning a goal and four assists so far in his inaugural season.

"As a young kid right from the get go, whenev-er anybody asked what I er anybody asked what I wanted to do when I grew up I instantly told them I wanted to play in the NHL," says Sanheim. "As a young kid that has been a dream of mine and in my mindset since my early vears of rlaying hockey If years of playing hockey. It was something that early on I wanted to do, and I had a mindset of doing it, and I think it didn't really come to reality until a little bit later on when I started to play Junior and started to realize that maybe it is a

possibility." Sanheim says he "didn't have any other plan made," and it's a good thing he didn't, because from his earliest days on skates at the Elkhorn rink he eventually rose through the ranks to reach the NHL.

"When I first started to play I was four or five years old. I think I started



Travis Sanheim in action with the Philadelphia Flyers.

skating at around three. I was on the ice early," he

I was on the ice early," he says. "Growing up all the way through until through my Bantam years I didn't play Triple A until Midget, so I played Elkhorn House League up until the end of Bantam and then once Midget started I played for the Yellowhead Chiefs,

which was just a regional team for us." Two people in Elkhorn were Sanheim's influenc-es—his dad and Dennis

Kyle. "Mv "My dad actually coached me until about Peewee. He was the as-sistant coach and we had another guy that helped out as well," says Sanheim.

"The other guy was Dennis Kyle. I played with his son and he is one of my close friends that I have grown up with my whole life. He coached me all the way coached me all the way through my minor hockey with my dad. "We had a really good team growing up. We had a lot of good young players that wanted be out there

and wanted to get better, and think that was the big-gest thing is that we didn't need to be pushed to be out there—we all wanted to be out there. We were eager to play, and they just helped guide us along through this process and made us the players that we grew up to be " up to be." Like all kids who want to

aspire to hockey greatness one day, Sanheim had his pro hockey idols as well. "Growing up there was obviously defencemen in the NHL like Nicklas Lid-strom and guys like Drew Doughty and Duncan Keith that I watched grow-ing up that I wanted to eming up that I wanted to em-ulate in my game. As a re-ally young kid I remember driving into Brandon just to watch the Wheat Kings play. You always idolized those guys. I wanted to play Junior hockey and then play in the Western Hockey League, and lucky enough I was able to do that." ing up that I wanted to em-

that." Sanheim played two seasons with the regional Yellowhead Midget AAA Chiefs before joining the Calgary Hitmen in the WHL as a 17-year-old. He played three seasons with the Hitmen. He was also part of

the Hitmen. He was also part of Canada West at the 2013 World U-17 Hockey Chal-lenge. In 2014 Sanheim led all defensemen in scor-ing at the 2014 IIHF World U18 Championships where he helped Canada win bronze. He also played for Canada in the 2016 World Junior Ice Hockey champi-onships.

onships. In 2014, he was a first-round draft pick, 17th overall, of the Philadelphia Flyers.

Flyers. He played his first full pro hockey season in 2016-17, accumulating 10 goals and 37 points in 76 games for the AHL's Leigh Valley Phantoms, the top affiliate of the Flyers. *Continued on page* 19 F





Party band Trooper booked for next Ugly Christmas sweater party



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BY KARA KINNA The Rocanville Community Hall committee and Rocanville Fire Department have already booked their next act for their third annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Party, and it's Ca-nadian classic rock and party band

Trooper. The date is set for Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018.

Country music singer Aaron Pritchett took the stage at the sec-ond annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Party on Dec. 16, and in 2016 it was Rocavanville's own Jess Moskaluke. The concerts are a fundraiser for

the Rocanville community hall and the Rocanville fire department.

Owen Wilson, the organizer of the Ugly Christmas Sweater parties, says numbers were down for the Aaron Pritchett concert, but the show still went over well.

"I thought it went pretty good, the show was really great and he put on a good performance," says Wil-son. "And any reviews I heard from anyone who was there that I talked

anyone who was there that I talked to were that they were really happy with the performance as well. "Numbers were lower than what we were hoping for, but it is the Christmas season. It seemed liked lots of people were busy." Around 350 people came out to party on Dec. 16.

Before the dust from the second an-nual Ugly Christmas Sweater party had even cleared, it was announced that Trooper would be coming in 2018

Wilson says Trooper was men-tioned as a possibility early on, but the idea got put on hold for a bit. "It kind of got put to the wayside,"

"I talked to a few different bands and had one band almost locked in but they changed their price. Anyone else I talked to the price seemed high for what we would be able to budget

for. "I started digging around and then went for a shot in the dark and went with Trooper. They are a little high-er priced but they are known, and hopefully that can draw out a bigger crowd.

"The early interest was part of the spark. Last year and this year it was both country bands and so I thought maybe if we switched it to classic rock that might get different people out instead of keeping it the same every time, it will switch it up a little

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bit. "I put a little blurb on our Facebook age and the early response was real-v good and everyone seemed excited about it. Hopefully the enthusiasm sticks around."

prooper's ten studio albums have earned multiple gold and platinum awards and Hot Shots, continues to be one of Universal Music Canada's best selling catalog CDs and one of the country's most enduring party soundtracks. Trooper's ten studio albums have

We're Here for a Good Time (Not "We're Here for a Good Time (Not a Long Time)", "Raise a Little Hell", "The Boys in the Bright White Sports-car", "Two For the Show", "Pretty Lady" "Good Ol' General Hand Grenade", "Round, Round We Go", "Santa Maria", "Janine" are just a few of the Trooper hits that are known and loved across the country and loved across the country.

"I've know their music since I was a kid" says Wilson. "You heard 'Raise a Little Hell' on the radio when you're real young. Wilson says he'd like to keep the

Ugly Christmas Sweater Party going as an annual tradition right before Christmas.

"I'd like to keep it going and turn it into an annual tradition but we have to see how things go and go from there. It would be nice if everyone marked it on their calendar but it's definitely understandable there are a lots of commitments out there (at Christmas) too.'

Fundraising for the new hall in Rocanville is going well. Of the \$800,000 that needed to be raised from the com-munity, there is still approximately \$370,000 left to raise. Rocanville Hall Committee president Steve Fortney says the hall committee knew they were in it of for the long term, and he expects fundraising to be ongoing for about eight more years. Continued on Page 17



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Opposition leader Andrew Scheer, left, and Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert Kitchen in Weyburn Friday.

Andrew Scheer visits Weyburn

Dr. Robert Kitchen, Member of Parliament for Souris-Moose Mountain, hosted the opposition leader Andrew Scheer at a roundtable discussion with local business professionals in Weyburn on Friday, January 5. Local business operators are concerned

Local business operators are concerned about the Liberal government's plan to raise taxes on their businesses, and about the consequences that these tax hikes will have on communities in Souris-Moose Mountain, Kitchen said.

"I was happy to host Andrew in Weyburn so that he could meet some of the hardworking people from my riding who will be negatively impacted by the Liberal's attack on local businesses," said Kitchen.

"These tax changes will have serious repercussions on local business owners in rural Canada and in rural Saskatchewan in particular."

in particular." Under relentless pressure from Canada's Conservatives, the Liberal government retreated from its first set of proposals for these tax hikes. However, their delay in releasing the details of these changes has prolonged the uncertainty faced by local businesses and the workers, who have been unable to make future plans about savings, investments and retirement.

"Local businesses create jobs and opportunities in communities across Canada, and so many Canadians depend on them for a good living. That's why our government needs to treat local businesses with respect. Conservatives will keep fighting for lower taxes for all Canadians: families, individuals and businesses," said Andrew Scheer.

"I know that we as Conservatives will continue to be the voice of the taxpayer, and I sincerely appreciate Andrew's hard work, dedication, and leadership on this issue. Our local business owners are the backbone of the community, and we will fight this tax hike every step of the way," concluded Kitchen.

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Ten tips for a budget-friendly vacation

Who said you needed to tighten your belt to be able to see the world? Turn your dream vacation into a reality (without breaking the bank!) thanks to these helpful tips:

1. Consult a travel professional. In addition to saving you valuable time, travel agents can often offer worthwhile discounts that aren't available to the general public.

2. Make it a group trip. Groups generally benefit from preferential rates that reduce costs for everybody involved.

3. Avoid peak season. Assuming the weather permits it, the off-season is the best time to find great travel deals!

4. Choose your destination wisely. Opt for countries with a reasonable exchange rate and cost of living.

5. Opt for package deals. Prioritize all-inclusive resorts for your vacation under the tropical sun.

6. Book your flight in advance. Booking your flight in advance is a good way to save on the cost of travel (not taking all-inclusive vacations and last-minute deals into account).

7. Prioritize public transportation. Use the bus or the subway to get around town rather than a taxi. Renting a car between several people can also prove cost-efficient. Make sure to fuel up outside of big city centres, where gas is usually more expensive.

8. Skip pricy restaurants. Dine in food courts, choose a hotel room with a kitchenette or make your own lunches while travelling instead of eating out at expensive restaurants

9. Save on accommodations. Swap houses with another family, rent a property between several people, stay in a hostel or camp outdoors to save on accommodations.

10. Take advantage of free activities. Festivals, beaches, parks - there are many ways to enjoy a new city without spending a dime.

Seniors are often eligible for special discounts on car rentals, hotels, excursions, cruises, etc. Take advantage of the many options available to you!





For your destination wedding How to fine-tune your guest list

The old adage "less is more" is a sound approach when thinking about who to include on your guest list. From ac-tivities and transportation to food and drink, it adds up. Re-member, weddings are based on a per head basis, so keeping the members down will keep the cost down and also create a more intimate setting. If you're struggling with where to start on your guest list, follow these tips.

Invite Only Current Friends and Family

Only invite the people you are closest with. Just because they are a work associate or someone you met a few times in college, it doesn't mean they need an invitation. The same goes for family. If you were in diapers the last time your great aunt saw you it's probably not essential you invite her. Create A & B Lists

The A-list consists of people you can't imagine getting married without. Your B-list might be more distant relatives or friends you haven't seen in a while that you'd like to in-vite. Write out your "A-list" first and see where that gets you, then start adding your "B-list".

Establish a Rule for Plus-ones

Plus-ones can be tricky. These seemingly small inclusions can add big costs to your wedding. The best way to handle this is to make a blanket rule for all you guests. This rule can be that they must be dating at least six months, or you have to meet the guest's significant other prior to the wedding. Make sure everyone is held accountable to the same rule.

Make a Firm Decision on Kids

Kids create an entirely different vibe at weddings. If you want kids there, make sure you have ample activities to them entertained. If you want a kid-free wedding, make sure

you specifically list out the names of the people invited on the invitation so your guests know not to bring kids.

Put Yourself in Their Shoes Even though it's your day, a wedding is meant to be cel-ebrated with the people you love most, so make sure you choose a destination that offers possibilities and perks for those on a budget

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How to plan a kid-friendly wedding



Are there children on your wedding-day guest list? If so, make sure the event is as fun for them as it is for the adults

Hire a babysitter

Hire a babysitter Employing an experienced babysitter will allow par-ents to fully enjoy the day themselves. A good rule of thumb is one babysitter per five children, but this will vary depending on the kids' ages.

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During the ceremony Don't seat all the kids together. Instead, ask that parents keep their children close by to ensure they stay calm and quiet. You may also choose to ask kids to participate in the ceremony, for example by throwing rose petals or blowing bubbles as you walk down the aisle.

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During the reception

Take care of your young guests as soon as they arrive. If the reception is taking place outside, set up bouncy castle or an obstacle course. Makeup artists, clowns and magi-cians are other options to keep the little ones entertained.

During the meal Keep children in mind when planning your menu. They'll prefer well-known dishes like chicken or pasta. Also, request that they be served first—to most kids, a five-course meal is a long, boring affair. Help them stay retirently mergidize come to use a colourise to de a patient by providing some toys or colouring books. Dur-ing the evening Make sure the children have access to a quiet, comfortable spot where they can play while the adults finish their meal. You may also want to bring a few movies for the little ones to watch when it starts to get late.

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Bouquet toss 101

It is customary for the bride to share her good fortune by tossing her bouquet into a crowd of single female wedding guests. With a bit of luck, whoever catches the flowers will, legend says, get married within the coming year. If you want to go through with this classic custom during your own wedding but aren't sure exactly when the ideal moment is, read on for some insight.

If a photo shoot is planned for after the ceremony, hang on to your bouquet to include it in your pictures. You'll have plenty of time to toss it later on during the recep-tion, once the ambiance has warmed up and your guests are ready for a friendly floral fight. After enjoying a de-lectable meal—most likely interrupted by several ten-der kisses—keep the fun going by gathering all eligible dames on the dance floor. Get into position and launch away! Your legendary toss is sure to put a smile on some-one's face and kick off an unforgettable evening.



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If you're attached to your magnificent bridal bouquet and you don't want to part from it during the tossing, the solution is simple: ask your florist to prepare a sec-ond, more modest bouquet specifically for the toss. This way you can carry on the tradition while saving your gor-orane between the numer of the geous bouquet for yourself!

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# Alanna Koch closest to Wall legacy

John Gormley

As the Saskatchewan Party chooses a new leader later this month—the winner to be sworn in as Saskatchewan's 15th pre-mier—an interesting and often confusing divide has emerged between SaskParty members and some commentators in the chattering classes.

chattering classes. The pundits' narrative goes like this: Brad Wall defined the SaskParty. His brand is the party's brand. The candidate who will stand the best chance of changing the SaskParty and en-suring its political success is the one who can shake-up the party and be the most unlike Wall.

party and be the most unlike Wall. This analysis sounds like someone's been tucking into a July 1st pot stash in advance. While the Wall effect matters, the for-mula for the SaskParty's electoral success pre-dates him. When non-NDP voters coalesce into one party they will beat the NDP nearly every time. To be precise, only four times in 75 years the NDP has received over 50% of the votes in an elec-tion, although they've won 12 campaigns, generally because of vote splitting between competing non-NDP parties. The big tent works when a single, non-NDP alternative par-ty broadly accommodates conservatives, moderates and vot-ers who put diversity and the maintenance of political power ahead of handing the province to socialists.



And, no one has been more successful at this moderate, self-

And, no one has been more successful at this moderate, self-aware governing style than Brad Wall, whose personal stamp is all over his party and province. Under Wall, Saskatchewar's economic and population growth—including a remarkable turnaround in attitude — have been unparalleled in the last century. So, why would anyone want to deliberately depart from Wall's policy focus and governing style? From a strict policy insider's perspective Alanna Koch's campaign is closest to Wall. Her professionalism, experience and knowledge—and decades of close personal and political ties to Wall—closely align her to the successes of his govern-ment. ment



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Scott Moe, a strong performer in Cabinet and popular among SaskParty MLAs, would also hew the Wall line. The main difference between Koch and Moe is style and the

sales job: who can most effectively turn the next chapter's pag-es and not drop the book? Gord Wyant takes a slightly different tack. The urbane,

smart and capable lawyer speaks of bringing his party to a more moderate place, which seems to imply that Wall, as the architect of the SaskParty, somehow lurched his own creation

architect of the Saskrarty, somenow lutched his own creation wildly to the right. Ken Cheveldayoff, for his formidable organizational strength, has not performed well in Cabinet. While a hard-working local MLA, his influence and responsibilities have declined from the powerful Minister of Crowns in 2007 to, in recent years, Minister of Sports and Culture. Tina Beaudry-Mellor, the impressive and intelligent new-comer to politics. Jacks the organization and political credibili-

Tina Beaudry-Mellor, the impressive and intelligent new-comer to politics, lacks the organization and political credibil-ity to lead her party, this time. As Koch is closest to the accomplishments of the Wall brand, she is also near the government's two most unpopular initia-tives, the deficit-fighting austerity budget and the foot drag-ging over conducting an investigation into allegations over land costs at the Global Transportation Hub. While any leader, including Wall, is hamstrung until the RCMP concludes its investigation of the CTH, nothing less than a timely and full investigation will suffice. The same willingness to revisit Budget decisions will be im-portant.

portant.

As the SaskParty begins its next step, many of the 27,000 vot-ing members know something the pundits don't—their party is strong and no one's running to the exits with their hair on fire

Internal party polling shows a 20-point SaskParty lead over the NDP, strong numbers with young voters and an overall better position today than the SaskParty had when it was first elected in 2007.

No leadership candidate (or smart party member for that matter) should take anything for granted. In politics, credibil-

ity and respect are hard earned. But the SaskParty's challenge of renewal and a fresh per-spective will come from keeping the Brad Wall train running; not derailing it—despite what the pundits say.

John Gormley is a broadcaster, lawyer, author and former Progres-sive Conservative MP whose radio talk show is heard weekdays from 8:30 am–12:30 pm on 650 CKOM Saskatoon and 980 CJME Regina.



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# Western Canadian Holistic Management Conference Conference set for Moosomin February 2-4

The 2018 Western Canadian Holistic Management Con-ference is coming up February 2, 3 and 4 in Moosomin. Friday night will include registration and a local food reception, Saturday will include producer panels, cover crops, carbon capture information, a supper and the keynote

speaker. The theme for Sunday is Your Ranch and Your Surround-

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ings. Two of the organizers for the conference are Ralph Corcoran of the Wawota-Kipling area and Blaine Hjertaas of the Redvers area

"We decided Moosomin is the place to have it," said Corcoran. "We have all of the facilities we need. It's a meet-ing for everybody, it's not just holistic managers, it's open to ing for everybody, it's not just holistic managers, it's open to everybody. This year we're having producer panels to talk about what people are actually doing on their farms and ranches. We have some really good speakers on Sunday, en-vironmentalists and bird people speaking about how every-thing works together as a whole." What is holistic management? "When we manage con-ventionally we just look at the dollars. That's how we make a decision," says Hjertaas. "Holistic management includes that too—profit is critical, because if you aren't profitable you aren't in business. But, there are two more things that are just as important. One is the people part of it and the

are just as important. One is the people part of it and the other part is the environmental part, and if those two aren't other parts the environmental part and in those two areas to right, then in the long term it work work either, and I think we are starting to recognize that as a society with all the problems we are seeing—all the troubles we are having with climate change and so on. We have to figure out a system that makes decisions that are socially sound and environ-mentally sound and financially sound simultaneously. That is what helicitic management tenden use to the decisions.

mentally sound and financially sound simultaneously. That is what holistic management teaches you to do. "Over the last 30 years now in Canada people have been training farmers how to do that, and so the culmination of all of that is that once a year we get together as a conference. It's just like old home week, people get together and kind of renew their skills, talk about things, learn things from each other. A lot of the conferences are networking—peo-ple getting together and saying 'you know I've tried that, I've learned from my mistakes." That is basically what it is about." about.

Holistic management is practiced by a small minority of

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people in the cattle business. "I'd say it's one in a hundred," says Hjertaas. "It's not

mainstream yet, but you are hearing more about it in the press. Ten years ago you never heard the word holistic and press. Fer years ago you never neared the word noisut and now it's quite common, so we're winning the battle slowly but surely. Slow is the key word. We are moving ahead. Every year we get a few new converts and now with the awareness of soil health grain farmers are aware as well that soil health is critical. We have to start farming what I call re-comparison account of the Ya what health is impacement. son real to start is unling what role are to start relations of the second re-generative agriculture and that's what holistic management has always been. It's been building soil, building people, building profits. As we build soil of course were taking car-bon and putting it back down in the ground." Hjertaas said he has been into holistic management for

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two decades.

two decades. "I guess almost 20 years ago I concluded that grain farm-ing would not work long term for me and I said there has got to be a better way to farm. So I figured out I need to have grass and I need to have cows. I hadn't ever owned either of those two things before. I was a high tech grain farmer when I graduated from college, so that was the first step. "I started to do that and then I read and was trying to learn anything that Lowed and all of a cudden I came upon

learn anything that I could, and all of a sudden I came upon holistic management, and as soon as I found a course I could take relatively close to me I took it and that just made light bulbs come on for me." Corcoran has always been a cattle farmer, and was con-

"We ranched and we were at the point where our grass was depleted and overgrazed," he says. "My daughter took the course and she came back and said 'whoa dad you need to come back and alow at this, this is super simple and it's a way to get your grass rejuvenated without reseeding or whatever else.'

Hjertaas says there will be lots going on at the conference

Hjertaas says there will be lots going on at the conference in February. "We usually start on a Friday night and get together with a wine and cheese party and just get reacquainted. Then Sat-urday morning it will start with a keynote speaker. There is some interesting research going on north of Brandon. A young lady is going to do a presentation on that. There will be a couple of holistic manager panels on various topics. People will be sharing some of their experiences and there will be questions and answers on those two things. And Jeff Odgers will be the guest speaker at supper on leadership. "On Sunday there will be presentations on carbon seques-tration." tration

Friday night will also include food booths demonstrating some of the products people are coming up with on their farms.

Continued on Page 26 🖙









# Rocanville hall well used, fundraising on target

☞ Continued from Page 3 "When we did it there were two objectives—the town and RM have paid \$800,000 to get the hall, and the communi-ty fundraised \$800,000," he says. "So you have two choices, you can put the rental price up high or you can keep it relatively low and keep it used. We have our rates quite competitive, but the goal is to have the hall used as much as possible, not to have it sit around too expensive for people to use." to use.

And the hall has been used a lot already. "This last year there were 140 paid days of rental, and hen there are quite a few events that are just part of the communi-ty," says Fortney. "We have walking in the hall five days a week now, and that's free to anyone who wants to do it, and other than that, we've already got six weddings booked for this year. I think we are already up to 80 bookings for this year. It's been well used.

"We're making our fundraising goals. It's definitely a long term project but it's going pretty good. It's going to be a long job. We are on target. We're still getting donations coming in—people are making donations, and that's been a big help."

Aaron Pritchett performing at the Ugly Christmas Sweater Party in Rocanville on Dec. 16, 2017.









# Sanheim's hockey dream has come true

For Continued from front "It's been a long process and a long journey but I've loved every step of the way," says Sanheim. "I think something that has gotten me to where I am today is how much llove the game. I was determined and I knew what I wanted to do when I grew up and I think I with had that mindget that packed ways going to store me. I knew what I wanted to do when I grew up and I think I just had that mindset that nobody was going to stop me. I was going to get there, I was going to find a way and then just work hard every day to try to get to that position. "Twe obviously had bumps along the way and cer-tain situations that haven't gone the way I wanted them to but I think I win it come how the more motivitated and

tail studious that haven't gone the way't whited them to, but I think I've just come back more motivated and worked even harder to try and push through the areas that I was struggling with." This season, Sanheim went to the Flyers training camp bound and determined to make the roster.

This season, Sanheim went to the Flyers training camp bound and determined to make the roster. "It was my fourth training camp this season. Last year I played in the American League and was able to learn some valuable pro lessons down there and round out my game. And I think coming into camp this year I was ready to make the team. I was focused, and in my mind I was coming to make the team. And until somebody told me otherwise that was my goal. I think just right from the get go I was focused and determined to make sure that I won that battle to stay on the team." "What did the Flyers see that they liked? "They just liked my overall game, that I was able to con-tribute to both ends, and I scored a few goals in the pre season as well and just overall was playing some good hockey. I think that just goes to my summer training as well, and how hard I worked leading up to camp." Sanheim stepped onto his first NHL ice on October 5 during a road game against the LA Kings. What is it like for a young hockey player stepping on the ice to play his first NHL game? "The first few shifts are definitely a little overwhelm-ing." he says. "There are a lot of emotions going through your head, just the excitement of realizing that you know you made it. All that work you put in your entire life, you finally get to enjoy it and just go out there and do what you've been doing your whole life and play the game you love, and play it at the highest level." Sanheim says it takes time for a new NHLer to get over the glow.

Sanheim says it takes time for a new NHLer to get over

My first game I would say pretty well halfway through the game during those shifts I was going out there for, you still can't believe that you're in the NHL and you're lining up against guys you grew up idolizing and watch-ing. And now you've got to go and battle and compete seriest these guys

ing. And now you've got to go and battle and compete against these guys. "I think there was a lot of nerves early on. And now that I've played a few games and we're half way through the season, I've started to settle down and it is starting to come a lot easier. It's just like any other league. When I first stepped in I was nervous in the beginning, and then you start to settle in and find your own game, and it's just like anything else, you're going out to play just like anywhere." anywhere.

Sanheim says he's glad he got the year of pro hockey in the year before to help him adjust to the pace of playing at that level.

"Playing pro the year before I was able to play against men, and coming from Junior I wasn't able to do that there. So playing against men the year before definitely helped me come into the season.

"But in saying that, the NHL is just another step for-ward. The guys are that much quicker with their plays and they're just so much smarter. They can read plays and

you've just got to be focused every shift that you step on the ice. Because you know if you make one mistake, these guys are so good in this league that they will make you pay for it.

Sanheim says it takes some time to adjust to everything about the NHL.

Sanheim says it takes some time to adjust to everything about the NHL. "I think early on, the first probably 10 to 15 games, you are playing in new rinks and against different teams. I remember one game, it was my second game, it was in Nashville, and it was their home opener and obviously they had just lost in the Stanley Cup finals so they had their banner raising for the Western Conference Finals. The place is just going off with how crazy the fans were. "I remember sitting there shaking pretty well with how the crowd was, and my first two shifts felt like the fastest hockey I've ever played in my life. Once the first 10 min-utes go by you kind of settle in, but definitely early on it is kind of like a wow factor, you can't believe some of the skill sets and how fast it is in this league." As a new player in the league, Sanheim says his goal is to keep on learning. "Tm still trying to learn every day and get better every day," he says. It is a process, especially as a young D-man in this league. I think every day I'm getting better and better. Just practicing against Claude Giroux and Jakub Voracek and guys of that skill level, it's hard not to get better when you're playing one-on-ones against those

better when you're playing one-on-ones against those guys and practicing. It just makes you that much better for the games.

"Over the course of the season I'd say that there's defi-

"Over the course of the season I'd say that there's defi-nitely been progress and hopefully towards the second half I can make the other jump forward. "I'm much more confident than early on. I think now I'm more confident with my playing ability. When I get the puck it feels like maybe I have a little bit more time to

make plays and read the ice and play the game I want to

19

"Every day you go into work, you just want to continue to help this team win. You don't really have an indication of what's ahead of you. Which is kind of a good thing. It

or what's anead or you. Which is kind of a good thing, it makes you work every day." Sanheim says his parents and his community continue to enthusiastically support his success. "My whole career my family has been supportive,

whether it's my siblings or playing with my brother (Tay-lor) all the way up into junior. My sisters as well have been just as supportive. My family tries to come and watch. When I played in Winnipeg, not only them but pretty much my whole community was there. I think there were

So or 60 people coming from Elkhorn to the game in Win-nipeg, if not more. "My parents try and come down here as often as they can. I think they've already caught six to eight games which is pretty good considering how many games we've

Which is pretty good considering now many games we've played this year. "Growing up they've all been support of those guys, whether it's driving me to games or buying me hockey equipment and all the sacrifices they've all made.

"It's pretty cool to be able to play at this level. I went home for Christmas and just seeing people there and how happy and supportive those guys are is great. They can't believe that somebody from their local town's playing in the NHL. You kind of got the whole town support and it has been supreme

the NHL. You kind of got the whole town support and it has been awesome. "It doesn't happen that often that a kid from that small of a town makes it to the big leagues. Especially in the big cities, speaking with some of the other guys, I don't know if they really know exactly where I'm from and how small my town actually is."



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# 'Just like a big old Saskatchewan kitchen party' Spy Hill hosts 98 unexpected guests on Christmas Day



Above left: The Spy Hill hall full of stranded Via Rail passengers, volunteer firefighters and volunteers on Christmas Day after a Via Rail train broke down near Spy Hill. Above right: There was plenty of food and hospitality for stranded Via Rail passengers in Spy Hill. Jim Larocque photo

#### BY KARA KINNA

When Spy Hill residents woke up on Christmas morn-ing to begin their Christmas Day celebrations, they had no idea that they would be hosting 98 unexpected guests that

day. But by 10 in the morning, the Spy Hill hall was full of people who were stranded after a Via Rail train suffered mechanical problems due to the extreme cold, and the pas-

mechanical problems due to the extreme cold, and the pas-senger cars began to lose power and heat. "About 7:30 or 8 in the morning we got the first heads up from the RCMP from their dispatch down east that they had a train that was frozen up," says Jim Larocque, Spy Hill's fire chief. "They had no heat or power in the pas-senger cars and hadn't for some time, so the people were getting cold and hungry to the point where they thought it was prudent to get them off the train. "The train was approaching town, so we did go down and make arrangements to get the hall opened up. My wife went down and she got the coffee started. "The train blew through town actually and stopped a little further to the southeast out by Welby, so I proceeded

little further to the southeast out by Welby, so I proceeded down there, contacted the conductor, and at that time they indicated that they thought they were going to try to keep going, that they had gotten some of their problems solved." Larocque says Christmas morning proceeded as usual—

until the train came back. "We came back home and went about Christmas morn-ing and got a call back from provincial fire dispatch saying that no, they were bringing the train back into Spy Hill, that they were going to be looking to offload passengers and get

"So we went back to the hall and got things set up there and invited in 98 guests," he says with a laugh. How does a small town of just under 300 people prepare for that many guests on Christmas Day?

"My wife starts cooking pancakes and making coffee and I called out the guys on the fire department and said 'come on down here, we have to get these people off the train, through the ditch, across the road and into the hall," says

"Andrew at Spy Hill grocery store was able to open up. He was around and he was home so he gave up a little bit of time with his family to go down and open up and let us get bread and makings for sandwiches and salads. "Morley Clarke with Moe's Bakery was able to provide to with a burder word food."

us with a bunch more food. "Between the Via Rail crew—who were amazing through-out the entire thing—between them and some volunteers in town and my fire department we were able to make food for these people, and the entertainers on the train kept us all going sing Christmas carols. "It was just like a big old Saskatchewan kitchen party." Larocque says between the fire department and people in town, there were plenty of helping hands. "We probably had about 14 people from the town and fire department and a least twice the number offering to help if we needed more." In § says. us with a bunch more food.

"We had the mayor Elgin Clark out with the loader clear-

ing a good solid path so people weren't having to go knee deep through snow to get from the train to the building. "Maureen Fletcher from one of the church groups was



out there making sandwiches, I had my guys wrapping and making sandwiches, although that isn't necessarily their forte. Watching my firefighters try to butcher some sand-wiches together was quite amusing," he says with a laugh. "Travis Moore, one of my firefighters, he had that hall rented all decorated. Their family was going to have their Christmas Day celebration in there. They gladly gave it up and Travis spent the morning getting people and all their belongings into the hall safely, and on one of his trips he went home and picked up a bunch of his son's toys and brought them down there for the kids that were on the train to try to keep them occupied." Although the arrival of the 98 unexpected train passen-gers slightly derailed Christmas Day plans for many in Spy

gers slightly derailed Christmas Day plans for many in Spy Hill, Larocque says it was a pleasure to help.

"I think every one of us was thinking that any one of us could have been in the same predicament as these people and we would want somebody to be helping our families, our kids, our grandkids," he says. "All in all I think most of us are going to look back on

this and think it was probably one of our more enjoyable Christmases.

"Realistically when you're a fire department you're getting called out when people are at their worst. This wasn't necessarily that. A lot of these people were at their best."

necessarily that. A lot of these people were at their best." Larocque says he can't say enough about the Via Rail staff as well, who pitched in to help out once in the hall. "The Via Rail crew, yes they were being paid, but they were in the same predicament as those people on the train," he says. "They'd been on this train, and I heard upwards of 11 pm the previous night is when they started losing power, so they'd been in the cold and dark trying to feed and take care of these people and answer their questions—people afraid of missing travel plans and whatnot. And once we got them in the hall they pitched right in and their culinary

staff was working just as hard as any of our people getting these people fed, so I can't say enough about the Via crew that was there."

that was there." Larocque says alternate arrangements were made to get the passengers to where they were going, and by around 5 pm that day, everyone was on their way. "They ended up getting a few taxis for people that were just going to Rivers or Portage, and then they ended up getting three buses. The first one out of Brandon was there around 2 pm and then two more out of Winnipeg. Finally the last of them left around 5 pm." He says the passengers were all appreciative of the hospi-tality shown to them during their brief stay. "We'd like to think that people would do the same for any of us or any of our families," says Larocque. "That was the nicest part and most heartwarming part for us is that people couldn't have been more appreciative of everybody's efforts."

or everyboay's enors. Travis Moore was one of the firefighters who got a call that day to help out. Moore spent the day helping the pas-sengers get across to the hall and hauling their baggage off the train along with other members of the fire department. "We opened up the hall and the rest of our fire depart-ment of the day the day the day the day the day of the day of the day of the day of the day we day the d

we opened up the ran and the test of our me depart-ment got called out to help. We took a few trucks there to haul the baggage across and assist all the people to come across the tracks and across the road into the hall," he says. "After everyone was off the train and into the hall I ran

home and we picked up some toys and coloring pages for the kids to play with so they had something to do. You could see them sitting around there wondering what to do and I thought they are probably going to be there for while, and there is nothing else to do in that place." Moore's family had the hall booked and was supposed to

Moore's family had the nan voorses ..... have Christmas lunch there that day. *Continued on page 22 #* 





# Grain market ebb and flow expected to continue in 2018

I would characterize the major grain, cereals and oilseeds markets over the past two to three years as embroiled in an ebb and flow battle of big supply versus big demand. Global agricultural production has seen

record large production for at least the last three years. At the same time, demand for three years. At the same time, demand for food and feed ingredients is equally pow-erful, which in many cases has surprised all agricultural players on how quickly product is consumed worldwide. And so in the perpetual motion of a big supply versus big demand environment, we don't necessarily have a sustained bull or bear market. Rather, we have a four upple ar market where market form

buil or bear market. Rather, we have a few weeks or months where market focus may be on large crops, with prices trend-ing generally lower. Then, a realization the global community is chewing through the large supply at a more rapid rate than believed, and price tends to generally trend upward for a few weeks or months. In essence, we have seen a broader, longer-term sideways trend to grain markets, punctuated at times by some wild swings, though remaining within each commodity's re-spective ranges. There is no clear signal yet that this condition is about to change.

As we turn to 2018, keep in mind that market conditions are in a constant state of change due to a multitude of reasons and when market circumstances are shifting, we must tune our plans.

#### WHEAT

This is a uniquely Western Canada situa-

tion where elevator spring wheat price dis-covery is less mindful of trends in futures prices and more focused on protein pre-miums/discoutts. I do not view the Ca-

miums/discounts. I do not view the Ca-nadian wheat market as short of protein. Rather, it is net short market-ready protein. The wheat market's primary task has been to cobble together usable blends of quality spring wheat approximating a target protein of near 13.5 per cent. Note, though, that near the end of 2017, bids for bicker protein under twee valued because higher protein wheat were valued because of blend value to achieve the target protein requirement.

In order to see price appreciation of the lower end of the protein spectrum, we need to see some generalized price rally across global wheat markets, likely requiring 2018 crop adversity as a mea-sure where a rising tide can lift all boats. Weather events coverprenent actions and Weather events, government actions and moisture concerns across the United States Plains and Western Canada are all factors that could move the wheat market in early 2018

FEED GRAINS Prairie cash feed barley pricing has worked its way higher through the fall season. Despite U.S. corn price weakness, Lethbridge cash feed barley bids are hold-ing rather firmly. Rising cattle numbers entering southern Alberta feedlots and an advance into wintery conditions appears advance into wintery conditions appears to have elevated feed demand for barley.

Our feed market will likely remain firm, but I am concerned that a fading U.S. corn market may become increasingly competi-tive for the feed-user dollar. Near the end of 2017, fundamental news that might lift oppressively bearish attitudes in the corn market remained lacking.

#### **OILSEEDS**

OUSEEDS Following a November peak, canola and soybean pricing retreated, still part of the big supply and demand price formula. Expect another turn up during the canola market's seasonally supportive March-May period. Demand will at times need to be inspired

by a cheaper relative valuation to other oilseeds because sustaining crush margin mediocrity and a \$50 a tonne premium to soybeans is not realistic at all times. Nonetheless, China's insatiable appetite for oil-seeds (soybeans and canola) will continue to provide support for prices through the vear ahead.

Emerging world vegetable oil price trends will be important to influencing canola valuation.

PULSES The big news here is India's decision to drop a 50 per cent pea import tariff bomb on imports. Prairie cash bids for yellow peas took a sudden turn lower in late 2017 as the ensuing confusion triggered cardiac arrest throughout the pulse trade here and

The Indian food policy is unpredictable, driven by those who support high stocks and low prices for the benefit of consum-ers and those in favour of higher prices for the benefit of farmers. In this instance, this

internationally

policy decision has been made with the benefit of farmers in mind. The trade situation is obviously not good. But longer term, the situation may

not be as dire as it appears at this time. North America produced 1.35 million tonnes fewer peas in 2017, meaning fewer to sell, and in time, there will be a recalibration of demand outlets to encourage an important move away from Canada being as heavily dependent on India as a buyer. Watch for increased demand for milling peas and protein extraction industries.

#### **BOTTOM LINE**

BOTTOM LINE Always be prepared to make marketing plans as markets shift. As we look towards 2018, crop adversity could strengthen wheat prices, while Chinese demand is expected to provide 2018 support for oil-seeds. In pulses, a recalibration of demand outlets should smooth out Indian trade disruption disruption.

Mike Jubinville of Pro Farmer Canada offers information on commodity markets and mar-keting strategies.



guests on Christmas Day Continued from page 21

"Once I found out that we were putting people in the hall for sure, I just in the hall for sure, I just phoned my aunts that were organizing it and told them change of venue, that we were going to move to the curling rink in town," says Moore. "It wasn't really a big deal. The hall was deco-reled and there was come rated and there was some food down there already so they came into town and took the food out of the hall and just switched places.

"It was just a little bit of extra excitement Christmas morning. When you're a volunteer firefighter and you live out here, when the phone rings you never know what's going to hap-

pen "That's just part of being a volunteer firefighter. If the shoe was on the other foot, you would hope somebody would give you a hand, and it was Christmas and it was cold and it's just what you should do."

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good feeling to see his town be so helpful on Christmas

where warm and to see that people were trying to get them food and make them as comfortable as possible.



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# **Communities selected** for Cannabis outlets

#### BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Moosomin, Esterhazy, Yorkton, Mel-ville, Fort Qu'Appelle, Estevan and Wey-burn are the communities in southeast Saskatchewan that are eligible to have Cannabis outlets, the province announced on Monday, January 8. The Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming

Authority (SLGA) will issue approximate-ly 60 cannabis retail permits to private operators in as many as 40 Saskatchewan municipalities and First Nations communities.

The communities will only be eligible for a cannabis outlet if town or city council agrees it would be good for the commu-

"The federal government has estab The rederal government has estab-lished very aggressive timelines for the legalization of cannabis," Minister Re-sponsible for SLGA Gene Makowsky said. "Our government is being diligent to en-sure the sale and regulation of cannabis in conducted and regulation of cannabis in Such the safe and regulation of califables in Saskatchewan strikes a balance between public safety and access for consumers. It's also important to our government that the 40 municipalities and First Nations se-lected for retail locations have the opportunity to decide whether they want canna-bis retail stores in their community." The initial allocation of retail store per-

mits will be in municipalities and First Nations with populations of at least 2,500, Nations with populations of at least 2,500, with larger communities being allocated additional permits. Eligible First Nations and municipalities will have the option to opt out of having a retail cannabis store in their community if they choose. The final number of retail permits will depend on the number of community leaders that de-cide to ont out cide to opt out.

Both wholesaling and retailing of canna-bis will be conducted by the private sector and regulated by SLGA. Cannabis retail-ers will be required to establish a stand-alone storefront operation, with the option to also operate an online store. Stores will be limited to selling cannabis, cannabis



and ancillary items. Store must also have the ability to track and

must also have the ability to track and report cannabis inventory to help ensure consumers only have access to safe, legal product from regulated wholesalers. An independent third party will be en-gaged to assist SLGA with selecting retail operators using a two-phase process. The first phase will be initial screening for fi-narcial carcity and the ability for proponancial capacity and the ability for propo-nents to track and report inventory. Phase two will be a random selection (lottery) of the qualified applicants. Successful pro ponents will be required to meet 'good 'good character' criteria as part of the permitting process

Specific details regarding application criteria, permit licensing fees, applica-tion timelines and other associated details will be finalized over the coming weeks. A decision on the minimum age for cannabis consumption will be made later this spring. Communities that are eligible for a can-

nabis outlet are

nabis outlet are: Assiniboia, Battleford, Biggar, Canora, Esterhazy, Estevan (2), Fort Qu'Appelle, Humboldt, Kindersley, La Loche, La Ronge, Lac La Ronge First Nation, Lloy-dminster (2), Maple Creek, Martensville, Meadow Lake, Melfort, Melville, Moose Jaw (2), Moosomin, Nipawin, North Bat-tleford (2), Onion Lake First Nation, Out-look, Peter Ballantyne First Nation, Pilot Butte, Prince Albert (2), Regina (6), RM of Corman Park, RM of Edenwold, Ro-setown, Saskatoon (7), Shellbrook, Swift Current (2), Tisdale, Unity, Warman (2), Weyburn (2), White City, and Yorkton (2).







# Welwyn curling club going strong

### 19 teams signed up for league play this season

BY DONNA BEUTLER In the land of "hurry hard" where players throw granite rocks down a sheet of ice in an attempt to outscore their opposition, curlers in the village Welwyn keep their curl-ing rink humming through January, February and March. "We have a short but busy seeson," the Welwyn Curl-ing Club's president Murray Swanton said in an inter-view Jan. 4. Swanton has been content.

view Jan. 4. Swanton has been serving as president of the club since 1999 and explained that the three-sheet artificial ice curl-ing rink has had a two-and-a-half-month season for many years and it has worked well for curlers. Many rinks in the area have a season that runs for approximately twice as long as the length of time Welwyn runs its regular curl-ing league. "We run on a volunteer basis," Swanton explained, "and woluntear kitchen workers preferred the pref.

"and volunteer kitchen workers preferred the post-Christmas start date."

Whatever their length of season, it works well for the club which consistently sees nearly 20 rinks a year utiliz-

club which consistently sees nearly 20 rinks a year utiliz-ing its facility. "This year we have 19 rinks signed up, last year we had 18 and the year before 17, so it's pretty consistent from year to year," Swanton said. "We have a couple of rinks from Rocanville, one from McAuley, a couple of rinks from Rocanville, one from WcAuley, a couple from Moo-somin and two or three from Wapella." Welvyn has a recreation organization known as the Community Recreation Organization of Welvyn (CROW) which at one time looked after all sports, including hock-ey, ball and curling, but there is no minor hockey or ball anymore, though there is, besides curling, one recreation-al hockey team.

anymore, though there is, besides curling, one recreation-al hockey team. On those cold, wintery nights, when some people are curled up in a warm spot at home, you will find die-hard curlers making their way to the Welwyn curling rink on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights to enjoy not just a game of curling, but the camaraderie of like-minded, curling-loving people who consider the sport of curling the best winter sport of all.

the best winter sport of all. And if it's not those regular nights of curling that calls these curling enthusiasts, it's bonspiels that are held throughout their season—4-H bonspiels, the annual Kids' Bonspiel, the St. Pat's Bonspiel, one-day novelty 'spiels and more.

Welwyn, a village of about 150, is located 33 kilometres northeast of Moosomin.



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Above and right: Teams curling at the Welwyn rink on a Thursday night.

The village of Welwyn may be small but its curling club consistently sees around 20 teams each season.



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# Wall optimistic about Nutrien merger

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Premier Brad Wall says he is cautiously optimistic about the prospects for Sas-katchewan in the recently approved merger of Agri-um and PotashCorp into a new company, Nutrien, based on commitments made in recent meetings with the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Board Chairs of the two merging corporations. Wall said those commit-

ments include:

Nutrien's registered head office and global pot-ash operations will be lo-cated in Saskatoon;

Corporate office posi-tions in Saskatchewan will increase by at least 15 per cent, to approximately 300; Approximately 4,500 of Nutrien's 20,000 employ-

ees worldwide will be lo-cated in Saskatchewan;

 Two new business functions will relocate to Saskatchewan: and

• CEO and/or Executive Chair of the Nutrien Board and the President of Nutrien's potash operations will live and work in Sas-

"This is a strong com-mitment to Saskatchewan, which will ensure that the merger results in a net ben-efit for our province," Wall said.

"All of these commitments remain subject to ap-proval of the new Nutrien board. Our government board. Our government will be closely monitoring future developments, but I have every expectation that Nutrien will follow through on their commit-ments to Saskatchewan."



Underground potash mining at what was a PotashCorp mine and is now a Nutien mine.

The new company is a major employer in the re-gion, with 750 employees at the Rocanville mine. This is positive news,"

Wall told reporters Thursday. "We also have it confirmed that Saskatoon will be the only corporate centre

of the new company. They would have operations in Calgary and Denver and in Chicago, but Saskatoon is the only corporate centre that will see an increase (in staff). As you can imagine with a merger there are sometimes efficiencies in the company and job re-ductions that might be affecting other centres, but not Saskatoon where we will see an increase. It was very important to us to confirm that the registered head office is in Saskatoon.

"It is also important for either the CEO or the Se-nior Operating Officer and in this case the executive is the executive chairman of the board be living and working in Saskatoon," Wall said.

"There will be two busi-ness units that are relocat-ing to Saskatchewan from ing to Saskatchewan from other places as a result of the merger and so we're going to let the company announce the specifics around those but we're cautiously optimistic. Wall said the pro

the province will hold Nutrien to its

commitments. "I think it is important for whoever is next in my position and for the gov-ernment going forward to be vigilant and to monitor the situation to make sure that these commitments to the province are main-tained.

"Again what is impor-tant for us is either the CEO or the Executive Chair of the Board have an office and live in the province and that will be the case for the new company so we see new jobs coming to the

see new jobs conting to the province. "You'll remember that when we defended Pot-ashCorp against a takeover from BHP Billiton years

ago we indicated that is was important for Canada to have national champi-ons in the corporate sector in different spaces of the economy. PotashCorp at the time was a national champion in the fertilizer sector, an international champion headquartered in Saskatoon. Well, you can make the case that Nutrien is an even more sig-nificant player, a more sig-nificant national champion for the country and it will be headquartered in Sas-

be headquartered in Sas-katoon and that will be a good thing—but vigilance will be required." Wall said he doesn't ex-pect to see any job losses in the province as a result of efficiencies from the mercer merger.

"I have a real confidence that there will be no reduction operationally in terms of mining jobs, front line jobs, as a result of the merger. With markets as they are, all things being equal, with prices as they

are, this is not about reduc-tion of front line and production for the companies. Certainly that has been the assurance given to the government.

"We just have to moni-tor these things. There is a pledge to Saskatchewan that PotashCorp made af-ter the failed takeover attempt of BHP Billiton and the pledge is pretty specific about where the head office for the company would be located in perpetuity, and so we just have to make sure that as a government we are monitoring that. For the new premier, this would be near the top of the list of things for the government to be watching for. I think we should also be cautiously optimistic because we need to make sure the promises that have tempt of BHP Billiton and sure the promises that have been made here are kept, and I believe they will be, and I'm optimistic they will be, but I think it's imporbe, but I think it's impor-tant that we be vigilant as a province to make sure that these new jobs and new business units actually re-locate to Saskatchewan."

Wall said he believes a provincial tax incentive may have helped ensure the Nutrien head office would be in Saskatchewan.

would be in Saskatchewan. "We do have an existing new growth tax incentive related to corporate office jobs that applies to all of the companies," he said. "Mosaic took advantage of it when they located their Canadian headquar-ters in Regina in 2010. They relocated part of an office relocated part of an office in the U.S., established a Canadian headquarters in Canadian headquarters in Regina and they took ad-vantage of head office job incentives that are part of the existing tax piece for the potash industry, but there were no changes made (for Nutrien). No specific changes made related to this particular merger." merger





# February 7 event will include business pitches Southwest Business & Entrepreneur Expo set for Virden

February 7, 2018 will be a day to re-hydrate your business or business ideas! The goal of the Southwest Business and Entrepreneur Expo at Tundra Oil and Gas Place in Virden is to attract

Expo at Tundra Oil and Gas Place in Virden is to attract and support new and existing entrepreneurs in the region. "The expo will provide an opportunity to new and existing business persons to learn and network," says chainperson Tanis Chalmers, Manager of Economic Develop-

ment, RM of Pipestone. There will be learning sessions from industry experts throughout the day. These sessions will provide innovative ideas and tools to succeed in the competitive business environment. The sessions include but are not limited to: Innovation, Rural Entrepreneurial Success, Going Global, Creating a Loyal Customer Base, and Introduction to International Trade.

The tradeshow area will provide a unique experience

#### by offering business resources at their fingertips. No need to go through hoops to discover what resources are available to rural business, the tradeshow will offer a one stop shop for all your business needs!

It is time for start-up entrepreneurs and existing ones looking to expand to register for the Business Pitch Session.

"The committee has over \$5,000 in cash prizes available, and we are securing new cash prizes as we get closer to the event," says Chalmers. Registration for this portion of the event is happening now. A limited number of business persons will have the opportunity to present to a panel of expert judges with a chance to win cas. Successful pitch entries will be notified by January 24, 2018. The successful entries include a tradeshow space to promote their business free of charge.

The First Annual Southwest Business and Entrepreneur

Expo is scheduled for February 7, 2018 at the Tundra Oil and Gas Place in Virden. To participate in the tradeshow exhibits, speakers and attend business pitch sessions there is a minimal \$20 registration fee. Registration includes coffee breaks and lunch. The communities of RM of Souris-Glenwood, RM of

The communities of RM of Souris-Glenwood, RM of Pipestone, Town of Virden, RM of Wallace-Woodworth, Town of Melita, Municipality of Grassland, RM of Sifton, RM of Deloraine-Winchester, and Virden Skills Training Inc., have come together to organize and facilitate the expo.

expo. If you have any questions about the event, or would like to register contact Peggy Foy, Virden Skills Training Inc. 204-748-6083 or find them on Facebook at Southwest Business and Entrepreneur Expo. All updated information about the event and sponsors will be posted there as it becomes available.



Continued from Page 13 F Corcoran said this year's conference will include an extensive children's program.

"We are not charging the young families for the kids this year," he said. "Our younger kids are taking part in a play day here in Moosomin and we have a couple of university kids looking after them. For the older kids we are going to the bowling alley and simulators there and they have that until noon, and then after lunch we are going out to Venaas's. "We've got a stock dog presentation. Dwayne Thompson from Kelleher is coming with a couple of dogs, and then Michelle Newton is going to be out there with her team of horses for a sleigh rides for the afternoon. And then also we are doing some soil filtration and water filtration and little things to educate the kids about how everything works together. We have a really good kids program this year. We're hoping to get some young people to come because then there are young ideas coming up to "

The conference is slated for February 2, 3, and 4 at the Conexus Centre in Moosomin. More information and registration can be found at www.holisticmanagement. ca.





Town of Virden • RM of Wallace-Woodworth • RM of Pipestone • RM of Sifton • Town of Melita Municipality of Grassland • RM of Souris & Glenwood • RM of Deloraine-Winchester • Virden Skills Training Inc.





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