

Kaposvar near Esterhazy, Bekevar near Kipling Hungarian ambassador connects with local Hungarian communities

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK Hungary's Ambassador to Canada, Bálint Ódor, spent a snowy Thursday, March 8 con-necting with ethnic Hungarian faith communities in rural Saskatchewan. His first visit was to the Kapos-

var Historic site near Esterhazy, where he provided a contribu-tion of \$40,000 for the preserva-tion of the church and the historic site

Kaposvar is the site of Our Kaposvar is the site of Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church, a large stone church that was the centre of a vibrant Hungarian community. In 1886, Count Esterhazy settled the first Hungarian settlers in the area at

Kaposvar. The ambassador's second visit that day was to Bekevar Presbyterian Church south of Kipling. Bekevar was a rural district with its own schools, hall, and two Hungarian protestant churches Bekevar Presbyterian Chur Church

Bekevar Presbyterian Church. and Bekevar Baptist Church. The Hungarian settlers in the area may now call Kipling, Ken-nedy or Langbank home, but many still fee part of the Hun-

"We want to build bridges to the Hungarian Diaspora—Hun-garians living abroad in different countries," Ambassador Ódor said in an interview at the Bekevar site, explaining his visit to the communities.

"It's striking to me to see a church like this in Saskatchewan, that looks so similar to a church in Hungary. It is very important to be aware that the first Hungarians who came to Canada came here—to Saskatchewan." He said he was learning a lot

on the visit. "I have learned a lot from the

people I've spoken to here-about how they lived, and how they were raised, how they kept their Hungarian traditions," he said.

"I have seen a lot of Saskatch-ewan on this visit—I was in Saskatoon then I spent this day in Esterhazy with the announce-ment of our donation, and here at Bekevar

Bekevar. "People may not realize that many Hungarians came to Can-ada and came here—to Saskatch-ewan—first."

How did the trip come about? "I paid an official visit to the province last May, and I met ministers and members of the legis-lative assembly, and I visited Es-



Hungarian ambassador to Canada Bálint Ódor visited Hungarian churches and Hungarian Odor, centre, with Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk and Candace Bonk, at left, and members of the Hungarian ethnic community in front of the historic Bekevar Presbyterian Church south of Kipling. Earlier in the day, Ódor presented a \$40,000 contribution for the preservation of the Kaposvar Historic Site near Esterhazy.

erhazy at that time and went to Kaposvar," explains Ambassador Ódor. "That was really touching for

me. I met fourth- and fifth-gen-eration Hungarian-Canadians, eration Hungarian-Canadians, some of whom spoke fluent Hungarian

"Many of them still feel an attachment to Hungary, and I think this is something very important. "I want to honor these places. "It was on that visit that I re-alized that there are beautiful churches, beautiful historic sites.

churches, beautiful historic sites. "After my visit I went back to Ottawa and made a proposal to the Government of Hungary to make a financial contribution to maintain the site of Kaposvar. "I came back today and made a contribution of \$40,000, which will be used by the society to keep taking care of the Kaposvar historic site, and it will be up to them to use. We asked them to use it to preserve the site, because we want future generations to be we want future generations to be able to visit this place, because it tells the story of Hungarian Canadians."

Ambassador Ódor said he was struck by how much the Hungarian communities in rural Sas-katchewan have maintained their identity as Hungarian-Canadian communities.

"These were rural communi-ties of farmers," he said. "Once they arrived here they remained within their communities, so they could keep their strong traditions. I'm also curious to find out from the people in these com-munities how they have main-tained their traditions and their tained their traditions and their sense of identity as Hungarian Canadians so well." He said he was pleased to be able to offer the assistance to the

Kaposvar Historic site. and the contribution was accepted with gratitude.

gratitude. "They were very pleased and excited. Suddenly they had dis-cussions among themselves how to raise more money. Our contri-bution is not enough to totally re-store the site, but they are already talking about ways to raise even more morey.

talking about ways to raise even more money. "For us, this is a symbolic ges-ture. This is a symbolic amount of money. We just wanted to express our strong attachment to our Diaspora, and our appre-ciation that they have kept their Hungarian traditions for more than 100 ware.

"For us, the Hungarian com-munity played a very important part in the development of Canâda.

ada. "The Diaspora plays an impor-tant role in the bilateral relations between Canada and Hungary. We want to deepen the ties with Hungarian Canadians. The Di-aspora and the role of Hungar-ian Canadians provides a very strong foundation to build Cana-dian-Hungarian relations." dian-Hungarian relations." Continued on page 3



March 2018



Hungarian ambassador connects with local Hungarian communities

☞ Continued from front Canada was a main destination for Hungarian emigrants, and accepted many Hungarian refugees after the 1956 revolution, which was followed by a Soviet invasion

"In 1956 revolution. "In 1956, Canada was one of the most generous coun-tries, and received 38,000 Hungarians," said Ódor. Pastor Richard Barta grew up in the Bekevar commu-nity, and was one of the local people there to meet the

ambassador. "The Baptist Church was just up the road a bit. The two churches were the centre of the Bekevar district. On a Sunday, the church yard would be full of cars, and I re-member as a child how the church was full. The Baptist church was always full as well." Men, women, boys and girls all had their own areas in

"It was a closely knit community with the schools, the

churches and the hall," says Barta. "The Hungarian peo-ple still feel like they are part of the community here. "We still have a big picnic once a year and people come back for it. I used to come as a boy to church, and then I

becare a pastor an pastored the Baptist Church, and then I becare a pastor an pastored the Baptist Church. I always thought I want to preach from the pulpit up on the wall in this church, and I got a chance to—my dream came true. "I think a lot of people feel a real attachment to this church. It just becomes part of you."

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Ambassador Bálint Ódor on his initial visit to the Kaposvar Historic Site last may.



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Lack of pipelines costing Canada, say economists

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Plain and Vallev

Lack of pipelines and massive dis-counts for Canadian heavy oil could cost the economy \$15.6 billion this year, or three-fourths of a point from the country's GDP, according to economists at Scotiabank.

Scotiabank. Shanon Stubbs, the Conservative Shadow Minister for Natural Resources told the World-Spectator Friday that changes in the pipeline approval process by the federal Liberal government will make it much more difficult for future pipeline projects to be approved. The Scotiabank economists said the damage to the economy is real and can be

damage to the economy is real and can be

damage to the economy is real and can be measured. "Reliance on the existing pipeline net-work and rail shipments to bring Cana-dian oil to market has a demonstrable impact on Canada's well-being, with con-sequences that extend well beyond Alber-ta," Scotiabank senior vice-president and chief economist Jean-Francois Perrault and commodity economist Rory Johnston

wrote in a report. The economists said the current US \$24 per barrel discount between Western Canada Select and West Texas Intermedi-Canada Select and West lexas intermedi-ate oil prices erase \$15.6 billion from the economy this year, or around 0.75 per cent of the country's GDP. They note, however, that as more and more oil moves out of Canada on railway

cars to make up for the lack of pipeline capacity, the discount between WCS and capacity, the discount between WCS and WTI should shrink to an average of US \$21.60 per barrel. This would reduce the cost to the Canadian economy to roughly \$10.8 billion this year, or 0.5 per cent of GDP, and \$7 billion next year, or an esti-mated 0.3 per cent of GDP. Scotiabank called the delay of new ex-port pipelines and the large discounts that it has triggered, "a self-inflicted wound." "The sooner governments move to al-low additional pipeline capacity to be built, the better off Canada will be," Sco-

tiabank economists Perrault and Johnston

Kinder Morgan Canada's \$7.4-billion Trans Mountain expansion, TransCanada Corp.'s US \$8-billion Keystone XL, and Enbridge Inc.'s \$8.2-billion Line 3 replacement project are the three major export pipelines that could shrink the discount

pipelines that could shrink the discount considerably, the bank said. While all three have been approved by the Canadian government, they remain mired in court challenges from environ-mental groups or local communities, and have delayed their anticipated in-service dates. Line 3 is also awaiting approval from regulators in Minnesota.

from regulators in Minnesota. A judge in Minnesota delayed a de-cision on the Minnesota portion. That decision could now come as late as this June. While work started on the western three spreads and pipe is stockpiled at sites such as Fairlight awaiting the proj-ect to move forward, contracts have not yet been let for the eastern siy pipeling yet been let for the eastern six pipeline spreads across the Prairies. Conservative shadow minister for Nat-

will resource shadow minister for Nat-ural Resources Shannon Stubbs told the World-Spectator Friday she wasn't sur-prised by the impact reported in the Sco-tiabank report. "It is the latest in the number of reports

that have come out in the past couple of years highlighting how important both years highlighting how important both energy development itself is, but also how important pipeline capacity is to the economy," she said. "The very first speech I gave in the House of Commons was to a motion to support the Energy East pipe-line, and in 2016 I tabled an E-petition. At that time—it has since been suppassed— but at that time it was the most signed E-patition aver in gurport of pipeline as E-petition ever in support of pipelines as crucial economic infrastructure and urg-ing the federal Liberals to make it a priority to establish pipeline infrastructure in all directions to diversify Canada's export markets

Continued on page 7 📾





Lack of pipelines costing Canada, say economists

** Continued from page 5 "It is a crucial issue for the Canadian economy. One of the things I've worked really hard on over the last couple of years is to get across to the federal Liberals that it's not just the downturn in the energy sector and the benefits of energy development are not just isolated to say Alberta or Saskatchewan—it's not just a western or a prairie thing but very much underpins the entire

Canadian economy, because energy is Canada's number one private sector investor in the economy and it's Canada second big-gest export. This is yet more confirmation about just how important the energy indusof the urgent need to increase pipeline ca-pacity and to build new pipelines to tidewater

Enbridge president and CEO Al Monaco



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said that surging oil production and limited said that surging oil production and limited pipeline capacity means the Line 3 project will be completely full when it is finished construction in 2019, if the regulators ap-prove the project by the second quarter. Separate from the approved pipelines, the Canadian federal government has also recently unveiled a new review process for pipelines, which could complicate future ascessements of new review proverding to

assessments of new projects, according to analysts.

The new process will include a review of items such as whether a pipeline will have an impact on climate change goals, which was not previously considered under the previous regulatory regime, as well as a gender-based analysis of impacts of major property and wining projects.

"The broader scope of the assessment list of factors to consider will complicate the federal assessment, which will add cost and effort on project developers," partners from law firm Bennett Jones LLP wrote in

Analysts expect wider discounts to per-sist until either the Trans Mountain or Key-stone XL projects are built in late 2020 or 2021

The discount Canadian oil producers face The discount canadian on produces have for their product has grown substantially since Calgary-based pipeline TransCanada detected a spill on its existing 590,000-bpd Keystone pipeline in South Dakota in No-vember. A lack of space on other pipelines has led to 600,000 bpd build up in oil stor-ace within Alberta age within Alberta. Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert

Kitchen said that lack of leadership by the federal government is the issue

"Alot of it is lack of leadership," he said. "This is a federal issue. With Kinder Mor-gan it's the same thing they did with Ener-gy East—they kicked it down the road and they kept puttine it off puttine it off gy East—they kicked it down the road and they kept putting it off, putting it off un-til finally the proponent decided it wasn't worth their while and decided not to fol-low through with it. That is what I see them doing here with the Trans Mountain.

"They are doing exactly the same thing to Kinder Morgan. The Prime Minister needs to stand up to B.C. and say this is needed. When you look at the impact and put it into perspective, \$15.6 billion is a school or hosperspective, \$15.6 billion is a school of nos-pital for many, many communities around the country paid for, and that's lost." How would a Conservative government approach the issue differently? "If we have a Conservative government after the next election, I hope we will see the proponent reacopit for energy that is

the proponent reapply for energy that is an important aspect to it. The Conserva-tive Party recognizes the need for those pipelines and the value that they produce for this country. Pipelines are good for the economy and for the country. Oil and natuespecially in this riding. We need to move that to market."

Kitchen said he can't see anything chang-

Kitchen said he can't see anything chang-ing under the current government. "I don't see them making any changes," he said. "I think they will continue to push this down the road. I think they will con-tinue to play province against province and hope that they can walk away from this and not make a decision. "Wo will continue to concel, on singlings."

"We will continue to speak on pipelines "We will continue to speak on pipelines and demand the government stand up and speak on behalf of getting this done. It has been approved, it's not like it hasn't been looked at. The NEB has looked at it and re-viewed it and has made the decision and the government has approved it. Now the government needs to stand up and say this is getting done. Let's get the shovels in the ground now like they should be. "The majority of Canadians see the val-ue in pipelines. They are a benefit for the country. We have the opportunity to use Canadian resources instead of using for-eign resources to provide our energy in this

eign resources to provide our energy in this

"I will do everything I can to make sure this is on the radar and that people are well aware of this as an issue that is important for this county."



Maryfield rink, business hit by thieves

BY SGT SCOTT FEFCHAK, MOOSOMIN RCMP

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On the night of Febru-ary 26, the Maryfield arena and a business in town were hit by thieves. Stolen from the arena was some cash and liquor.

The suspects pried open a number of interior doors and also forced open a con-cession machine.

We had our forensic Ident Unit from Yorkton attend so we could attempt to locate physical evidence to link the people respon-sible to the crime. Obviously the two break and

enters were likely done by the same people. the Unfortunately

thieves also struck again Thursday night at both

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An interview with Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer on the federal budget

'Never before has a Prime Minister spent so much to achieve so little'

World-Spectator Editor Kevin Weedmark spoke to Conservative leader Andrew Scheer for his take on the federal budget. Following is a complete transcript of the interview:

Canada is facing many challenges right now, from the threats to NAFTA to the suddenly much more competitive American business tax regime. What would have you like to see in the budget to meet those challenges and what if anything do you see in this budget to meet those challenges and what if es?

I see lots and lots of red. Red ink for as far as the eve can see. Never before has a Prime Minister spent so much to achieve so little. The promise during the last election cam-paign, where voters trusted Justin Trudeau to keep his prom-ises, was that this year's deficit would only be six billion dol-lars, leading back to a balanced budget next year.

lars, leading back to a balanced budget next year. Without an unforeseen catastrophic event, the deficit is three times that \$18 billion. Nothing that would protect Canada or at least provide some kind of a contingency were NAFTA to fail, so nothing set aside, no fiscal capacity set aside if our trade talks go off the rails, nothing that would speak to bring-ing more jobs to Canada through lower taxes attracting for-eion invacement. In fact our latest report shows that around eign investment. In fact our latest report shows that around \$87 billion of foreign investment has already left the country. Higher payroll taxes, higher taxes on small businesses—all this means is that Canada is going in the extract wrong direc-tion under the Liberal government.

We in the rural prairies face some specific challenges right now with grain transportation, getting our oil to the market. Is there anything this budget does to address those issues and if not, how would a Conservative budget be different?

terent? No, there is nothing in the budget that addresses those issues. When we were in government, we passed a law that gave the minister a chance for power to force railways to meet certain levels of service for our grain producers. The Liberth have found to use theory some to fact. They have a service the service for our grain producers.

The Liberals have failed to use those same tools. They have refused to act so we have grain backed up, we have lower and lower volumes of grain being shipped to market that is putting a huge strain on the finances of hardworking farmers all over the prairies.

all over the prairies. This is so frustrating. We have a government—Justin Trudeau blocks or cancels new pipeline development, push-ing those barrels of oil back onto the rails. Ralph Goodale himself, a Saskatchewan MP, voted against the TransMoun-tain project, he voted against the Energy East project, two major pipelines that would have opened up new markets for western energy, so there is nothing in this budget that would alleviate the concerns of producers on the prairies. Outside of budgetary measures the Conservative party would have used the powers of the federal government to make sure those pipelines got not just approved but then built and we those pipelines got not just approved but then built and we would have absolutely addressed the back log in grain transportation.

In our area we have lots of businesses and industries that are geared to exports, from agriculture to oil and gas or pot-ash mines and manufacturers like Seed Hawk. Does this budget do anything to make things easier for those natural resources industries and other exporters?



Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer spoke to the World-Spectator about the federal budget.

No, honestly the budget has new regulations, higher burdens for businesses small or large, there are higher taxes, higher payroll taxes making workers in Canada face threats to their jobs as it becomes more expensive for companies to retain workers

retain workers. Honestly this has been universally panned by every seri-ous economist as a missed opportunity. There is very, very little here if anything. Some of the measures that all parties can recognize do help create jobs—infrastructure spend-ing—is actually being cut \$2.1 billion. We could have a longer conversation about what's not in this budget and what is actually in the budget.

We have seen some significant changes in the way that Canadians are being taxed with the biggest impact coming to business owners, and there was some clarity in this budget on the taxation of passive income within the Canadian controlled private corporations. In the event that the Conservatives regain power how exactly would you plan to fix the changes that have occurred? What specific tax measures would you consider fixing? (Editor's note-Thanks to Mark O'Rourke for suggesting this question!) Great question. Since July, the Liberal government has at-

tacked and demonized entrepreneurs and threatened liter-ally hundreds and thousands of jobs with their proposed tax hikes.

These tax hikes are so devastating to Canadian workers be-

These tax hikes are so devastating to Canadian workers be-cause they prevent business owners from investing and sav-ing to expand or to upgrade their equipment or machinery. It hurts entrepreneurs themselves by making it more dif-ficult to fund maternity leave for female business owners. What we've committed is we would look at the entire tax-ation regime and how it impedes growth in our economy. When Ottawa takes more and more of the share, when it is gobbling up more and more from individuals and business owners it means fewer jobs, it means that there is a lower

quality of life for all Canadians. We want to keep those tax burdens low. We want to make sure that our small business owners are able to save to open so we're going to be coming through with some specific

proposals around income tax and business tax to make sure Canadians keep more and more of what they earn and that Canadian businesses are able to keep jobs here in Canada.

What do you see as the most significant aspects of this budget?

The biggest thing is the deficit. Honestly, as a parent, I can't imagine my five kids growing up with a debt burden from a government from years prior. My son Thomas will be 40 before the budget is balanced

under the current plan. That means the vast majority of his adult working life will spent paying off debt from a previous generation. That's not fair.

As interest rates go up, that cost of borrowing becomes more expensive, so bond holders and bankers are very, very happy when governments run deficits because they get more revenue, but individual Canadian tax payers have to work

The second thing is how much money is being spent out-side of Canada under this budget. Billions and billions of new money flowing to other coun-tries throughout the world not addressing the quality of life here for Canadians.

They've increased the amount of spending by two bil-lion dollars direct foreign aid and they've announced \$500 million to fund what they call the Asian infrastructure bank which is an infrastructure bank that builds infrastructure projects in other countries. Not a single kilometer of new road will be paved here in Canada and not a single town will have cleaner water thanks to this fund.

It's literally helping to bankroll projects for countries that will be greatly influenced by China. So not spending money on improving the quality of life for Canadians and the mas-sive deficits and debt that we're leaving future generations of Canadians are the two biggest problems that I have with discussed and the second seco this budget.

When I look through some of the individual items in the

When I look through some of the individual items in the budget I see \$\$1.4 million for a redress system for the no fly database, it looks like more than half a billion for the G7 meeting if I'm reading it right. Some of what seem to be relatively small issues have a lot of money run towards them. How much does that concern you? It concerns me greatly. \$500 million for hosting a confer-ence—that is unacceptable. The federal government spends over \$300 billion every year, so sometimes there's a habit in Ottawa, especially in the Liberal government, where they look at dollar amounts of \$10, \$15, \$200 million of not being a big deal because in the grand scheme of things it doesn't really factor in. But those things start to add up, and whether it's the \$500

really factor in. But those things start to add up, and whether it's the \$500 million dollars in the infrastructure bank, whether it's the \$8 million on a skating rink outside on parliament hill that you can't play hockey on, whether it's a Twitter account being managed for a minster getting paid \$100,000 a year, these things start to add up and if you don't have that fiscal dis-cipline where you've got the direction to get back to a bal-anced budget. Then all the departments start spending more and more money and it's not benefiting Canadians, so what we're going to be saying to Canadians over the next year and a bit is that if you vole Conservative you are going to get a party that always puts people first before government. party that always puts people first before government

As the opposition leader you would be expected to op-pose anything the government does, but is there anything you find positive in this budget? Is there anything you think the government has got right? There is a piece in there about addressing the national opi-oid crisis. That is a positive development. We think that they are late to the game—this is a crisis that started long ago— but we can arres that action is neutired.

We've been calling on them for many, many years to fund the National Autism Strategy. In many ways they are keep-ing some of the same targets the Conservative government had.







Continued on page 13

River Cruising - Europe & Asia

BY SHERRIE FLICK

If you are seeking an unforgettable, culturally immersive and intimate travel experience, river cruising is your best op-tion. River cruises don't just take you into a country, they let you get under its skin, feel its pulse, and see the scenery and sights up close and personal. As you sail at an easy pace, vou are cocooned in comfort, while surrounded by attentive staff and com-pany of like-minded trav-ellers.

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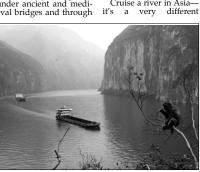
sion arrangements are organized and planned. Being that it is essentially a floating hotel, it allows the traveller to only have to unpack once and also gives you the option to dress informally throughout the trip. Life on board will also include evening entertainment from resi dent musician or local performers. Additionally, you may be treated with wine, cheese and cooking demonstrations.

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loured waters that engulf limestone pillars, float-ing markets, verdant rice paddies, and villages un-touched by modern ways. So pack your sense of ad-venture and experience Asia in a new way. The Mekong flows se-renely through the Bud-dhist Cambodia and Diz-zyingly busy Vietnam. The Irrawaddy uncov-ers Burma's tranquility, temples and rural way of life that is relatively untouched. The Yangtze gives a glimpse of China's bustling cities and ancient monuments.

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Saskatchewan Community Event of the Year **Regional Park a finalist for provincial award**

Moosomin Regional Park's Living Skies Come Alive Fireworks Competition has been named as a finalist for Saskatchewan Community Event of the Year Award. The award is presented by Tourism Saskatchewan as

part of the Saskatchewan Tourism Awards of Excellence. The three finalists for Community Event of the Year Award are

2017 Living Skies Come Alive International Fireworks
 Competition, Moosomin
 Gateway Festival, Bengough
 2017 Early Carlot area

• YXE Eats, Saskatoon A list of 33 finalists were taken from 100 nominations quality in the 12 award categories that acknowledge quality in marketing, service, business practices, human resource development and other areas.

The finalists and award recipients will be honoured at the 29th annual Saskatchewan Tourism Awards of Excel-





A scene from the 2017 Living Skies Come Alive Fireworks Competition at Moosomin Regional Park

lence Gala, which will be celebrated on April 12 at the Delta Hotel in Regina. The three recipients of the Tourism Builder Award will also be recognized that night. The event was nominated by the Moosomin Chamber

of Commerce.

Provincial recognition

Moosomin Regional Park Manager Wayne Beckett said he's happy to see the park recognized for the fireworks competition. "It's good to see," he said. "It shows that it's a big event in the province. It's a major event now in Sas-ted server." katchewan." Beckett says the event has grown a lot over the years

"We are in our ninth year and we hosted initially around 2,500 people, which has grown and grown, to the point last year of over 12,000, so the growth has been phenomenal.'

It's been good weather almost every year and people enjoy it, so word spreads. Of course it's the first thing ev-erybody books. When they want to book campsites start-ing March 1 it's for that weekend, so it's very popular."

Chinese Connection

Beckett believes that part of what made the 2017 Living Skies Come Alive more popular than previous years was the involvement of a Chinese competitor. "It was because of the Chinese connection that we had such a big year," he says. "We marketed that. Our com-pany in Winnipeg that we have dealt with for a long time have some connections in the fireworks industry, includ-ing in China. They were the key to getting a company nave some content of the neworks industry, includ-ing in China. They were the key to getting a company from China to come. It was easy to market the Chinese in-volvement. People got on board with it. They knew what-ever China brought would be a big production. People really got on board with it and got behind it. The ticket prices for the advance tickets were reasonable and people

really took advantage of that."

Close to max capacity Beckett says the 12,500 people who attended the fire-works last year is close to the maximum that the park can

works last year is close to the maximum une the parti-handle. "Lately every year we think we've maxed out, but last year I've got to believe we came awful close," he said. "Physically we don't have room for a lot more cars, or people, or camping. We've logistically run to the limit of what we can accommodate. 2017 was a good year for us financially. Our expenses don't change a lot year to year, so when we get a lot more people through the gate, the revenue increases pretty dramatically, but the costs don't rise, so we can raise a lot more money. "Tve got to think we have come close to topping out. Now we have to make the experience more enjoyable

Now we have to make the experience more enjoyable for the ones who are there—we have to make sure that we can handle that type of crowd, make sure we have enough food for that size of a crowd, and make sure we have the infrastructure to be able to handle that number of second. With our source unconstructure to the source of second. of people. With our new water treatment plant on board this spring that will help for sure. We've streamlined ev-erything as much as we can and it could grow a little bit but no by too much."

Plan for 2018 show

So what's the plan for this year? "First of all, we'll pray for good weather," said Beckett. "We're still working on International competition. We've got some solid leads we should find out in the next week or two if that's confirmed. It looks like it will be a U.S. company that will compete. That's all we know for know. Were are actively looking for food vendors right now be-cause we do have to supply more food for the crowd that is there. We've have had good interest already in that.



March 2018



March 2018

An interview with Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer on the federal budget

Continued from page 9 We're pleased that they backed off some of their more egregious tax hikes, but other than that it's really just a budget that saddles Ca-nadian workers and future Canadian workers with a great deal of debt and doesn't do any-thing security the accurate the security of the se thing to protect the economy.

How do you think this budget will impact the average Canadian? Well today not so much, there is nothing in

Weil today not so much, there is nothing in there that really will help kick start anything or insure that economic growth continues, but as those debts pile up that means more and more of your tax dollars going to pay in-terest costs to banks and the interest rates are already starting to rise, so down the road, not even too far down the road, we are going to see a lot of negative impacts on the economy.

What will this budget be remembered for?

What will this budget be remembered for? I don't think it will be remembered at all. If anything this may be the budget that is re-membered for when our fiscal situation got out of control when people look back and asy 'how did we end up in this mess of debt.' Sometimes in the past we looked at bud-gets under Pierre Trudeau where the legacy of those debts continue into today, so if it's

remembered at all it will be the turning point for when the federal government just lost all control over its fiscal situation.

you heard much feedback on the budget from people back in Saskatchewan

budget from people back in Daskatter..... so far? Yeah, in a 400-page document the word ag-riculture is mentioned only twice and there is absolutely nothing with it. It pays lip service to agriculture but then it doesn't actually provide anything concrete, so that definitely I've heard about. There's noth-isse in these to promote Canadian energy or ing in there to promote Canadian energy or to ensure that pipelines are built, nothing in there to have a contingency fund if anything goes wrong with NAFTA, so that is the feed-back I've been getting. For Saskatchewan specifically, there is money set aside in this budget to enforce the

collection of a carbon tax and money has been withheld from Saskatchewan because Sas-katchewan won't sign onto this terrible idea, so I've also got a lot of feedback on that—not only tax dollars from Saskatchewan being spent in forcing the collection of the carbon tax but funds that Saskatchewan are entitled to are being held back, so people are very upset at that.







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Plain and Valley **Moosomin Chamber of Commerce**

Golden Fortune Potash speaks about planned mine

BY KARA KINNA Meng Wu, assistant engineer, and Rong Liang, project geologist with the Canada Golden Fortune Potash Corporation spoke at the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce meeting in February about a planned solu-tion potash mine that would be located 20 km south of Broadview, Sask.

Rong and Meng were invited to the meeting to share more about the project. "We are really happy that we can have the Chamber of Commerce know more

about our project and potential ways to help with our project," said Meng, speak-ing to Chamber members.

How it got started

Meng went over some of the logistics of the project ,including where the company

is at in the approval process. Golden Fortune Potash Corp. was founded in 2014 in Saskatoon. Meng sait the company has acquired two potash per-mits, one south of Grenfell and Broadview, and another north of Quill Lake, but their current focus is on the Broadview project.

He explained that the mine would be a solution mine. "After construction, we will drill well

pads, which are similar to oil and gas well pads, unto the ground and basically pump

pads, unto the ground and basically pump water into the potash bearing formation to mine the potash," he said. Meng said the company began drill-ing exploration wells in 2014 and, based on the core analysis, found an abundance of high grade potash in the area, which spurred them to start their environmental impact assessment in 2016. "We have started to use all the base line

We have started to use all the base line data and also have started our modelling on the potential impact of this project," he

"Now we are in the environmental im-pact assessment. We have submitted our technical proposal to the government and the government. We will submit an environmental impact statement with more details of the study to the ministry of environment.

"Now we are working on the impact statement and planning to submit it in the middle of 2018. We expect to wait for six months for the environmental approval. By the end of 2018 or early 2019 we will start our construction, but before that we will apply for our construction permit to allow us to break ground.

Project plans "The construction is estimated to take two and a half years. During the two and a half years of construction we estimate that we will have average construction jobs of 600, and the peak number is 1,200 con-struction jobs. "So we will need a lot of support from the local businesses, from Grenfell, Broad-view, Kipling, and Moosomin. "We plan to start our operations in 2021. We will be a one million tonne a year pot-ash mine and there will be an estimated 155 permanent jobs working for the plant."

asn mine and there will be an estimated 155 permanent jobs working for the plant." Meng said water from the plant would be drawn from a deep aquifer—the Hat-field Aquifer—located north of Grenfell and southwest of Crooked Lake. "We have done a field water investigation of the wa-ter source last summer and we have confirmed there is sufficient water to support a one million tonne production mine," he said.

He added that for the rail line, the company would build a spur line from the plant site to the CN line.

How the mine would work

Meng explained how the solution mine would work.

"It's a lot different from the underground mines like Rocanville and Esterha-zy," he said. "Basically we will have water 27, he said. basically we will have water transported from the water source and the mine field into our plant. After the brine is pumped into our plant site, it goes to the KCL processing plant and the plant will separate salt and Calcium Sulfate, which is gypsum, in the plant, and also potash. And potash will be conveyed into the stor-



Meng Wu with Canada Golden Fortune Potash Corp. speaking at the chamber meeting.

age silos." He explained that the tailings would have a lot of moisture in them, so there yould be little risk of salt blowing onto

"Production is only one million tonnes" a year, which is only one million tonnes and Esterhazy, which are five million tonnes a year, so there will be less impact on the area than the other mines," he said. "In the end of the production, the for-mation (underground) will be like a hon-

eycomb or cheese, because potash only accounts for a quarter of the formation, so most of the salt will stay underground we will only extract potash. "There are two benefits of this method.

First, we won't have a large salt tailings at our plant because we have left the salt underground. Second is that we will have underground. Second is that we will have way less substance on the surface because the majority of the mineral is underground. There will only be potash extracted. From our preliminary analysis there will only be one to two meters of substance on the ground."

Where the project is at now

Meng said the current focus of the company is on the environmental impact as-sessment. He said they have been collect-ing data since 2015 to examine the impacts of the project in the area, including infor-mation on air quality, acoustics, climate, hydrology, ground water, and local vegetation.

etation. He added that this particular potash mine would use little water. "We keep recirculating water into the cavern and reusing the water so the wa-ter consumption will be way less than any other solution mine or underground mine in Saskatchewan," he said.

He said the company will be combin-ing all of the data into their environmental impact statement and submitting it to the Minister of Environment for examination.

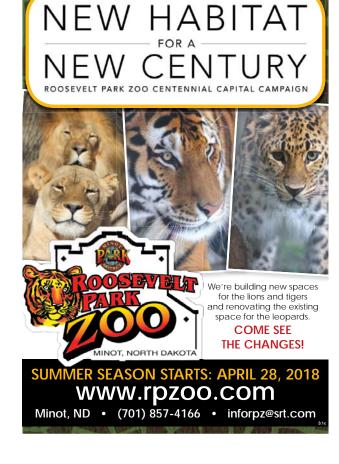
"Traffic is also very important for the lo-cal community because during construccal community because during construc-tion we will be transporting heavy equip-ment, a lot of vehicles will be travelling to site," he added. "Now we are trying to determining how much more traffic there will be during the construction and any impact for the local farmers. During con-tingtions will start counting the traffic struction we will start counting the traffic data and how many vehicles are coming in and how many are coming out. And be-fore that we will work with the local RM to

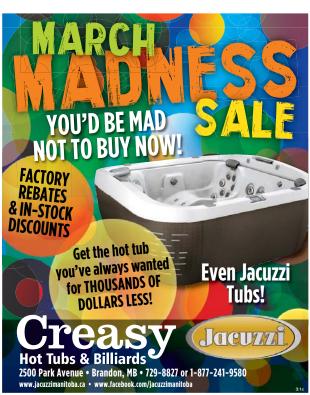
upgrade the gravel road." Meng said community engagement has also been a big part of the project. "We started our community engage-ment since mid last year. We have had

open houses in the surrounding towns, he said. "After we have all the environmental

impact assessment results ready, we will present it to the local communities and hear more about their comments or any concerns about the study result. From our perspective we will keep engaging with the communities and also the RM, First Nation communities, and that is an ongoing process. It doesn't end. After the envi-ronmental approval we will keep consult-ing the local communities to hear if there are any recommendations for the project after construction and into production."

Meng added that, as part of their com-munity contribution, the company would like to build a mineral spa in the area. *Continued on page 22 & 25* IST





Moosomin Kinette Club presents



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5,030 dresses and 2,000 pairs of shorts sewn for children in need



One of the dresses and pairs of shorts sewn by the "Little Dresses for Africa" group.

BY SUZANNE EISLER

Can it be four years since this all started. At a Bible study at the Free Methodist church in Wawota, Sask. I expressed my desire to sew "Little dresses for Africa." I was encouraged by all. So I put an ad in our News in a Minute for two weeks. I wondered—would anyone come?

So on February 26, 2014 we met at the Free Methodist Church in the Cannington Wing, Well, they did come; 21 ladies showed up with scissors, irons, sergers, sewing machines etc. We meet in the Cannington Wing which the FM Church donate for our use.

ton Wing which the FM Church donate for our use. We meet every Tuesday from October till April. We work from 1-4:30 pm, stopping for a time of socializing at three. Evelyn makes the tea and coffee and goodies seem to always come. We have had 10 to 18 ladies every week. In April we have a pot luck lunch to celebrate our winter's work for anyone who has helped. Our material comes from various people and places—ladies downsizing, estate sales, thrift shops, and the Northgate sewing centre. They donate material every January, this year 62 metres. We have never bought material for dresses or shorts, though sometimes we get pretty low. We do buy elastic, Serger thread and broadcloth, as we make all our own seam binding. We have made many, many meters. Our volunteers often buy these supplies as we have limited funds.

These dresses, shorts, baby blankets have gone to Haiti, Dominican, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Mexico, Belize, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Peru, the Philippines (by Jordan), Liberia, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa, Equatorial Guinea (by Troy S) and Malawi Africa, fires in the north and shoeboxes. Hope I haven't missed any. We have never paid for shipping.

we have never paid for shipping, everything has been delivered by volunteers, or on mission trips (Carlyle). Thanks to everyone who ever took little dresses anywhere. It is greatly appreciated. Thanks to our ladies who are so enthusiastic to start up, and are so dedicated. They come from Wawota, Kelso, Vandura and Kenosee Lake. It surpasses all my expectations.

If anyone would like to help or just see what we do, drop in. Or if you want to help in other ways, we would accept monetary help to offset some of our expenses.

set some of our expenses. Big thanks to the Free Methodist church for the use of your building, the cupboard you built for us to store our supplies. Without you this never would have come to be. And when we get pictures of the smiling face of the kids who received these dresses and shorts, we know what we do is so worthwhile.

Our fourth anniversary was on February 26. We have sewn 5,030 dresses and about 2,000 shorts. We are proud of our accomplishments.

are proud of our accomplishments. Thanks again for the help we have had from so many in the last four years. We have truly been blessed!







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March 2018

Plain and Valley

Rhett Parks in front of Whitehoow l ivewhere stock. this year's national auctioneers championship will take place.

Canadian Auctioneer Championship May 10-13 National championship coming to Whitewood and Moosomin

ву **D**ONNA **B**EUTLER The Canadian auctioneer championship The Canadian auctioneer championship is coming to the Whitewood/Moosomin area this spring and Rhett Parks of White-wood Livestock is proud that his auction mart has been chosen as this year's location. "The championship moves from prov-ince to province each year," Parks said in a recent interview. "It's usually held in large centres such as Ownhow City Colvapy Winginger Reging or

"It's usually held in large centres such as Quebec City, Calgary, Winnipeg, Regina, or Toronto," he said, but this year, for the first time since it all began in 1997, it is coming to a smaller locale. "I told the board we would host this

"I told the board we would nost this year's event and the board unanimously voted to hold the 2018 convention and championship here," Parks said, adding that the announcement of where it would be held in 2018 was made at the 2017 cham-

be held in 2018 was made at the 2017 cham-pionship in Lethbridge. "I always wanted to host it," Parks said, "but I didn't think we would get the chance." But get it he did, and excitement about the upcoming event is apparent at the market and around town. Parks has been a competitor at many of the annual competitore as has big dad

the annual competitions, as has his dad, both of whom are or have been a board member of the Livestock Markets Association of Canada which co-ordinates the auctioner competition during their annual convention and championship event. "The event includes people in the indus-

try," Parks explained, "including auction-eers, cattle buyers and producers, trucking firms and so a

firms and so on." He added that the auctioneer competi-tion is open to everyone to watch on Friday, May 11 beginning at 10 a.m. in the White-wood auction mart's sale ring. There will be about 35 auctioneers com-ing from coast to coast to compete in the dynamicalia and according to Packa

championship, and, according to Parks, the sale ring will be exactly what it always is—a sale ring where cattle are brought in and sold.

The only difference is that there will be many auctioneers instead of just one, each of whom will take their turn selling. Of course, there will be another major dif-

ference as well.

ference as well. A panel of judges will be rating each of the competing auctioneers on their profes-sionalism, on clarity, rhythm and chant, on their knowledge of cattle, on the pace they sell at, and on their bid-spotting abilities. "Everyone is very capable, all are great auctioneers who do a great job," Parks said of the competitors that will be auctioneer-ine that day.

"The top 10 auctioneers will come back to auction in a second round," Parks ex-plained, adding that their names will be chosen out of a hat to determine the order in which they will take to the auctioneer's mic for that second round.

Continued on page 21 🖙

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March 2018

Canadian Auctioneer Championship May 10-13 National championship coming to Whitewood and Moosomin

** Continued from page 19 In the end, five winners, including top rookie and most congenial, will be chosen and announced during the Sat-

urday night banquet in Moosomin. During the festivities, a Hall of Fame nominee will be announced as well as one name per province for a memo-

rial tribute

rial tribute. These awards are not specific to auctioneers but rather to those in the industry in general. The entire weekend promises a full agenda with beer gardens Thursday night in Whitewood, the competition in Whitewood Friday, a pitchfork fondue Friday night in Moosomin, tours on Saturday, the annual general meeting (ACM) and a bare with Catrud wight.

(AGM) and a banquet Saturday night. Parks expects the AGM will attract up to 250 people

from across the country.

Being chosen to host the event has meant Parks and his staff are busy with preparations not just for the event it-self, but with the Whitewood auction barn as well. "We are sprucing the place up," Parks said of the White-wood Livestock market facility.

wood Livestock market facility. "We have tinned the barn and are doing renovations in the sale ring area, as well as painting and cleaning. It's going to look about as good as the day it opened back in the '50s. "We are the 'We are honoured to host this event." Parks said. "It's

a feather in my cap that the board accepted our bid." And with that Parks made the invitation to everyone who

might be interested in watching the competition to attend. "I am excited to bring Canada to Whitewood and Moo-somin!" Parks said. "So come out and watch the championship-everyone is welcome."

The making of an auctioneer

The name Rhett Parks and Whitewood Livestock have pretty much become synonymous over the past several years, but it's a path that may sound somewhat unlikely when you learn that Parks doesn't have a farming back-ground.

"I grew up in Brandon," Parks says of his city upbring-ing, a youngster who had never even been part of 4-H. "I was pretty undecided on what I was going to do coming out of high school," he said. After a year in university, his dad suggested he take an auctioneer course. At the time, Parks didn't even like giv-ing speeches in front of his peers, but off to Iowa he went in December of 1996 and, he says, "The rest is history." That history included taking Mondays and Thursdays off from his job in Brandon and traveling with his dad to Pipestone Livestock on Mondays and Whitewood Live-

stock on Thursdays, auction marts owned by his dad, Gene Parks and Gene's business partner Jim Martin. "Near the end of an auction, my dad would let me sell

for 10 minutes, that's how it started," Parks explained. "Dad would start with a selling price and I would carry on." At Parks' third sale in Whitewood, his dad walked away and Parks had no choice but to finish selling for

Whose last six or seven minutes. "You left me there—why did you do that?" I asked my dad after the sale ended. His dad's answer was short and sweet: "You learn quicker that way." And so young Parks did, learning to pay attention and to keep the sale mov-ing. Parks said you need to learn where to come in with ing. Parks said you need to learn where to come in win your starting price so you aren't wasting time starting too low and having to spend too much time working up to the selling point. It's all history now, but Parks admits that when he first started down this particular career path, he didn't know the difference between a cow and a heifer, but one thing he care he di a becurve pache and he reply context packs

the difference between a cow and a heifer, but one thing he says he did know was people and he really enjoys people. "I enjoyed the buyers and the cattle producers. I know producers want to be treated fairly," he said of his custom-ers. He also recognized those who have helped him get to where he is today, his dad's partner Jim Martin and Jim's son Brad; Doug Richardson, Don and John Middleton, Dawn Kindlein and Isabelle Francis and many others. "I would d'the hora without these needed and men others."

Dawn Kindlein and Isabelle Francis and many others. "I wouldn't be here without these people and many others." "I have to say I enjoyed auctioneering right from the start," Parks said of what he does. "My dad is one of the best auctioneers there is and so there were big shoes for me to follow. Sometimes I thought I wasn't good enough but over time, as my confidence grew, it got to be quite a bit easier." Parks says he may be managing an auction mart and auctioneering from the sale ring of both the a bit easier." Parks says he may be managing an aucuon mart and auctioneering from the sale ring of both the Whitewood market and the Pipestone market (which closed in 2010 but reopened last September), but he also has spent lots of time out back too—clerking, receiving cattle, loading cattle, sorting and yes, cleaning pens. He may be an auctioneer, but he's learned every aspect of the business characteristic of the second se business from the inside out.

Today, Parks is a confident auctioneer who takes a lot during competition, he says he doesn't really take compe-tition too seriously and has found that over the years, he generally doesn't get nervous anymore. Though he some-times has to share his office chair with his dog (as he did during this particular interview), Parks appears confident and comfortable in his role and looks forward to whatever the future brings

"I guess you could say I was a city boy turned kind of

country boy," he said as he looks back to what brought him into this particular field of work, something he at one time never envisioned. And country is what it's all about for Parks and his team-right down to the country location for this year's national auctioneer championship!



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Moosomin Chamber of Commerce

Golden Fortune Potash speaks about planned mine

Continued from page 15 "In addition we are planning to build a not-for-profit mineral spa close to the proj-ect area," he said. "We have not decided the location yet. It's not for profit because we understand it may be a tourist attrac-tion for the community if you have a min-eral spa like the one in Moose Jaw, so it may help the local economy.

Questions and answers After his presentation, Meng took ques-tions from Chamber members.

Jim Davidson asked if the mine would draw any water from Pipestone Creek, or if any excess water would be put into

Pipestone Creek. "No, we won't be drawing any water from Pipestone Creek," said Meng. "Our water source will be from Hatfield Aquifer, it will be groundwater from just south of Crooked Lake. We have confirmed there is enough water for the project, so we won't draw any water from Pipestone Creek. It will be recirculated. In the process there will be some water loss but we will recover most of the water and reinject

will recover most of the water and reinject it into the cavern, back into the mine." Bill Thorn asked if the gypsum byprod-uct would be processed locally or shipped elsewhere for processing. "We will have a gypsum tailing area to store the gypsum, but we know that gyp-sum is a material to manufacture drywall, so we are looking at the potential uses of so we are looking at the potential uses of the gypsum tailings but we haven't decid-

the gypsum tailings but we haven't decid-ed yet," said Meng. "Our gypsum will be high grade. For other gypsum mines in I think you need to process the gypsum to strip out some of the materials in it, but for ours it will be high quality so that would be really ben-ficial live sould have a more a particle. eficial if we could have a gypsum plant to reuse it." Harry Meister asked if the salt and gyp-

VALLEYVIEW

sum tailings would be covered or out in the open.

"There won't be a dome for the tailing area but by the time the gypsum and salt will be transported to the tailings area, Will be transported to the tailings area, there will be some moisture in it so it won't be blowing away as dust," said Meng. "It will stay in the tailing area. And also our tailing area, we estimate the height will be way lower than the underground mines at Rocanville and Esterhazy. So there won't be as much of an impact as the underground mines."

ground mines." Harry Meister asked if the wells for the mine would all be located in one spot. "No, we are planning to have three well pads to support one million tonnes of production. In each well pad there will be around 14 wells drilled from that well pad," said Meng. Greg Nosterud asked who owns the company. "Our stakeholders are mainly investors from mainline China. Hone Kong, some

from mainine China, Hong Kong, some from Malaysia, and customers. It's not publicly traded yet," said Meng, Bill Thorn asked where the potash would be sold.

"First our priority is for the local market, if there is demand locally in Saskatchewan it will be absolutely a priority because of the transportation and support for farmers locally," said Meng. "Some of the product will be shipped around the globe. We have been talking to customers from India, from Malaysia, some from Brazil. We haven't decided yet where our product will go be-cause by the time of first production it will be in 2021. But basically it will be sold locally or to anywhere in the world that has a demand."

a demana. Bill Thorn asked if the company has been in the potash mining before or if this is a first time venture and Meng said it was a first time venture.

March 26 - March 31

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Redfern Farm Services wins CAAR award



Ray Redfern and Lane Wanless accept the Bayer CropScience retailer of the year award. From left are Ray Redfern, Lionel Lamont, Lane Wanless, and Bob Sharanowski.

The Redfern Farm Services Virden branch was recently named the Canadian Association of Agri-Retailers Retailer of the Year at the CAAR Annual Choice

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Awards banquet dinner. The retailer of the year award was established in 2008 and it recognizes one CAAR member that went above and beyond to serve its customers. Each winner was celebrated for their commitment to business excellence, sustainability

and their local communities

CAAR describes Redfern Farm Services in Virden as Farm Services in Virden as a leader in adopting new technology, whether it's the newest hybrid seed technology or adoption of variable rate, mapping and data management, as well as competent in-field scouting ruporams scouting programs. The Virden location of-

fers their customers access to Farmers Edge and Deci-sive Farming VRA services

as part of their agronomy as part of their agronomy package, and provide fer-tilizer application and custom spraying services, which have proven to be very valuable and highly accepted by their farmer clients. Since joining Redfern

Since joining Redfern Farm Services in 2015, Lane Wanless has seen the Virden branch undergo major changes. This includes a new office complex as well as several new additions to its staff.

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This spring, the Redferns Virden team is also look-ing forward to the benefits of upgrades completed to the fertilizer plant which will increase both capacity and speed of loading. The Redferns team is also in the midst of construct-ing a five-bin soybean and cereals storage and treating facility. They've also in-creased their custom appli-

cation equipment to serve

their retail partners. "I'm extremely proud of my team here," Wanless said. "Without the hard work and dedication of work and dedication of the staff, the achievements we've made would not be possible. We also need to thank each and every customer that supported our location because if we didn't have the customer support that we do, we would not have been suc-cessful winning this award and be able to increase the staff and be able to hicrease the grades to the facility." Wanless and his team at Redferns in Virden are

evidence that customers value relationships with their crop input retailer who goes the extra mile for them



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March 2018

Moosomin Chamber of Commerce Golden Fortune Potash speaks about planned mine

Continued from page 22 Neil Russell asked if the mineral spa could be located in Mossomin. Meng said for the former and the second s there was potential for the field office to be located in Moosomin.

"I believe by the time of production, we will have a training program, especially for young people, in the surrounding towns and communities. We would like to give back to people in the communities and Southeast Saskatchewan," said Meng.

"For a field office, we will look at poten-

tial locations-the towns that are closer to our site, or a well established community like Moosomin. It is our first time coming to Moosomin. We were surprised that you have all these facilities, and I know that you have a hospital in Moosomin. We will report to management to see where we can cate our field office."

Kevin Weedmark asked where the mine

"We are still working out the environ-mental statement," said Meng. "We will



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ewan in years." Dr. Wessel Roets asked if the medical as pect of the workers have been addressed by the company yet.

We need some support in terms of the "We need some support in terms of the health system. Our priority for recruit-ment is for the people already living in the area," said Meng. "We don't wish to have 600 people coming to the site from out of province and have a huge pressure on the health care system. We will try to have the people hired locally as much as pos-sible. It's a way to give back to the people sible. It's a way to give back to the people already here. It will also help stabilize the real estate and also the economic development.

Harry Meister asked how thick the high

grade potash ore body was when they cored in the mining area. "Five meters of high grade potash," said Meng, adding that that is much smaller than the underground mines. "They are a lot thicker and shallower.

That's why they have chosen underground mining. In their depths the temperature is only 27-28 degrees celsius. This mine is deeper, and the formation temperature is

50 degrees which is not ideal for anybody to work underground." Larry Tomlinson asked how far out the

solution mining process would go from "In the beginning we will start to mine

The decompany we will start to the mean the area this is closest to the plant. At first it will be only one to two kilometres away from the plant. But as we keep mining we will move east," said Meng. Bill Thom asked what the life expectan-ers of the spin wand to be

cy of the mine would be.

"We are confident that we can have this mine operating for over 50 years, and that is only for the current designated mining area, and after that we can mine the area that is already in the permit area but not in our current mining plan. So our mine will be a long term neighbor," said Meng. Kevin Weedmark asked where they

would source their permanent employees from.

"For some specialized personnel, we will probably have to find them from other cities in Saskatchewan or abroad but we will mostly try to utilize the lo-cal people," said Meng, "We have heard from the other mines that if you bring someone from, say, Calgary, they may only work for your mine for two or three years and then find a better job, or just leave, because they are not born and raised here. But for us, from the very beginning, we'd like to implement a training program and train a local work-



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Flax markets fluctuate

In November 2017, Russia and China signed a phyotsanitary protocol that tabled terms allowing a number of commodities ac-cess into China. One of them included flax, a

cess into China. One of them included flax, a stepping stone for greater and faster flax en-try into China. Flax price discovery use to largely be about two independent relationships: FSU and Eu-rope; North America and China. Now, the flax

market seems poised to evolve and greater in-tricacies between all players will be created. For example, if China imports larger tonnage from FSU, then Canada and European Union trade math should evolve by either FSU-ori-gin price rising, or Canada-origin falling more offere to a thorse used a single concert to the term often. In other words, price spreads tighten. Deeper FSU agriculture exports are an evolving trend and flax is another example

of this. More flax supply choice means more competition, which should dilute the frothiness and exclusivity that Canada once had with China. As a result, Canadian price arbitrages differently, but to a lower average most times. This won't happen overnight, but it feels like the Russian and Chinese relationship is maturing favorably, so the global land-scape of flax (trade flows and price discovery)

is likely to change in coming one to two years. An increasing number of former Soviet Union countries are producing flax, resulting in a more robust trade market and impacting In a more rouse trade market and impacting Canada's strength in flax trade with China. Long-standing relationships and favorable logistics mean Canada is still in a good posi-tion, but the exporters should be mindful of the growing FSU markets.



Managing forages for uncertain weather conditions

REGIONAL FORAGE SPECIALIST SASKATCHEWAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE Whether conditions will turn dry or not, extremes of

weather have become more of a norm than the exception. The best way to manage your pasture or range through these tosses and turns is to A) have a plan and B) keep your forage stand as healthy as possible.

NO ROOTS - NO GRASS

Have you ever strained to grab something from a shelf but despite your efforts, the desired item stayed out of reach? That is how your forage root system feels when it is too short to access a moisture layer which may be just below its reach. Roots are out of sight and often out of mind. Yet, it pays to remember that roughly two-thirds of total plant growth occurs below ground, while the visible above ground portion only makes up about one-third. This extensive root system forms the lifeline for forage plants and helps ensure long-term survival as well as productivity. Remember that drought stress can reduce or impair root growth even without added grazing pressure.

RESIST THE URGE It is challenging but imperative to leave residual for-age at a height of 3-4 inches (7-10 cm). Removing every last blade of grass only leads to a longer road to recovery. The resulting rest period will automatically be longer. The grazing stubble left behind also helps shade and cool the soil, which reduces evaporation and conserves what little moisture there is. Just as important as removing the ani-mals on time is resisting the urge to put livestock back on a pasture as soon as some form of regrowth has occurred. a pasture as soon as some form of regrowth has occurred.

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Grass regrowth needs to reach 8-10 inches (20-25 cm) before animals can return to that paddock. Overgrazed plants will dip into the root reserves and stop allocating resources to root growth in an attempt to survive short-term. If dry conditions persist into subsequent years, de-sirable plants will first reduce production and eventually disappear from your stand.

IT TAKES MOISTURE TO GROW GRASS This may be obvious but it is a reminder that there are no miracle solutions to forage growth in dry condi-tions. The absence of moisture will inevitably result in an

tions. The absence of moisture will inevitably result in an absence of forage growth. Adjusting stocking rates and using alternative feeding systems helps protect your pas-tures, your animals, and your financial bottom line. Keeping pastures healthy during good weather condi-tions is an investment in ensuring the pasture will remain

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March is ag literacy month in Saskatchewan

March 2018 has once again been proclaimed as Agriculture Literacy Month in Saskatchewan. Agriculture Literacy Month brings farmers, ranchers and other mem-bers of the agriculture industry into elemen-tary school classrooms around the province to read stories and discuss their agricultural experi-ences. Materials for the classroom visits, such as books and videos, are provided by Agriculture in the Classroom – Sae in the Classroom - Sas-

in the Classroom – Sas-katchewan (AITC). "Agriculture Literacy Month is a great oppor-tunity for students to connect with farmers, ranchers and other agri-culture experts to learn about the safe, nutri-tious food produced in Saskatchewan," Agricul-ture Minister Lyle Stew-art said. "Some students might not have consid-ered where their food comes from and this is their chance to ask questheir chance to ask ques-tions and to think about the significance of agri-culture in our province." Since 2012, Agriculture in the Classroom – Cana-da has been working col-

lectively to declare one week in early March as Canadian Agriculture Week. "This year's theme is,

Our Food. Our Story.," Deputy Premier and Education Minister Gordon Wyant said. "Agri-culture Literacy Month

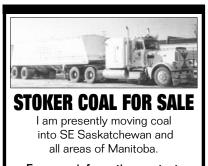
allows students to take part in activities with local producers and hear stories about why they work in the agriculture

industry. These expe-riences are the kind of learning that really makes an impression on students " students.

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to plant and on their fields early typically are prepared to manage for those risks with timely field observa-

He says his co-ops are al-ready "very heavy" into crop planning by field, crop and service, and urges producers

"Staville in the spring of the spring of the spring of the spring," says Cowan. "The window for planting is very narrow, and management depends on what the weath-

er gives us. We need to be agile."

soil temperatures. Monitor the situation closely as spring

Extreme cold temperatures could reduce some insect pressure, but could also affect

tions," Cowan says.

Why this winter will bug some insects BY OWEN ROBERTS able. Typically, there's been

Extreme winter tempera-tures could bode well for

pest management on farms this spring. While insects such as wire worms and grubs are in-stinctive enough to beat any deep frost, other species stay comparatively shallow. That leaves them vulnerable to the exceptional cold temperatures experienced this winter

in many parts of Canada. Dale Cowan, senior agron-omist with the Wanstead and AGRIS co-ops in southwestern Ontario, says flea beetles, bean leaf beetles and slugs overwinter in shallower soil than most insects.

As a result—to a greater ex-tent than usual—they might

tent than usual—they might be victims of persistently low winter temperatures. "We never get the full cleansing effect we want, and because it's -20C in the air doesn't mean it's that cold in the soil," Cowan says. "But this winter could possibly reduce the presence of some of these insects in the spring." Insect pressure depends on several factors, including

weather from afar. For example, armyworms can be blown up from the Ohio Val-ley. That's a force of nature and can't be prevented or influenced by winter weather here

Cowan says that variabil-ity means producers need to be diligent with scouting, to spot insects as soon as pos-sible in the spring and initi-ate control measures where necessary



ter temperatures might also slow soil warming.

That's important for farm-ers to keep an eye on. Plant-ing into cooler soil can inhibit seed development and germination. The flip side is that waiting too long to plant reduces yields.

Cowan says that while it's still early, farmers need to start making management plans to get onto the land as early as possible. Weather patterns over the past three springs have been unpredict-



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Certificate Program winter 2017/2018) 2008 CaselH 245 Magnum MFWD 248hp Tractor w/3 Remote Hyd, Dual PTO, 20.8R42

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Pick Up Header w/Seed Saver attachment Long auger w/CalMar Poly Spout, 520/85R42 Dual Fronts, 600/65R28 Rear Singles, Chaff Spreader, Fine Cut Chopper, JD Sieves, Pwr Folding Hopper Ext, Star Fire 3000 Guidance, Green Star 3 Monitor, 960 Eng Hrs Showing. 724 Sep Hrs Showing, s/n093721 (JD Green Light/Pro Check service winter 2017/2018) •2011 CaselH WD 1203 SP Swather w/30 CaselH Header w/pick up reel, rubber slat canvas, 1260 Eng Hrs showing, 2 Spd Hydro, Rear Hitch, s/nYBG664385 (Been through CaseIH Certifi cate Program winter 2017/2018)

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s/n08BM2500004 •JD 568 Rd Baler w/Mega Wide Plus pick up, net wrap and twine tie, 21.5:16.1 Big Rubber, 1000 PTO, 17,807 Bales, s/n375611 •2013 14-wheel Bale King VR481 V-Rake Full Hyd, Skirted Wheels, s/nVR2865 •NH 320 Hayliner Sq Baler w/1/2 turn chute, 540 PTO, Always Shedded, s/n60383 •JD Series 3 Bale Elevator GRAIN HANDLING:

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Blade, Very good shape •8' Farm King Metal Swath Roller •6' Crow's Foot Packer •5 Buhler Farm King 3PT Blade w/manual angle •48" Quick Attach Pallet Forks Quick attach CaseIH Loader •2 Prong Bale Fork Quick attach CaseIH Loader •New Agro-Mec Ind, Vertical style Grapple, Big Sq or Rd bale Quick Attach CaselH Loader • Shop Built 3PT 3-wheel Swath Turning Rake

LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT:

 Degelman/Bale King 3100 HD Self Loader Bale Processor w/right hand discharge, 1000 HD PTO, Rear 16.5L x 16.1 Diamond Tread Rubber, s/nBK5261 •Cadillac TMR350 Feed Mixer Wagon w/Dual auger right hand discharge, on Board Scale Digital Read out Head, 4 Auger mixers, single axle, 425/65B22 5 Bubber s/n00H720062 • JD 780 Tandem Axle Hydro Push Manure Spreader w/Poly sides & floor, single beater, 540 PTO, s/n006561 • Linden Trail Style Post Pounder, Fully Hvd •12' Richardton Multi-Purpose Silage Wagon, New Floor s/n2297 •Hi-Qual Classic calving pen w/head-gate •(2) Hi-Qual Cattle Handling Systems w/3 curved S Allies and Crowding Tubs, sorting gate, triangle (Style sort Gate) Hi-Qual squeeze chute w/transport wheels •Stampede Squeeze Chute w/auto catch Headgate, Hi-Qual Pal Cage • Squeeze chute w/Pearson head-gate . Shop Built allev chute w/2 sorting discharge doors and end swing gate •14' HD Solid Metal Construction Loading Ramp, checker plate stair/step for cattle, outside gang way for man walk, man escape door at top, other side open up to get to the feet of animals, incline ramp fl ips up and can be used for ground loading chute •Gallagher Scale System, load cell system you set your chute on w/3500kg capacity,

1750 per bar, digital read out, RFID Tag Scanner • NEW Hoskins Mfg. Heated Livestock Water Bowl model S032-26 500 watts, s/n00-129 •(28) 30' free standing panels (some with 360 swing gates) •(10) 30' free standing windbreak panels (2 have

boards remaining do not) **BINS & AERTATION FAN:**

- Bins must be removed by June 1, 2018
- (17) 4000 bushel bins (3) 2000 bushel bins
- (1) 1300 bushel bin
- . (10) Aeration fans, Flaman. Keho and Caldwell

 (4) Edwards Grain Guard 100,000 btu propane heaters, model GG914-100

complete listing

Not responsible for errors in description. Subject to additions and or deletions. Property owners and Fraser Auction Service not responsible for any accidents. GST & PST where applicable. TERMS: Visa, MasterCard, Debit, Cash or cheque.

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Massive fundraising Sportsman's Weekend coming up

A massive fundraising weekend is coming up in Moo-somin—the Pipestone Hills Rod Pederson Sportsman's Weekend April 27 and 28, a fundraiser for the Pipestone Hills Golf Course near Moosomin.

The weekend is a fundraiser for the new Pipestone Hills Golf Club clubhouse, and is two days crammed with events, from a live broadcast of Rod Pederson's Sportscage from the PotashCorp Sportsplex on the Fri-

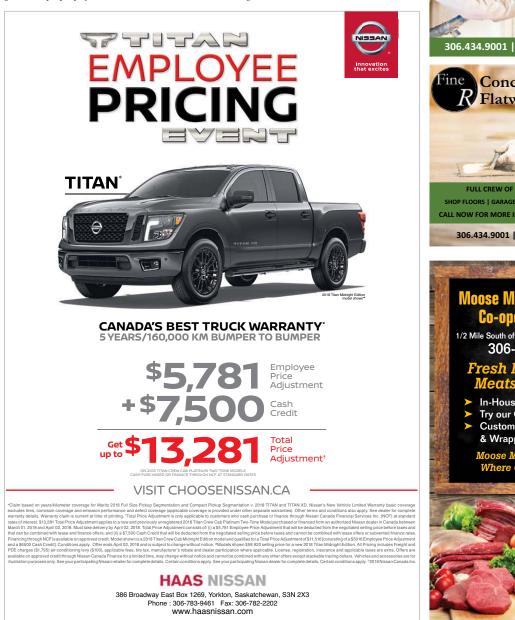
day night, to a banquet and question and answer session with a raft of celebrities on Saturday night. There will be lots of sports celebrities coming for the event, including members of every Grey Cup winning

event, including members of every Grey Cup winning Rider Team. There is a lot going on over the two days. The Sportscage will kick off the event from 4-6:30 pm on Friday, and many of the celebrities will be on hand Friday night. During the show there will be a game of golf where people play for either the table at the event

or the celebrity. It will be a quick game with the eventual winner who can pick the celebrity or table. After that will be the wind-up for all the people who have golfed through the year at the corporate nights. The itinerary continues with a full schedule on Sat-urday, including a barbecue lunch on the Tim Hortons deck. The celebrities will be there to mix and mingle from. The barbecue goes from 11:30 am to 1:30 p.m fol-lowed by a Hawaii Scramble golf tournament in the af-ternoon. ternoon

Saturday evening includes a mixer for sponsors and sportsmen at the Blue Moose Lounge, a happy hour, si-lent auction, banquet, question and answer bearpit ses-sion with the celebrities, and live and silent auctions.

There are a lot of unique items on auction at the fun-draiser, including sports memorabilia, autographed jerseys and two custom golf carts. One will be a Riders themed golf cart.





Tickets can be reserved by calling Mike Schwean at 306-435-3622 or emailing msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net.

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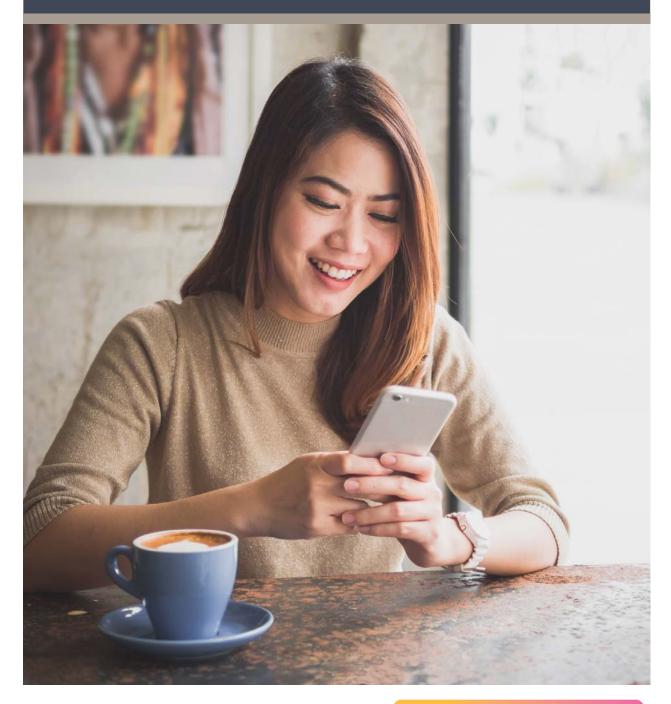
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