

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

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Pipeliners find a home away from home

BY MONIQUE MCKAY
John Howard of Waschuk Pipeline of Red Deer, Alberta, is easy to talk to and easy to like.

It's not hard to see how he got the job of helping up to 400 pipeliners find accommodations in the Moosomin area when they pulled into town around May. "The town really opened up in a big way," he told me appreciatively as we drank coffee in the Country Squire's dining room last Wednesday. "A lot of guys went into people's houses."

Waschuk Pipeline is one of a handful of contractors building pipelines for Enbridge Canada, and this particular company's part of the new pipeline will be completed, weather permitting, by the end of October.

Moosomin is considered by people in the business to be a 'pipeline town', as the community has hosted crews over the years before. However, this summer perhaps the impact of having the crews in town was felt more than ever before.

Lena Pavone, co-owner of the Fieldstone Campground, said happily, "We've been full pretty well all season. Take it while the going's good; it's been a good time to have them, with the economy."

Sherrie Hofos, employed by the Moosomin Golf Course, where a lot of the guys spent their one day a week off, agreed. "It was very good, for the area, for the economy," she said.

One local small business owner, who provides an invaluable service to the pipeliners, confided that she and her husband could have gone bankrupt without them. I asked her if they had experienced any problems with vandalism,

or any other trouble, and she said definitively, "None whatsoever. They were perfect, great customers. We had no trouble at all."

Pipeliners do not always receive such a welcome as they did here in the Moosomin area. John Howard told me of an experience in a B.C. coastal town where there was a rare 18-month contract. "The town went up in arms," he remembered. "There were letters, phone calls. A lot of 'National Enquirer' style press." It turned out to be a Chicken Little story; "The pipeliners are coming!" At the end of the contract, Howard recalls, the town was crying. Not only because of the lost economic boon, but because of the friendships that were formed.

It seems the story may be the same here in Moosomin. Hofos lamented the slow exodus of the pipeliners. "It's going to be like your family leaving," she said. "We've grown accustomed to having them! They come out and golf every Sunday."

"They've been nice to have, easy to get along with, good company; not too rowdy!" said Cas Roy at the Legion. The crew have been strong supporters of the Legion's Wing Night, and have also enjoyed Tuesday night home-cooked dinners served up by Legion volunteers for their convenience.

Howard spoke with respect of the home that has been hosting him for the duration of the contract, "I know I'll be in contact with these people for years and years," he said.

So what are these guys really like? What is their lifestyle, their home life, their work week? I may be perhaps overly qualified to

answer these questions; my father was an iron worker, and I spent my childhood growing up all over North America and into South America as my family followed the work. Unlike many 'industry widows', who stay at home to raise the kids, my mother didn't mind packing. We lived in hotels, motels, camperized vans, RVs, and rented houses from the East Coast to the West Coast, moving every six to eighteen months. Because of the vagaries of the construction industry, tied too closely to those of the stock market, we were never really sure where our next dollar was coming from. "Feast or famine!" is how my mother sums up the economic aspect of the

years she was married to my father. As I share these stories with John Howard from Waschuk, we find ourselves speaking the same language.

"The culture is not normal," he says, "It's easier for people who are brought up in it. It's a family, but not like the steady, stay at home, be with the kids on the weekend type of family."

These crews have been working hard. Their day starts at 7 a.m., and they put in eleven or twelve hours a day, six days a week.

"Some of us are older guys," says Howard, who might be in his early fifties. "We're family guys." They feel the pressure of being away from home, especial-

ly for so long and with an uncertain return date. "It depends on the weather," John tells his wife on the phone, when she calls from their home in New Brunswick. "I've been there maybe an hour in three years," he jokes, but there's a bit of sadness in the telling, and I wonder how tired such witticisms become among the crew. John tells me about the young guys who come back from a few days at home, broken up over a six-year-old kid clinging to their legs, begging daddy not to go.

Not everyone stays behind all of the time, however. John Howard estimates that perhaps 50 per cent of the crew members are camping, and lots of wives and children joined them for the summer.

"It was a good vacation for them," Pavone said of the children she and her husband hosted. Of the crew she added, "They've been great to have. They work so hard. They leave early in the morning and come back late enough at night. They've been wonderful. You want to try to help them out; it's hard for them, away from home, away from their families."

Admittedly, however, this is a lifestyle that most of these guys choose, despite the drawbacks.

Why? "Big adventure, big money," says Howard, "You go home for two weeks and get the itch to get back on the job. It's what we're used to." He and I swapped stories about different places in Canada we've lived, agreeing in the end that everywhere is beautiful, and everywhere has wonderful people. That really, people across the country, even in other countries, are not as

different from one another as they insist on believing. This is a perspective that only a nomadic life can nurture. And the nomadic life has its addictions too; the desire to pick up, move on, to cross that line on the horizon. If you do it for too long, you forget how to do anything else. I tell John about my father, who is semi-retired on a farm and horse ranch in Brazil. Despite a shop full of motorcycles and airplanes, and a lifestyle he's supposedly dreamed of since he was a poor, kicked-around kid in Montreal in the fifties, he often calls me up from the road somewhere. "Where are you?" I ask him. "Go home and take care of your farm!" "I know, I know," he says. "I just had to get out of there, even though I don't really have anywhere to go." John Howard understands, and wonders what the future holds in store for others like him and my father, as they approach and enter retirement. After so much travel and hard work, will these 'lifers' learn how to stay home and relax?

Well, they're not home yet, and in the meantime the consensus is that the pipeliners have really enjoyed the hospitality and welcome they've experienced in Moosomin and the surrounding area.

A small crew of perhaps 50 or 60 guys will be back next year, and there's no doubt they'll be made welcome too.

"It reminds me of the Maritimes, where I'm from," Howard says of our area. "Friendly, laid-back people." Well, if these guys can't be home, I guess the greatest compliment to our community is that at least they feel at home.





Gracom stonemasons use the tools of their trade to build up the inside surface of the Bell Barn wall. On the left, a mason is working with a pointing trowel. On the right, a mason is using a masonry trowel and behind him is his level. Photo by Dan Loran.

Building a stone wall—then and now

Stonemasons from Gracom Masonry Ltd. have been rebuilding the stone wall of the Bell Barn near Indian Head since the last week of July. The wall is up to the 10 foot mark now, with some parts even higher. If all goes well, the 14 foot wall will be complete by early October.

Gracom masons have never before worked on a project like the Bell Barn reconstruction. As Burleigh Hill, a manager with Gracom, explains, "This is the first time that we've been involved in the construction of a wall of the type that Major William Bell had built for his corporate farm back in 1882. The technique used, known as random rubble fieldstone masonry, involves laying rough stones in mortar." With this type of masonry no stone cutting is required, and the stones are placed randomly rather than in a specific order.

Back in 1882, Bell's crew had to search the nearby area for stones and haul them, probably by horse-drawn stoneboat, to the building site. On the current construction job, Gracom masons are supplied with the stones at the site, some from the original barn that was torn down last year and some from a stone pile south of Indian Head. Moving stones around the site is easier today too, as a bobcat with a front bucket is used to move them and to lift them and tubs of mortar onto the scaffolding to build the higher parts of the wall.

But, today the hand tools used by ma-

sons to build structures are same as those used back in 1882 and even earlier than that. A masonry trowel is used to place and spread the mortar, a pointing trowel is used to put mortar into small gaps and remove excess mortar, a brush is used to clean the surface of the stones, and a level is used to ensure that the wall surface is vertical.

The majority of the stone being used in the Bell Barn reconstruction is granite. A small proportion is limestone. "Before the reconstruction began we examined the stones salvaged from the original barn," explains Hill. "We found them to be 85 to 90 percent uncut stones and 10 to 15 percent naturally occurring split face stones. The supplementary stone material brought in for us to use has approximately the same proportions of rough and naturally occurring split face stones."

Once the rocks are sized and laid out in groups, they need to be washed before they can be used. The Indian Head Fire Department has been out to the building site on several occasions and used their high pressure hose to wash all the dirt off the rocks. This measure has provided training sessions for the firefighters as well as easing the cleaning work for the masons.

"Stonemasons go through their whole career and never get a chance to work on a heritage project like this one," says Hill. "Our boys are pretty excited about working on this project."

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Successful harvest for Foodgrains Bank

BY ED JAMES

The farm field of Helen Koop of Kola looked like a 5 p.m. Regina traffic jam with all the long grain trucks, combines and grain hoppers running around it on Thursday, Sept. 24. The cause was the annual Food Bank Harvest on 275 acres of land that had been donated by Koop.

This event has been going on for over 10 years with the crop being sown for free, as is the harvest with the produce being donated to the Canadian FoodGrains Bank.

It's part of the Cross Borders Community Project to help feed others less fortunate around the world. It did not take too long to take the canola crop off with up to eight combines plowing up and down the rows, followed by tractors and grain hoppers which would deliver the crop to a long line of waiting grain trucks. From there it was hauled to the Louis Dreyfus grain elevator in Hargrave.

I took a run with Cromer farmer Ken Theissen in the grain truck to the elevator where it weighed in at 1,375 bushels.

Theissen had just finished taking off the last of his crop last night but was planning to help out regardless since he's been helping with the foodgrains harvest for seven years.

I asked why he and his family became involved and his answer was short and quick, "To feed the hungry." He went on to add that as Canadians we are so blessed with good fortune compared to other places in the world.



Above: Ken Theissen—a farmer from Cromer, Man. who has helped with the Food Grains harvest in Kola for several years—watches as the canola is dumped into the bin of the truck.

Right: The line for lunch.



At lunch time there was a pork barbecue put on by donations of time, equipment, staff, and food from Maple Leaf Foods, Sunrise Credit Union, and BDO Dun Woody Chartered Accountants.

The lunch meal brought out a large crowd from the area families and harvesting crew. But first, one of the organizers of the event, Don Neufeld, welcomed everyone and thanked them for helping out in such a worthy

cause and for the people who came from as far away as Swan River to help, and the donations of combines from area implement dealers. Kola Church minister Will Rose gave grace and everyone dug in.

During lunch I had a chance to talk to Helen Koop,

who donated the land for the crop. She said that we have been so blessed with food while so many people in the world are hungry.

"We have to do our part against hunger and we are fortunate enough to be able to do it," she said. "We can never outdo the Lord, but we



A combine gathering some of the harvest.

can take part in helping out."

By about 3:30 in the afternoon the job was done and most of the farmers hurried off to get back to their own harvest with the beautiful fall weather we are having.

Before I left I spoke to Don Neufeld, after I got out of a combine driven by his son Myles Neufeld of Maryfield. I had ridden along with Myles as the last of the field was harvested.

"It's been a beautiful day in so many ways," said Neufeld. "The volunteers in the field, the lunch and donated equipment made the job go fast. We have been do-

ing this every year because we have so much, while others have nothing. We are very, very pleased."

Later in the afternoon it was unofficially reported that over 9,700 bushels of canola seed had been delivered to the elevator.

The Canadian federal government has a food grain donation matching program with a formula of four to one, so that 9,700 bushels will yield 38,800 bushels of value to the food bank's efforts.

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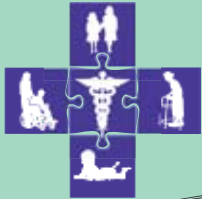
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DONATION RECOGNITION:

Our donor recognition program is cumulative – as your donation level grows we recognize your contributions. Our donor gallery located in the main lobby of the building has names engraved to commemorate various levels of giving. It is our way of thanking you for active participation in providing quality health care for our region.

Our sincere thanks to those donors whose ongoing contributions have reached a new milestone in giving that will be recognized in our donor gallery.



Garden Donations

Our gardens are part of the landscaping plan for the facility. The gardens provide you with an opportunity to dedicate a living growing memento as a legacy to a friend or family member. These donations will be recognized as a memorial donation and a tax receipt will be provided.



We still need your help!

Our facility is built, but there are still on going needs for equipment to allow our medical professionals to do their jobs & provide quality health care for the entire region!

Almost one year has passed since the grand opening of our new health care facility–**South East Integrated Care Centre**. This represented the successful conclusion to years of planning by our local committee volunteers, municipal leaders, regional health authority staff and the provincial government. Area municipalities all worked together toward a common goal of a new health care facility and demonstrated just what we can accomplish together. Volunteers in all our communities came up with innovative ideas to raise money and donated to the common cause. The whole region celebrated the occasion with an opening ceremony, tours of the facility and a great deal of excitement. The moves took place and the staff, patients, and long term residents have settled into their new surroundings. **We did it!**

Now what?

With the help of our generous donors the Health Care Foundation has been able to continue to invest in the ongoing needs of our health care facility. We have provided the following pieces of equipment worth approximately \$115,000 over the past year:

- Lab refrigerator
- Lab acid cabinet
- Bath stretcher
- IV pumps
- Overhead lift motors
- Glide Scope
- Hematology Analyzer

What do we still need?

Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region receives and approves equipment requests from the administrative office of the facility before purchases are made. Our current list includes:

- IV monitors
- Vital Statistics monitors and IV pumps
- Broda chairs
- Medication carts
- Wheelchairs

Celebrate a milestone

Tribute gifts to mark a special event such as a birth, birthday, wedding, anniversary or retirement are gratefully accepted as well. A card acknowledging your thoughtfulness will be sent to the friend or family member and you will receive a tax receipt for your donation.

Thanks Again!

We probably can't thank you – our donors – enough. We appreciate the trust you place in the foundation board members to use your gifts wisely. Our board members are trusted members of all our communities as they are the elected mayors and reeves. **Our current board consists of:**

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Act of kindness saves life of former Montmartre resident

BY CHRISTALEE FROESE

When Louise Lermينياux was diagnosed with an incurable kidney disease in 1987, she vowed to live life to the fullest. At the age of 20, the former Montmartre resident began packing a lifetime of adventure into as few years as possible.

"Since I didn't know If I would be fortunate enough to receive a kidney transplant, I lived my life as full as I could by traveling, mountain climbing, running marathons and sailing."

In the last 23 years, the daughter of Alain Lermينياux and the late Marie-Anne Lermينياux of Montmartre has traveled to various destinations around the world. Her treks have included a hike on Machhu Picchu (an 8,000-ft-high mountain in Peru) and a climb to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro (the highest peak in Africa). The Montmartre high school graduate has also competed in five marathons and 10 half marathons, in addition to competitively sailing for the past three years.

While the 42-year-old's healthy lifestyle and diet prolonged her life, in 2007 Louise's kidney function deteriorated to such a degree that she qualified to be on the U.S. kidney cadaver transplant list through the University of California, San Diego.

Louise, who works in San Diego as an information technology director, wasn't sure that a kidney donor could be found.

"In the spring of 2008, I was quite anemic, cold all the time, had little energy and had stopped all of my sporting activities as my kidney function had dropped to 10 per cent," said Louise, who by now had earned an MBA in Digital Technologies. "I



Louise Lermينياux and friend Conna Jones, who donated a kidney to save her friend's life.

was told that if I had anyone interested in being a kidney donor for me, now was the time."

Louise put the word out to family, and to friends she had met from various countries around the globe.

"I was humbled to have six friends of mine offer to be tested," said Louise, explaining that one of her closest friends offered immediately to make her kidney available to Louise, should the testing result in a match.

As luck would have it, Conna Jones, a Wadena Saskatchewan native, was a perfect match. The test results showed that the pair's blood and tissue work was as close as if Louise and Conna had been siblings.

Louise had shared an office with Conna in Calgary 18 years ago. They stayed in touch over the years, with fate bringing them together in Vancouver and then again when a series of events brought them within 150 kilometres of each other in Southern California.

"She told me this was the reason why she had been following me around all these years, and if there was something she could do so I wouldn't have to go on dialysis, she would do it," said Louise. "Some days it is very overwhelming to acknowledge her selfless act and yet when

she sees how much better I feel and how I have been able to get a normal life back, I know it is just as rewarding to her. And for me, there will never be the proper words to say thank you."

The transplant process was completed on Nov. 5, 2008 and was a long one, with the first step being the removal of Conna's kidney. This was done laparoscopically, with the healthy kidney being removed through a small incision in the lower abdomen. The surgery resulted in two days of hospitalization, followed by a month of restricted lifting, but

Conna is now completely healthy.

As for Louise, the kidney was placed in the lower right front of her abdomen, with her native kidneys remaining intact. She was placed on three immunosuppressants and several other medications, taking up to 33 pills a day.

"By my fifth month, I was down to the minimum dosages on my three anti-rejection meds only, for a total of 12 pills a day," said Louise. "This is virtually unheard of, as most transplant recipients need to continue to take insulin, high blood pressure medication and other

medications."

Today Louise is feeling great and is eternally grateful for the gift her best friend has given her.

"The medical teams have repeatedly told Conna and I that we are an exceptional case because they are not used to dealing with 'healthy' patients and donors. They attribute both of our quick recoveries to our healthy lifestyles."

Louise and Conna are now on a joint mission to spread the word about the benefits of organ donation.

"We hope to inspire others to sign their organ donor card, give blood, start a fitness regime - basically not take their health or the health of others for granted. And if there is a way one can help another fellow human being, just do it."

Louise and Conna are currently involved with a UK-based mastectomy lingerie company which was started by another close girlfriend of both women.

"For me, getting involved with this project is about helping breast cancer survivors feel confident, beautiful, sexy and normal again," said Louise. "There is an added symbolism for me since my Aunt Mathilda underwent a mastectomy several years ago before she donated her kidney to my mother. I feel this allows me to pay tribute to the gift my aunt gave my mother, and pay it forward to help other breast cancer survivors."

For more information on Louise's latest project, visit www.dimurini.com and for more information on organ donation, visit www.organdonations.ca.

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Sisters' boutique features cutting edge fashion

BY CHRISTALEE
FROESE

Marie Anne Fournier and Jeannine Bujaczek came up with the idea for a funky boutique and bistro in Montmartre, Sask. the minute they heard that a downtown building in their hometown was for sale.

"We've both lived in many different places over the years, but our hearts were always in Montmartre," says Marie Anne, one of nine girls in the Fournier family. "Coming back to our hometown and being able to provide people with designer clothing, funky accessories and fabulously fresh food is a dream come true for us."

Marie Anne has always had a flare for fashion and an interest in food, while Jeannine has worked in the retail fashion industry for 21 years.

Both agree that it's wonderful to be back home, working at what they're absolutely passionate about—fashion and food.

"The great thing about Sisters' is that we actually meet the people who design our clothing, we get to know their stories, we sup-

port their creativity and we share in their success," said Jeannine, explaining that Sisters' business philosophy is to bring a worldly style to rural Saskatchewan. "We're proving that you don't have to live in Paris, Toronto or Vancouver to have access to the latest in designer fashions and the best in well-made clothing."

Sisters' Boutique has attracted many chic Canadian designers, making the unique shop the only one in Western Canada to carry the

work of some of these creative tailors.

"I believe there is a real audience through the Prairies and also in smaller towns throughout Canada that want to support Canadian artists and Canadian-made products," says Toronto fashion designer Lisa Greenbaum. "They just need the retailers to support them, which is exactly what Sisters' is doing."

Sisters' Boutique is also the only Western Canadian retailer to carry the Lousje &

Bean brand. This European-inspired line is created by a mother-daughter team from St. Catherine's, Ontario and the unique designs are proving to be extremely popular.

"It's great to reach across the country and we are very proud to have our clothing available in Saskatchewan," says Tessa Ort, owner of Lousje & Bean.

"We're just so excited every day when a new shipment of unique designs, boots, purses or hats arrive," says Marie Anne. "You won't find most



of what we carry anywhere else in Saskatchewan, so it just thrills us to know that we are giving people something that sets them apart from the crowd."

Sisters' Boutique, located

on Main Street in Montmartre, Sask., is open Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, or to see some of the boutique's unique fashions, visit www.sistersboutique-bistro.com.



Left: Marie Anne Fournier and Jeannine Bujaczek model some Sisters' Boutique designs. **Centre:** Designs like this one by Lisa Greenbaum are now available in Saskatchewan thanks to Sisters' Boutique. **Right:** This Lousje & Bean design is a feature at Sisters' Boutique in Montmartre, Sask.





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Things happen for a reason

Coincidences—I'm not much of a believer in this phenomenon which Webster's describes as: 'a remarkable concurrence of events or circumstances without apparent causal connection.' Easy for them to say!

The Webster's description sounds good, but I still don't believe in coincidences.

I believe in fate. I believe in destiny. I believe that things happen for a reason.

And after hearing the story of Louise Lerminiaux and Conna Jones, I think you will believe in fate as well.

This tale starts out in my own small hometown where a baby girl was born 42 years ago. Louise was bright, full of life and healthy. However, when she was 20 years old, she was diagnosed with a rare kidney disease that was expected to leave her dependent on a dialysis machine and shorten her life.

"Since I didn't know If I would be fortunate enough to receive a kidney transplant, I lived my life as full as I could by traveling, mountain climbing, running marathons and sailing," says this information technology director who now lives in California.

Since her diagnosis, Louise has lived as if there was no tomorrow, and experienced life as if every day was her last. The Saskatchewan native has traveled the world, hiking Machhu Picchu (an 8,000-ft-high mountain in Peru) and climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro (the highest peak in Africa at 19,340 ft). She has completed five marathons and 10 half marathons, in addition to competitively sailing.

While the 42-year-old's healthy lifestyle and diet prolonged her life, in 2007 Louise's kidney function deteriorated to such a degree that she qualified to be on the US kidney cadaver transplant list through the University of California, San Diego.

Louise wasn't sure that a kidney donor could be found.

"In the spring of 2008, I was quite anemic, cold all the time, had little energy and had stopped all of my sporting activities as my kidney function had dropped to 10 per cent," says Louise. "I was told that if I had anyone interested in being a kidney donor for me, now was the time."

Louise put the word out to family, and to friends she had met from various countries around the globe.

Now here's where the fate part comes in.

As 'coincidence' would have it, Louise had developed a very close friendship with a Wadena, Saskatchewan girl by the name of Conna Jones (Pilkey). Conna's path always seemed to coincidentally cross Louise's path. First they shared an office in Calgary together. And then when



Christalee Froese

Louise got transferred to B.C., Conna ended up moving out to B.C. as well. And when Louise moved to California, it wasn't long before Conna relocated to be with her husband in the sunny state.

Turns out that Louise and Conna were living less than 100 miles apart in California when Louise put out her call for a kidney donor. And who should turn out to be a perfect match (as close as a sibling)?

You guessed it—Conna Jones.

Within months, Conna had donated her healthy kidney to Louise, and Louise was back on track to a normal, healthy life full of travel and adventure.

Louise and Conna are now on a joint mission to spread the word about the benefits of organ donation.

"We hope to inspire others to sign their organ donor card, give blood, start a fitness regime—basically not take their health or the health of others for granted. And if there is a way one can help another fellow human being, just do it."

I don't believe in coincidences. I believe in fate. I believe in destiny. I believe that things happen for a reason.

Do you believe?

For more information on organ donation, visit www.organdonations.ca.



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Just Briefly

Pork producers want more assistance

Pork producers in Manitoba are requesting more financial assistance, this time from the province. The Manitoba Pork Council says other provinces have come up with support programs for struggling hog farmers, but the Manitoba government has yet to follow their lead.

Ottawa already has offered a 75 (m) million-dollar bailout package to producers who wish to leave the industry for at least three years.

The hog sector has been hurt over the last year by oversupply, the H-1-N-1 outbreak and the strong Canadian dollar.

Business management conference coming up

Manitoba Agriculture is holding the first-ever farm business management conference.

Speakers from Farm Credit Canada, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and several investment firms are to discuss how futures options work and what some of the choices are for risk management in the agribusiness.

Sessions outlining programs available for farmers to manage their finances are also planned.

Organizers say farming business is becoming more white collar.

The conference goes October 22 and 23

IGC raises wheat production estimates

The International Grains Council has raised wheat production estimates for

2009-10.

The group forecasts overall production to reach 666 (m) million tonnes, up from an original estimate of 662 (m) million.

Crops from the European Union, Russia, Uru-

guay and Algeria are all expected to produce good yields and contribute to the production increase.

However, the global crop size still remains lower than the 687 (m) million tonnes produced in 2008.



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1998	MF	8780	Chopper, PU, 1647hrs	\$72,500
1998	MF	8680	Chopper, swathmaster pu.	\$69,500
1997	NH	TX66	Chopper, pu	\$64,500
1989	Caselh	1680	Chopper, spreaders, swathmaster	\$34,500
1986	Gleaner	R50	PU, header	\$22,500

COMBINE HEADERS

1987	Gleaner	330	30', batt & air reel	\$7,500
1994	Gleaner	400	25', PUR	\$9,500
1996	MacDon	960	25', PUR	\$13,500
1996	NH	973	30', flex, PUR	\$12,500

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2001	Hesston	856A	5x6, Full Auto	\$19,900
1999	Hesston	565A	5x6	\$13,900
1999	Hesston	565A	5x6, auto tie	\$14,900
2002	Hesston	1275	16' s/s, reverser	\$20,900
1999	MacDon	5000	16', s/s rollers	\$12,500
2005	Bale King	3100	rh discharge, fine cut	\$10,900
2005	Highline	7000	lh discharge	\$8,500

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2007	Rite Way		draper header transport	\$2,900
2009	Farm King	6640 (Conveyair)	grain vac, hose pkg.	Harvest Special

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Agriculture month proclaimed in Sask

Agriculture Minister Bob Bjornerud has proclaimed October as Agriculture Month in Saskatchewan.

Agriculture Month celebrates the agriculture industry, which generates more than \$9 billion in crop and livestock production and another \$2.7 billion in value-added processing annually in the province.

“Agriculture’s contribution to the provincial economy is a direct result of the hard work of Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers,” Bjornerud said. “I encourage all Saskatchewan residents to recognize the role, not only of agriculture in this province, but of our producers.”

Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers produce nearly half of Canada’s canola; three-quarters of its flax, mustard and peas; and more than 80 per cent of its durum and lentils; and have the second largest beef cow, bison and elk herds in the country.

Saskatchewan is also one of the world's largest exporters of flax, lentils, peas and wheat.

“The agriculture industry represents almost one-third of the province’s exports,” Bjornerud said. “Saskatchewan has made a name for itself as a reliable supplier of quality agriculture products and we can thank our producers for that.”



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DLMS INTERNET SALES Every Thursday - Call our office to list your cattle!

Fall Sale Schedule

Monday, Oct. 12	CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING	
Wednesday, Oct. 14	Regular Cattle Sale	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 21	Presort Feeder Sale (Angus Influence)	10:00 a.m.
Friday, Oct. 23	Bred Cow Sale	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 28	Presort Feeder Sale	10:00 a.m.
Friday, Oct. 30	Preston Stock Farm & Jersak Simm. Dispersal	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 4	Presort Feeder Sale (Angus Influence)	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 11	Presort Feeder Sale	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 18	Presort Feeder Sale	10:00 a.m.

BUTCHER CATTLE SALES - Every Monday @ 9:00 a.m.
We are accepting age verified and non age verified calves for our presort and feeder sales
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Please Note:

- All cattle must be CCIA tagged.
- Please pre-book your livestock.
- Sunday delivery between Noon and 8:00 p.m. for Monday butcher sales
- Presort Sales - Delivery accepted until 4:30 p.m. the day before the sale
- Bred Cow Sales - Delivery accepted until Noon the day before the sale.

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All ingredients are tested at arrival and throughout the manufacturing process to ensure nutrient quality. Our facility design and best management practices allow us to precisely blend multiple ingredients of designated origin and composition. All incoming loads are sampled and tested to ensure product integrity before release. We strive to produce quality affordable products that consistently meet the customer's requirements.

And we are flexible. Based on your feeding requirements and available forages and feedstuffs we can least-cost your feeding program, even if you are not feeding pelleted feeds. With WCP's access to a wide array of recognized formulation specialists, we can incorporate advanced nutritional expertise into your business.

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PRODUCT INFORMATION



Feedlot

- For general purpose use
- Best incorporated as part of a balanced bunk-fed ration
- 12 to 13% CP (as fed)
- Average pellet durability - expect fines
- NEg of 40-44 (TDN of 65-68%) (dry matter)
- Lowest cost pellet but no guarantees

Backgrounder

- Designed to grow out beef calves or to supplement cow rations
- 13 % CP
- Pellet durability average to good
- NEg of 48-50 (TDN of 69-71%)
- Consistent quality from load to load
- Vitamin/ mineral/ Monesin levels designed to be at two different levels

Cow Pellet

- 15% CP
- NEg of 50-52 (TDN of 74-76%)
- Energy level higher to winter the cow herd
- Consistent from load to load
- Different feeding rates available

Range Pellet

- 14% CP
- NEg of 48-50 (TDN of 71-73%)
- Designed for wintering cow diets
- Different feeding rates available

Hi Pro Pellet

- 18% CP
- NEg of 44-46 (TDN of 68-70%)
- Durable pellet
- For use when a higher protein content is required

32% Beef Grower Supplement

- Designed to be fed at 0.8 to 1.2 lbs per day for 500-900 lb. calves
- 32% CP
- Supplies vitamin/ mineral requirements for growing calves

20% Beef Finisher Supplement

- Designed to be fed at 0.8 to 1.2 lbs per day for 900-1400 lb. cattle
- 20% CP
- Supplies vitamin/ mineral requirements for cattle on finishing rations
- High level of vitamin E

High Energy Beef Pellet

- Multi purpose high-energy pellet
- 13% CP
- NEg of 54-56 (TDN of 78-80%)

Complete Beef Finisher Pellet

- 13% CP
- NEg of 53-55 (TDN of 77-79%)
- Designed to replace the entire grain portion of the finishing ration along with forage
- Balanced to supply vitamin/ mineral requirements for finishing cattle

NOTE: The information used to describe this list of products is based on sample results taken over a period of time and would be considered average.



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At left: Eugene Simard's daughter, Allison Lemoine, does the deed of shaving his moustache. Until then, Lemoine had never seen her father without a moustache.

Below: Simard shows everyone what he looks like with a clean shaven face.

Kevin Weedmark photos

At left: Joyce Fouillard poses with Eugene Simard right before he has his moustache shaved off. Fouillard, one of the owners of Fouillard Furniture, has been undergoing rounds of chemo for breast cancer. Simard has worked at Fouillard Furniture for nine years, and has worn his moustache proudly for 34 years.



Simard shaves moustache off for cancer

BY KARA KINNA

People in the village of St. Lazare gathered beside the Fouillard Furniture store on Saturday, Sept. 26 to watch Eugene Simard shave his 34-year-old moustache as a fundraiser for Cancer Care Manitoba.

"None of my kids have ever seen me without a moustache," said Simard, laughing just before his daughter, Allison Lemoine, clipped his moustache off as he sat in a chair outside the furniture store. Meanwhile, free hot dogs were being served up to the crowd that gathered to watch, and donations were being collected in a box on a table.

Simard has worked for Fouillard Furniture for nine years, and decided to shave his moustache after one of the owners, Joyce Fouillard, was diagnosed with breast cancer and began going for rounds of chemotherapy.

Joyce attended the event, posing for a photo with Simard before and after he shaved his moustache.

"I feel great," she said. "I appreciate that he did that for me and to raise money for breast cancer, and I appreciate all the support we've received since my diagnosis."

"I think it's for a good cause, especially for Joyce because they (she and her husband) have been through quite a bit," said Simard.

"I don't think you can ever do enough for people with cancer because every time



you turn around, someone else has it."

More than \$700 had already been raised for Cancer Care Manitoba. Another \$500 was raised at the fundraiser that day, bringing the total to \$1,200.

Simard said he didn't expect to raise so much money by simply shaving his moustache.

"It's nice to see people come out and support this," he said.

Simard says he had no qualms about parting with his moustache of 34 years.

"Joyce said 'you wouldn't do that,' and I said 'sure I'd do that for you,' I said I'd shave the top of my head but I've got none left," he says with a laugh.

"They kind of thought I'd back away from it, but not me!"

The CancerCare Manitoba Foundation is a foundation that ensures that funds raised in Manitoba stay in Manitoba to support ongoing research and better care for Manitobans living with cancer. Turn to Page 18 to read about one of the many people that the organization has helped.

Left: People help themselves to free hot dogs at the event in St. Lazare where Eugene Simard raised money for Cancer Care Manitoba by shaving off his 34-year-old moustache that day.

A CancerCare Manitoba story of hope

The legacy of a father, farmer and hockey fan

The CancerCare Manitoba Foundation is a foundation that ensures that funds raised in Manitoba stay in Manitoba to support ongoing research and better care for Manitobans living with cancer. Following is one of the stories of hope that CancerCare Manitoba has published on their website at www.cancercare.mb.ca.

We have the opportunity of hearing great stories of everyday heroism; Andrew Dennis' story about his father is a prime example. Spring is a great time to tell Ted Dennis' story as we enter another season of planting and the NHL playoffs.

In 1973, Andrew's dad, Ted Dennis was a 36 year-old second generation Brookdale Manitoba farmer. He and his wife, Joyce, had two boys and two girls under the age of 14. With harvest approaching, Ted noticed a persistent lump in his neck. The initial medical advice was to "suck on a lemon" to soothe the sore throat. Wisely, they sought another opinion. Following excision, the diagnosis of lymphatic cancer indicated only months to live.

"It was really pretty scary when Mom and Dad sat us down and told us," Andrew recalls. "We knew about cancer; we'd lost neighbors and both of Dad's parents. I wondered how I'd be able to step into his shoes and keep the farm in the family if things went badly."

But Ted was an optimist, a "natural-born farmer." His was a purpose—to raise kids and grow food—that propelled him into each day on the farm. After each radiation treatment, Ted would hurry home from Winnipeg and jump back on the combine. Joyce was kept busy bringing him clean, dry shirts so that the dye-marked radiation coordinates on his skin wouldn't sweat off. A quiet man (but tough as nails), his perpetual farmer's hope and his conviction that "life is fleeting" earned him 18 more harvests before the lymphoma returned. During that time, Ted and Joyce nurtured children, fields and livestock.

Much love was invested in the children. Andrew's conversation is peppered with his dad's nuggets: When asked "Why you," Ted would reply, "Why not me?" When in hospital, he saw others' needs as greater than his. When people were anxious about his health, Ted would calm them. Ted's love of hockey is



Ted Dennis, left, on his farm, where he was happiest.

echoed through Andrew's Maple Leafs hat, the skates around the house, and the "Hockey Night in Canada" ring tone on his cell phone. "He coached me and my brother every year right through the minors, and he played in the over 40 team for years," Andrew recalls.

The lymphoma recurred in 1991. Ted received the news that he might have only two more years. Again, "because farming is what kept Dad going," Ted would head straight home after chemo to feed the cattle. "He

was fighting to preserve his roots and a way of life." That indomitable spirit scored another eight years with the family.

Ted especially admired Mario Lemieux's win over cancer. Andrew still recalls his dad's delight at Lemieux's electrifying first comeback goal. Ted was inspired by seeing people still doing what they loved in spite of cancer. That's how Sandra Schmirler turned him into a curling fan.

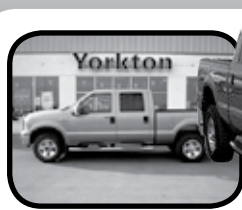
Late in 1999 the lymphoma struck again. Following the treatments over winter, Ted was back in the fields again. "That last growing season he was like a kid in a candy store," Andrew recounts. "Every fall morning he would just bounce out to the combine. It's like he was bathing himself in all the sensations of the life he loved. I think he was aware that this would be his final harvest. Up until his death, he spent only 12 days in hospital."

There's another important thread to this story. Upon Ted's first diagnosis in 1973, Andrew had made a stone amulet in shops and gave it to his dad. That fall the Dennis family bought a new pickup and the amulet became the truck's key chain until the 1991 diagnosis. Andrew's son, Riordan, retrieved it and gave it to Grandpa Ted on his birthday (December 1) to wear around his neck. It was with Ted until his last day, January 28, 2001, when it moved to Andrew's neck.

Things went quickly at the end. Ted had always wanted to fly and, on his birthday in 2000, Andrew passed his flight test. Holidays, the weather and Ted's deterioration kept them grounded. Finally, on January 31, conditions were right; Andrew, his father's ashes, and the amulet made a pass over the farmstead. "Ted had left his earthly home," Andrew says, "but the care and research provided by CancerCare Manitoba gave him 28 years he was told he wouldn't have. He got to see his children grown and happy; he had a chance to play with seven of his nine grandchildren. CancerCare Manitoba gave our family a wonderful life and, for that, our gratitude is undying."

We're thankful for Andrew's story. Your ongoing generosity will help us to share Ted's farmer's sense of hope and possibility with cancer patients from every walk of life.

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\$2.8 billion potash expansion on track

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

Just how big is Potash-Corp's expansion project at Rocanville?

At \$2.8 billion, the value of the project is more than the gross domestic product of 37 independent countries around the world.

PotashCorp Rocanville general manager Steve Fortney is in charge of the expansion as well as ongoing operations at the mine. Needless to say, he says he is very busy these days.

The massive project—involving a new service shaft at a location several miles west of the current mine, the conversion of the existing service shaft to a second production shaft, and a massive expansion to the mill—is on target so far.

"We're doing quite well," Fortney said in an interview last week.

"They've poured a little bit of the head frame at the new shaft, and are working on slip forms for the main part of the headframe," he said.

"They've been working on the base of the head-frame. Everything you see there so far will be below ground when we're done."

The biggest spectacle of the project will be the rising of the new headframe at the Scissors Creek site.

A concrete plant has been set up three miles from the site, and a 10-day continuous pour is scheduled to begin Nov. 10. At the end of the pour, the headframe will tower 58.5 metres or 192 feet above the prairie. FWS Constrution is the contractor working on the headframe.

Crews will be freezing the ground for the new shaft at the same time as the head frame goes up. The ground has to be frozen so the shaft can be sunk through water-bearing formations.

Sinking the shaft will take about three years. "Actually sinking the shaft will be the biggest challenge," Fortney said. No one has sunk a potash shaft in the province since the late '70s, and technology has changed a lot since then."

While the headframe is starting to take shape, Fortney said there is also a lot of work taking place at the mill site. "We're working on the first five buildings, and we're about 45 per cent done putting in the piles," he said. "We've started ground work for the new storage building. Within a month we will be working on new security and dry facilities."

And work continues on a third front—the underground connection between the two sites.

"Underground, we're continuing to cut across to the new shaft location," Fortney said. "We've still got three years of cutting to get over there."

PotashCorp will soon be making application to the provincial government for the final unitization area. "We have to talk to every landowner or mineral rights owner about mineral rights, and that process has been a lot more effort than we thought," Fortney said. Mineral rights in the



The base of the new headframe, which will rise 192 feet over 10 days in November.

mining area are unitized so that all mineral rights holders are compensated equally, whether the mining tunnels pass directly under their land or not.

Fortney says there have been no big surprises since work started on the project. "There have been some minor issues that have led to some changes, but nothing major," he said. "We're always tweaking this and tweaking that, and making adjustments as we move along. If anything, the world economy has stabilized so we can count on demand and prices, and supply of labor has gotten better so that's to our advantage."

"We have about 200 engineers working on the project now, so hopefully we can overcome a lot of problems with that much horsepower."

The project should lead to an influx of workers to the area for the next few years.

"Counting engineers on site and construction workers we're at 400 right

now," Fortney said. "We're still expecting to peak at 1,200. We will hit the peak probably in about a year

and that will continue for a couple of years."

As many of those workers as possible will be accommodated in communities throughout the region. "We plan on utilizing the community as much as possible," Fortney said. "The plan was to build a camp just large enough to handle what the community couldn't handle. If the community could handle everybody we wouldn't build a camp, but we had to build because of the numbers involved."

A work camp for about 100 workers is up and running at the Scissors Creek site and a second work camp at the main site will open Oct. 15. By next summer the main camp will be expanded to accommodate 900 workers.

With the potash demand situation, Fortney said a lot of people have been asking if the project is still a go. "We have people asking all the time, but it's not an issue for us whether we're going ahead or not," he said. "We're definitely going ahead. We were just worried about manpower and it hasn't turned out to be an issue."

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Parkman oil properties sold

Two Calgary oil companies, Diaz Resources Ltd. (TSX:DZR) and Sharon Energy Ltd. (TSXV:SHY), both announced Tuesday that they have agreed to sell their interests in their Parkman, Sask., properties for a combined \$3.1 million.

Neither company named the buyer.

Diaz Resources Ltd. said it will receive \$2.5 million for its interests in Parkman and will use the proceeds to finance its heavy oil development in the Lloydminster, Alta., area and to further reduce bank debt.

The sale will be effective Sept. 1 and is scheduled to close on Oct. 16, the company said in a news release.

Diaz's net production capability from the property is 50 barrels of oil equivalent per day.

Sharon Energy Ltd. said it will receive \$600,000 for its interests in Parkman, with the same effective dates of sale and closing. Sharon's net production capability from the property is 11 barrels of oil equivalent per day.

Proceeds will be used to increase Sharon's oil focused exploratory development activities in Alberta and Saskatchewan, the company said in a news release.

Diaz shares were unchanged at 10 cents Tuesday on the Toronto Stock Exchange, while Sharon Energy's shares were listed at 5.5 cents on the TSX Venture Exchange last Friday.

Tristar, Petrobank agree to merge

TriStar Oil and Gas Ltd. said Wednesday that its shareholders have approved a deal that will see the company merge with the Canadian operations of Petrobank Energy and Resources Ltd. to form a new company.

The move was approved by 99.97 per cent of the TriStar shares voted at a meeting.

The deal requires the approval by the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta.

Under the agreement, Petrobank will contribute its Canadian business unit assets and \$400 million of cash to the new company that will focus on southeastern Saskatchewan.

In return, Petrobank will receive 109.8 million shares of PetroBakken which will represent a 64 per cent stake.

PetroBakken will then acquire all the outstanding shares of TriStar.

TriStar shareholders will receive \$14.75 cash or 0.5350 of a PetroBakken share, or a combination of \$3.75 per share in cash and 0.3989 of a PetroBakken share, for each share held.

TriStar shareholders will receive about \$580 million in cash and 61,762,500 shares of PetroBakken or about a 36 per cent stake in the company.

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2006 Chevrolet 1500HD LS Crew
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\$25,995



2007 GMC 1500 SLE Crew
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3.9L V6 auto, 7 passenger, A/C/T, PW/PL, keyless entry, DVD player, rear air & heat, 79,500 kms.

\$15,995



2005 Buick Terraza CXL Ext.
3.5L V6 auto, quad buckets, 7 pass, heated leather, remote start, DVD player, pwr sliding door, 17" chrome, PW/PL/PS, 75,300 kms.

\$16,995



2007 Chevrolet Avalanche LTZ
4X4 6.0L V8 auto, loaded, DVD/Navigation, sunroof, heated leather, 20"alum, remote start, rear park assist, power pedals, 71,500 kms.

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Play the monkey music

I've written more than once about science related to music, but every time it's been about human music. It's never occurred to me to write a column about monkey music.

Until now, that is. Now, University of Wisconsin-Madison psychology professor Charles Snowdon and National Symphony Orchestra cellist David Teie have decided to delve into this hitherto little-investigated field of study, recently publishing their results in the Royal Society Biology Letters.

Although psychologists at the University of Leicester, U.K., have previously found that dairy cows produce more milk when they listen to relaxing music (Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony and Simon and Garfunkel's Bridge Over Troubled Water, specifically), most studies have found that animals in general, including our closest relatives, the non-human primates, prefer silence to that infernal racket we humans like to fill our ears with. ("You two-legged weirdoes! Turn down that noise! And get off my lawn!")

But that's not really surprising, considering, as Teie, a lecturer in the School of Music at the University of Maryland, put it in an interview with Discovery News, "Music is a human construct designed for humans . . . everything about human music is based on human development and perception."

Or, more colorfully, "Did we really think that bats would get little tears flowing up their little faces when listening to the Ave Maria?"

Curious about animal responses to music, Teie contacted Snowdon, asking him if he had ever investigated the effects of music on monkeys. Snowdon (who is also a mu-



Edward Willett

sician, having sung in choirs all his life) was intrigued by the idea, and so together he and Teie set out to see if they could create a kind of music that would elicit emotional responses in monkeys, just as human music does in us.

That rather daunting compositional task fell to Teie. He began by listening to recordings Snowdon had made of the calls of cotton-top tamarins, and was able to discern as he did so which calls were from animals that were upset, and which were from animals that were more relaxed.

He then composed music using specific features he had noticed in the monkeys' calls. For example, upset monkeys mix sharp, staccato sounds with longer noises that trend upward in pitch. Relaxed monkeys, on the other hand, make longer-lasting calls that fall in pitch.

Teie created one piece of monkey music that used staccato percussive noises and short, high-pitched screeches, and another that contained long, pure, tones using familiar musical scales.

When they played the music back to seven pairs of adult cotton-top tamarins at the University of Wisconsin, the monkeys became more anxious and jittery while listening to the fearful monkey music, but then calmed down upon hearing the friendlier music.

Snowdon says this has echoes in human behavior, pointing out that it's reflected in "baby talk": we use long, legato tones to calm babies, and staccato tones to order them to stop. When we approve of something they do, we use a rising tone, and when we're soothing them we use a decreasing tone. "The voice, the intonation pattern, the musicality can matter more than the words."

This is one of the first studies to show that a non-human animal can truly appreciate music, albeit not human music. Snowdon believes it also points to the origin of music in human beings. "We think that the emotional communication part of music has an early history that predates humans," he told Discovery News. "If music based on tamarin calls can alter their behavior, then our ancestors would have been able to use similar components of music to influence one another, and perhaps simple words to name things or to express actions."

Teie was intrigued by the results to the point that he's hoping to follow up with a species-specific music project at the National Zoo that would "create music for enrichment of captive animals."

He's already moved beyond monkeys to compose music for domestic cats, based on what's known about their communication and hearing.

Oh, and the study at the University of Wisconsin also involved playing human music for the monkeys. Their only response to several samples? Metallica calmed them down.

Proof enough that though tamarins may be our distant cousins, we're not that closely related.

Edward Willett is a freelance writer in Regina, Sask.

CTV closes Brandon, Manitoba station

CTV closed its station in Brandon, Man., after its supper-hour newscast on Friday after a deal that would have seen the station bought by Bluepoint Investment Corp. fell apart.

"Bottom line, they didn't think there was a sustainable business without satellite coverage, which they cannot get," CTV-globemedia president and chief executive Ivan Fecan said in a note to employees Thursday.

"Brandon, like many of our smaller stations, is not carried by satellite companies, who say they don't have room for all of Canada's local TV stations, while finding plenty of room for foreign channels."

Bluepoint agreed in July to buy the station for \$1, a deal that at least one other potential buyer nixed after reviewing the assets.

However Bluepoint chief executive Colin Berrie said at the time he saw an opportunity to scoop up the unwanted TV stations that national broadcasters are selling, and form a mini-media empire for pocket change.

The deal for the Brandon station, which employs 39 people, was expected to be completed by Dec. 31.

But CTV spokesman Paul Sparkes said Thursday the station would go dark at the end of its 6 p.m. newscast on Friday.

"I guess at the end of the day they just didn't see a business there," Sparkes said. "It just speaks volumes for the future of local TV in this country."

CTV has struggled as advertising revenues plunge, making it difficult for the private broadcaster company to run stations in some local markets.

Shaw Communications Inc. had agreed to buy the CTV stations in Brandon, Windsor, Ont., and Wingham, Ont., but pulled out in late June when it deemed the stations weren't worth a dollar, in

their opinion.

The decision left CTV scrambling to find alternative solutions for the three stations.

Earlier this month, the broadcaster announced that it would keep its A Channel station in Windsor, Ont. open until at least Aug. 31, 2010.

Meanwhile, it had also applied to the CRTC to turn its Wingham, Ont.

station into a full re-broadcast of the A Channel station in London, Ont.

Separate from its local stations, CTV's parent company CTVglobemedia signed a deal with Corus Entertainment Inc. this

week to sell its specialty television services Drive-In Classics and SexTV for \$40 million.

Canwest Global Communications Corp. sold its CHEK-TV station in Victoria to a group of private

investors last month.

Canwest had planned to close the station that it said had been a money-loser since it purchased it in 2000, but sold the station for a "nominal purchase price."

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