



# **Creative Vision Productions:** Les Miserables coming to Moosomin

by Julia Dima On their first night re-hearsing with their chorus, the musical cast of Cre-ative Vision's *Les Misera-bles* filled the Bethel United Church with an array of talented voices.

Les Miserables is the seccreative Vision Production that Creative Vision Produc-tions will be putting on. Two years ago, in front of a full house, Creative

Vision performed Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at the Conexus Convention Centre, and over 100 people were in-volved in putting together the show. The whole organiza-

tion was started by three Moosomin women who wanted to put their skills in theatre and music together to bring high qual-ity theatre to Moosomin.

"We want people to have the opportunity to get involved, or have the experi-ence of seeing arts and culture in Moosomin — that was one of our goals," says Raven Willoughby, who helped put together Creative Vision and produce the plays.

Willoughby and Sher-rie Meredith both teach at McNaughton High School, and Sandra Poole teaches music at MacLeod Elemen-tary School. Together, the three of them started Cre-ative Vision Productions from scratch. "The three of us wanted

to put on a show, and I said, 'hey, do you guys want to do a musical'," Poole said, 'Raven has experience in it, and Sherrie is a drama queen, so we decided to do it."

Meredith added that with the varied skills be-



Raven Willoughby is both performing in Creative Vision's fall production of Les Miserables and helping produce the show.

Behind her, Sandra Poole conducts the choir at rehearsal.

tween the three of them, they seemed like the per-fect fit.

Poole says that over her Poole says that over her years in the community, listening to people sing, she wasn't surprised that Creative Vision started with a high level of talent.

"People couldn't believe the talent in our area. We didn't have to go to Bran-don and ask for a band or anything, we can find peo-ple in the community to fill all the roles."

The success of the last show has set Creative Vision on a successful track for this year. They already

have around 65 people in the cast, and with the band, crew, and other sup-port staff, Poole says the numbers involved will be circle to least time similar to last time.

The women say they chose *Les Miserables* be-cause after years of only having access to a modified high school version of the classic musical, the original Broadway version be-came available for theatre

companies to perform. Poole says it was a hap-py coincidence that the py coincidence that the Hollywood movie came out at that time as well. Poole said that while their

performance will not be as graphic as the movie was, the original music will be performed. She added that this

Broadway musical offered them the perfect opportunity to display the talent they have.

"Jean Valjean is the main character, and we have a Jean Valjean we need to showcase," she said. Meredith said that the

level of dedication from the cast and chorus has been incredible.

"The principals have been working with us all summer, and the cho-

rus meets for six hours a week," she said, "people are dedicated. It's been nice that even if we decided on Les Miserables, and it's not their favourite show, there is still a lot of trust and they understand the di-rection we'll take with it,

and they're ready to come along for the ride." All three agree that along with their dedicated cast and crew, the level of community involvement community involvement is also key in making their shows a success.

Last year, the conven-tion centre had no lighting or sound equipment,

and with the funds raised through ticket sales, Cre-ative Vision was able to through ticket sales, cit-ative Vision was able to install lighting, and will be putting in curtains for the stage this year. "We definitely couldn't do these kinds of projects without the support from the community," Meredith said

Not only do the women produce the performances, they also play roles within the show. In the last production,

Meredith played a major role, and this year, she's singing with the chorus in case she needs to step in to replace someone.

Willoughby is playing a minor role as well as producing the show.

ducing the show. "It is an intense amount of work, and we have very understanding families that allow us to do this, because for three months, you're put into a whirl-wind and very concen-trated on this," she said, "It is nice that this year, lots of people understand more, so there's less teach-ing to do, and others have stepped up to help us, so that allows me an oppor-tunity to be both backstage and on stage." Last year's production was sold out, and also in-

cluded desserts donated by community members. This year, Creative Vision is hoping that all three nights are sold out, and will again have desserts.

Tickets for the show are \$20 each.

People can reserve tick-ets on Creative Vision's website

The show will take place November 8 - 10 at the Conexus MCC Centre in Moosomin



Plain and Valley

Setember 2013



### Kipling's Kaitlyn Cross heads to Miss Globe Pageant

BY JULIA DIMA Kaitlyn Cross has always been an ath-lete. She says she always had scars and bruises from playing sports, and a con-sistent "baseball" tan. A small-town Saskatchewan farm girl, she never expected to compete for Miss Teen Canada Globe.

"I saw the offer to do pageants, and thought, 'sure, why not?' I'm that kind of girl that always want to keep expanding on things, and try everything." That's what she did when she headed

over to Toronto for the Miss Teen Canada 2012 pageant, and won.

2012 pageant, and won. "I had nothing to do with modelling or pageantry, I was very shy and quiet, so doing this was more to just go for the experience, so I had absolutely no inten-tions of doing this to win at all," she says, "I was kind of that girl running around belieteen units." backstage, helping everyone else, I was more concerned with that than with win-

more concerned with that than with win-ning, so when I won, I was just sort of like 'what?!' It didn't sink in for a few days. But I'm glad I got that chance." This year, Cross passed on her tille to become Miss Globe Canada, and get the opportunity to compete in the interna-tional Miss Globe 2013 Pageant. The pageant is the third most impor-tant behind the Miss Universe and Miss World Pageants. Cross will be spending a week in Fornto training hefore heading

ek in Toronto training before heading to Durres, Albania for three weeks, where the pageant will be held. There will be delegates from 70 different countries, and Cross is the Canadian representative. She hopes to bring a little taste of Saskatch-

hopes to bring a little taste of Saskatch-ewan to the high fashion pageant. "We'll get to meet the president, and all delegates bring a gift from their coun-try." she explains, 'I'm bringing a Cana-dian flag, and some Saskatchewan pins, and a postcard with Mosaic Stadium on it, since I'm from Saskatchewan, that is important to me." important to me." Cross says this pageant is going to be

very different from the Miss Globe Cana-da pageants she's used to.

"The fashion is going to be different, it's more couture. It's more about fash-It's more couture. It's more about fash-ion there. They don't get to know you as a person as much, it's going to be more about stage presence," she says, "there, they look for girls that are made up, al-ways look good, so for me, who likes to put on sweats and go for a run, these other girls are going to be in dresses and heels all the time, so it's going to be tough for me to break out of my athletic shell into that high fashion world." Cross says despite that, she doesn't mind being the underdog, because win-ning isn't what matters. " I want to go for the experience. I get to

I want to go for the experience. I get to travel around Europe, I get to meet girls from different countries, maybe pick up a bit of a different language. And I'll get to



Kaitlyn wearing the evening dress she will wear in Durres, Albania at the Miss Globe 2013 Pageant.

remember, rather than where you placed

As a previous Miss Teen Canada Globe Winner, Cross had the opportunity to head to Toronto this summer and train

the new delegates from Miss Teen Canada Globe 2013 as well as pass on her

petition, I was the head trainer in hair, I was also the co-trainer in platform and

interview, so I helped them learn how do a proper interview, I also helped out in

Catwalk training, and I guess that's iron-ic considering that I had the worst walk

last year. I was pigeon-toed, they told me I walked like a cowboy, it was bad," Cross laughs, "So it was rewarding to be

"I was there for the full 12 days of com-

in the competition.

crown.

meet the president of Albania," she says, able to say 'hey I did this, you can do this "It's the experiences and life lessons that you take from there that you're going to to the other girls." Cross says that helping train the girls

was even more work than competing last year

"It was a lot harder on that side of the fence instead of competing. Last year, we would complain about going to bed in four in the morning, and on the training side, you'd go to bed at six in the morn-ing. You still have meetings afterwards, debriefing for the next day, I know one day Lonby Lond a belf beur." day I only slept a half hour." But Cross thinks helping train girls is

both rewarding, and helped her when she was in the position of the new delegates last year

'We actually have a confidence semiar and 1got to speak at that this year and share my story. Everybody shares their hardships and what they went through,

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and that confidence seminar in my mind changed my entire life," she says, "just sitting there realizing I'm not the only one who goes through struggles, it can always be worse and get better. That to-tally changed my outlook on life. With the training in public speaking, I could speak to people, I never used to be able to do that."

Cross says experiencing the pageant world has boosted her confidence.

world has boosted her confidence. "In our pageant, we focus more on building self-esteem, and helping girls discover themselves and make friend-ships. So at the end of the day, winning is just a reward, but it doesn't mean every-thing.," Cross says, "I was so proud of all the delegates this year, I know there was one girl who was very shy and afraid to mingle, and I watched some girls go and bring that oirl into the discussions, bring bring that girl into the discussions, bring her to their rooms and do their hair together, they went out of their way for this girl."

Cross says she thinks most people would be surprised about pageants, and that her experience has been nothing like the controversial pageants seen on television

"People think pageants are horrible for girls' self esteem but it's not like Toddlers girls' self esteem but it's not like loddlers and Tiaras. Nobody gets to see the behind the scenes where all the girls are laughing together and having a blast, all they see is the stereotypical industry." she says, "I learned on my own what these pageants are about, and it's so much more than the beauty aspect, it's building the inner beauty and letting that shine." Cross says she sees the pageant world moving away from its focus on body im-

moving away from its focus on body image, especially in the Miss Globe Canada competitions

"We're starting to break out of the were starting to break out of the beauty mold. I know at one time there was a height requirement, now we have petite pageants. When it comes to body image and body weight, that's something I stress when I talk about it with girls, because so many girls don't like the way their body looks, and that's so wrong, because when it comes to our pageant, they are not being judged on their body, they are being judged on how confident they are, and who they are," she explains. Cross herself had to deal with her own

confidence issues when she competed last year.

"I used to hate how I looked, I have lots of scars and bruises from playing sports, and I had a baseball tan, and I could see people looking at my tan and laughing," she says, "so getting up on stage in a bi-kini in front of thousands of people and owning it, that was a huge step for me." Cross also thought of the girls who she

wanted to inspire

Plain and Valley

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## ifetime Achievement Award for Guy Vanderhaeghe

BY CHRIS ISTACE After four decades of writing, the body of work by one of Saskatchewan's most distinguished writers is vast and well decorated.

Guy Vanderhæghe, the Esterhazy-born and raised au-thor and teacher, is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a member of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit who has won numerous literary awards, including a pair of Gov-ernor General's Awards for Fiction.

error General's Awards for Fiction. Vanderhaeghe says all of the honors bestowed upon him mean something different. His latest, however, touches him on a personal level that only an artist from Saskatchewan can appreciate. The 62-year-old resident of Saskatoon was handed the 2013 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Lifetime Achieve-ment in the Arts for his work as a novelist, short-story writer, playwright and teacher. It was presented along-side six other awards at this year's Lieutenant Governor's Arts Awards gala in Regina on Sept. 25. "(The lifetime achievement award) is important be-cause it's from my home province" said Vanderhaedhe

"(The lifetime achievement award) is important be-cause it's from my home province," said Vanderhaeghe, who continues to write and teaches part-time at St. Thom-as More College at the University of Saskatchewan. "It's based in Saskatchewan and the West, which has been featured in my work and it's a place where I've lived virtually all my life. I was born in the province, educated in the province, and with the averation of 10 months." in the province, and with the exception of 18 months in

Ottawa, I've lived my entire life here." Vanderhaeghe is also moved by the honor because it's a reflection of the entire 40 years of work in the field of fiction writing.

"It obviously provides a certain amount of satisfaction and recognition for what I've devoted my life to doing," he said

he said. Vanderhaeghe was born in Esterhazy in 1951. After graduating from Esterhazy High School, he attended the University of Saskatoon, where he earned a Masters of Arts degree in History in 1975. Three years later, he earned a Bachelor of Education degree from the Univer-sity of Regina.

Through the late 1970s, Vanderhaeghe was a freelance writer, editor and high school English and History teacher. In 1982, he published his first book, a collection of short stories called *Man Descending* (McKiillan of Canada). The book won the Governor General's Award for Fiction and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize in the United Kingdom

acom. "It was important for me to win the Governor General's Award for Fiction with my first book because it had a good deal of influence on my later career," he said. "It meant a certain amount of attention on my work right away, but

certain amount of attention on my work right away, but that also came with a certain amount of pressure." Vanderhaeghe's second short-story collection, *The Trouble with Herces* (Borealis Press) was published the next year, followed by his first novel, *My Present Age* (Mc-Millan of Canada, 1984). The novel tells the story of an unemployed, thirty-something Everyman whose wife leaves him. As he sets out to find her again, he comes to terms with his past and the false construct he has built around it.

Homesick (McClelland & Stewart, 1989) was released five years later, earning Vanderhaeghe the City of Toronto Book Prize. Set in the late 1950s, *Homesick* outlines the ex-periences of Alec Monkman when his estranged daughter, Vera, returns to him with a grandson he has never met. The family is forced to confront their past, including the silence surrounding Vera's brother, and why Vera left

the silence surrounding vera s brotter, and why vera text for such a long period. Through the mid-1980s, Vanderhaeghe was writer-in-residence at the Saskatoon Public Library and the Univer-sity of Ottawa, where he was also a Visiting Professor of

sity of Ottawa, where he was also a Visiting Professor of Creative Writing. He was a faculty member at the Banff Centre for the Arts Writing Program in 1990-91 then be-came involved in the SAGE Hills Creative Writing Pro-gram the following year. In 1992, *Things As They Are?* (McClelland & Stewart), Vanderhaeghe's third book of short-stories, was published alongside a play, *I Had a Job I Liked Once* (Fith House). The play was awarded the Canadian Authors Associa-tion Award for Drama. The play portrays the prejudices and biases found in small-town Saskatchewan through a court case concerning the rape of the daughter of the local crown attornev.

court case concerning the rape of the daughter of the local crown attorney. His second play, *Dancock's Dance* (Blizzard Pub.) was published in 1996, and portrays the experience of a war veteran coming to terms with his actions in war. The play was released the same year as Vanderhaeghe's third novel, *The Englishman's Boy* (McClelland & Stewart). The novel proved to be Vanderhaeghe's breakout work into Canada's cultural mainstream. Set in the 1920s, *The Englishman's Boy* tells the tragic sto-ry of the Cypress Hills Massacre of 1873 through the eyes of the event's last surviving witness as he explains it to a young. Hollwoord creenwriter. The pnyel ties together

young, Hollywood screenwriter. The novel ties together the early times of Hollywood's movie industry and one of the most horrific historical events in Canada's rugged hinterland.

The book was the first of three consecutive works of historical fiction based in the Old West of North America. The novel earned Vanderhæghe another Governor Gen-eral's Award for Fiction, which proved to him that the first award was not a mistake. The book also won Saskatchewan Book of the Year and was shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award.

The story was ultimately adapted into a two-part, \$11.7 million, made-for-television mini-series which aired on CBC in 2008. The movie earned a total of six Gemini Awards, including Best Dramatic Mini-Series; Best Direc-



GUY VANDERHAEGHE

tor for John N. Smith; the Leading Actor Award for Nich-olas Campbell; the Supporting Actor Award for Katharine Isabelle; the Casting Award for Carmen Kotyk; and the Costumes Award for Beverley Wowchuk. Vanderhaeghe followed the success of *The Englishman's* Boywith *The Last Crossing* (McClelland & Steward) in 2002. That novel became a national bestseller and earned Van-derbaeghe more acrolades. including three Saskatchewan

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Libris Award for Fiction Book of the Year. The Last Crossing is a story that follows the journey of Charles and Addington Gaunt as they meander through the wild American and Canadian West in search of their missing brother. The pair are joined by a group of char-acters, including a guide, a journalist, a woman seeking revenge for her sister's murder, a Civil War veteran and colored bacters.

a saloon keeper. Each character must come to terms with demons from his or her past as they travel through Montana and the Northwest Territories in the late 1800s.

Vanderhaeghe's latest novel, *A Good Man* (McClelland & Stewart, 2011), is about Wesley Case, a North West Mounted Police constable commissioned to Fort Ben-Mounted Police constable commissioned to Fort Ben-ton, Mont. to act as a liaison between the NWMP and the American town's commanding officer. While there, he falls in love with Ada Tarr, and decides to stay. Tarr is also chased by Michael Dunne, her former hus-band's bodyguard with a past involving both Case and the world of espionage in Toronto. The novel touches on a variety of historical subjects, in-cluding the North West Mounted Police, Canada's first, organized secret police and the Fenian Raids. A Good Man was shortlisted for the 2012 David J. Lang-um Prize in American Historical Fiction and long-listed

Kullberg's

for the 2013 IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. It was also placed among the group of books competing in the Cana-da Reads series on CBC. Vanderhaeghe was made an Officer of the Order of Canada and handed the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in

2003. His other honors include fellowships with the Royal Society of Canada and the Trudeau Foundation. He has also received the Timothy Findley Prize, the Harbour-front Literary Prize and the Cheryl and Henry Kloppenburg Award for Literary Excellence.

A CAREER ONGOING "I jokingly say that a lifetime achievement award might be a signal that I will be stopping," Vanderhaeghe said. "At some point, I will stop. Either death will take me away or I may feel that the work I am doing is not up to snuff, at which point I will stop doing it. I don't feel that way now, though. I still feel there are books that I can write." Vanderhaeghe has returned to cheat chear writing the

Vanderhaeghe has returned to short story writing, the form of fiction that began his career. The subjects of his most recent work are more contemporary than the his-torical novels he has written through the past 20 years. He generally moves from project to project without a "master plan," concentrating on the work he has at present until it is completed, then beginning another project based on what intrigues him next. "What drives me is to continually get better as a writer.

For me, every book poses a new challenge. Anything I've learned in 40 years of writing I try to bring to bear on what I'm working on at the moment," he said. "I think of myself as a craftsman. Like anyone else—a

mechanic, a carpenter, a teacher—you learn things over time that accumulate and that accumulation helps you when you sit down to work. Anyone who takes an inter-est in the work they do hopes to make their work better over time.

And this lesson—the patience to hone one's craft—is what he passes on to the aspiring authors who ask him about how to succeed in fiction writing. "I always tell them that the work is what counts. A lot

of young people think there is a shortcut to get to where they want to go. There really are no shortcuts," he said, adding that writers should prepare for a long apprenticeship.

Doctors, lawyers and other professionals are educated over period of eight or nine years. Writers are not any different, he said.

"Even things that look like overnight successes aren't overnight successes. No one has seen the work completed going in," Vanderhaeghe said. "And a lot of young writers think it's the inspiration and ideas that count. Of course

think it's the inspiration and ideas that count. Of course they count, but inspiration and ideas in writing can only be fashioned with words. If you don't know how to han-dle words and you don't know how to handle fiction, in-spiration and ideas count for nothing." Hosted by the Saskatchewan Arts Board, the Lieutenant Governor Arts Awards recognize Saskatchewan residents with seven honors, including for arts and learning; arts volunteerism; the work of emerging artists; individual and organizational leadership; a Saskatchewan artist of the year: and lifetime achievement the year; and lifetime achievement.



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#### BY JULIA DIMA

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According to RE/MAX market trends 2013 report, farmland prices across Saskatchewan are higher than in previous

Though North Saskatchewan has seen more substantial increases — almost doubling in the past 12 months from about \$800 an acre to \$1,500 — the east central region has

about \$800 an acre to \$1,500 — the east central region has seen increases as well, though not as high. The prices are now ranging from \$850 per acre to as high as \$2,5000 for prime B and C grade parcels of land. According to the report, East Central Saskatchewan's large parcel demand has been driven primarily by out-of-province investor groups, both in from Canadian groups in Toronto and Vancouver, and from overseas. Local realtors are seeing these trends as well. "There's been increased interest from outside of Sas-katchewan. Investors from different parts of the country.

katchewan. Investors from different parts of the country, even outside the country have helped push land prices up," says RE/MAX's Gary Beckett from Mosomin. "That's in step with increased commodily prices. Farmers ar yielding more return per acre, and have managed to pass that on to land prices. So there's interest from buyers, increased commodity prices, and lower interest rates, and that all combines into the prices going up." Beckett says Saskatchewan started attracting more in-

vestors for a number of reasons. "They see a lot of good things in Saskatchewan. We have good interest rates, and large blocks of land, or par-cels — and there's people in place to manage it. Quite of-

cels — and there's people in place to manage it. Quite of-ten, they find existing owners continue to rent land back once they sell it to investors." Saskatchewan's land prices, though they've risen sig-nificantly, remain much lower than the national average. "Our prices are still considered a bargain in Canada compared to B.C. and Ontario. There's such demand for land there from investors, and there's so little land avail-able," Beckett explains. "Ontario is finding they can't buy any more land, so they're looking to come to Saskatch-ewan and start afresh at lower land prices." ewan and start afresh at lower land prices.

Guy Shepherd of Tim Hammond Real Estate is seeing

the same trends of out-of-province investors and farmers

the same trends of out-of-province investors and farmers entering the Saskatchewan market. "You have people buying from all over the country, and that's putting upward pressure on the land, and then you get the increase in land prices. But for someone from On-tario, that sees land is \$20,000 per acre there, and they see it here for \$1,000 an acre, they're willing to come." But he's also expecting to see local farmers expanding because of this year's good harvest. "With the farmers having a good crop, they're going to drive the price, rather than last year when investors were driving the price more," Shepherd says. "This year, farm-ers are likely going to expand, and buy land rather than letting an investor buy it and having to rent it back." Jason Beutler of Lane Realty is expecting the same. "Out-of-province and out-of-country is a big part of business, but there's a bit more selling locally than there

business, but there's a bit more selling locally than there used to be, because operations are growing. The people

bed to be, because oper autors are growing. The people that are in it are still growing their farms." Beckett says many of the established Saskatchewan farmers are buying privately. "Here, more or less the land sells over the fence — pri-vately, rather through a realtor."

But as out-of-province interest increases, the supply has





tightened. "We've noticed there's been a fairly tight man ket for grain land, and that's probably going to continue. There won't be an over abundance for sale out there," says Beutler.

The high prices mean there are very few new farmers starting up in Saskatchewan, and the majority of sales go to investors, expanding farms, and out-of-province farmers

So what does the industry predict for the future of farm-

"I can forsee more interest from foreign investors and foreign farmers," says Beckett.

Shepherd is seeing that high foreign interest as well. He's also expecting in the high prices will begin to level

"I really think in the next two to three years, the land price will level out or drop a bit, but in the next 10 years, the land price will be drastically higher than it is today. So short term, I can see it leveling, but longer term, I can see these prices going up."



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New Pipeline Construction Terminals

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### TransCanada study:

### **Energy East to have spinoffs across Canada**

### BY LAUREN KRUGEL

A study commissioned by TransCanada Corp. shows economic benefits across Canada from construction of its proposed Energy East pipeline, though company CEO Russ Girling says it will take more than rosy numbers to

win public support for the \$12-billion project. The report by Deloitte & Touche LLP, released Tuesday by TransCanada, predicts some 10,071 direct full-time equivalent jobs across the country will be needed to de-velop and build Energy East until 2018. Of that, Quebec represents 36 per cent and Ontario represents 23 per cent cent

Once the pipeline is up and running, Deloitte sees the creation of some 1,081 direct jobs, at which point Alberta will start to see a bigger share of direct employment. The study also found the project will add about \$35 bil-

lion to Canada's gross domestic product during the de-velopment and construction phase and over the 40-year life of the project. As well, it's expected to add \$10 billion in tax revenues at the municipal, provincial and federal levels the over that time.

The premiers of Alberta and New Brunswick are staunch

supporters of the project, but it's not known whether oth-er provinces—notably Quebec—will embrace it. "There'll be other issues with respect to the routing of our pipeline, impacts on landowners and other stake-holder issues that we're going to need to understand and manage our way through," Girling told reporters from Erdoritors Fredericton.

"And those other issues, along with the economic ben-efits, I think will play into the support that we garner or

on't for this project. The 4,500-kilometre Energy East pipeline would con-nect up to 1.1 million barrels per day of western crude to refineries and export terminals in Quebec and New Brunswick

The proposal involves converting a portion of Trans-Canada's underused natural gas mainline to oil service and building 1,400 kilometres of new pipe from west of Montreal to Saint John, N.B.

In the Moosomin area, the proposal would include a feeder pipeline from Cromer, Manitoba to the Moosomin record pipeline from cromer, Maritoba to the Moosonni compressor station—Located northeast of the town of Moosomin—and a terminal and tank farm at the com-pressor station site. The tank farm would include storage for more than a million barrels of crude oil.

Mossomin and Hardisty, Alberta would be the two ter-minals where crude is added to the pipeline. It would be Carried to refine is and to export position at Montreal, Quebec City, and St. John, New Brunswick. The economic figures don't include the impact of higher Canadian crude prices that would result from being able

to sell the product in lucrative overseas markets.

Nor does it incorporate the lower crude costs eastern refineries may enjoy, said Deloitte's Trevor Nakka, one of the study's authors. "In this context, the study is conservative in nature,"

Nakka told reporters. "It doesn't seek to extend the boundary or scope of economic impacts. The economic impacts are estimated to be only those related to the proj-ect itself."

Ontario is expected to see a boost of nearly \$2.7 billion to its gross domestic product during construction and \$10.3 billion during the pipeline's operations. Nakka said the big increase during the operations phase is mainly due to the large amount of electricity the 30 pump sta-

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tions in the province will use

Deloitte sees about \$3.1 billion being added to Ouebec's GDP during construction and more than \$3.2 billion dur-

Saint John

GDP during construction and more than \$3.2 billion dur-ing its operation. The economic benefits to Alberta, though relatively modest initially, are expected to pick up significantly once the pipeline is operational. It is seen having a \$1.7 billion boost to GDP over the next six years and then a \$6.1-bil-lion boost over the subsequent 40 years. New Brunswick—home to the country's largest oil refinery—is expected to see its GDP rise by nearly \$1.2 billion during operations.

billion during operations. Meanwhile, TransCanada is seeking approval from the U.S. State Department to build its controversial \$5.4 billion Keystone XL pipeline, which would enable oilsands crude to flow to U.S. markets.

In touting the benefits of that proposal, TransCanada has said it expects tens of thousands of jobs to be created during construction, but those figures have been ques-tioned by many critics. Even U.S. President Barack Obama tioned by many critics. Even U.S. President Barack Obama has said he expects the jobs created by Keystone XL to be a fraction of what TransCanada is projecting. "There's certain folks that are firmly opposed to the de-velopment of our pipelines and I think have purposefully tried to confuse the job numbers," said Girling. "What we're trying to do here is be as transparent as possible in terms of the communication of the job num-ber. Our objective hear is not compute outpedid

best of the original terms of the communication of the job inter-bers ... Our objective here is not to confuse anybody. It's to be as transparent as possible." Given the diverging views of Keystone XL's economic impact, Greenpeace Canada's Keith Stewart said the lat-

est Energy East figures should be viewed with a ``skeptical eye.

But more broadly, Stewart said it's a question of the kind of economy Canadians want to build. "We would create more jobs and build a better econo-my if we spent \$12 billion on public transit and greener vehicles that reduce our oil consumption, rather than on building a pipeline that fuels climate change by deepen-ing the world's addiction to dirty oil," Stewart said.

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#### Plain and Valley



ву JuLia Dima When Herman Navarro first came to Moosomin in 2010, he was one of three Moosomin in 2010, he was one of three Filipino people in the community. He re-members not knowing very much about living in Saskatchewan, not knowing any of the people, and missing his wife, who joined him six months later.

Today, there are nearly 100 Filipino people living in Moosomin, having come through the Temporary Foreign Workers Program. Navarro says that helped him feel at home in Moosomin, despite being far away from his family in the Philip-

"I miss my kids and I miss my family back home, But I've found a community here, even though we all have different schedules because we're all workina

schedules because we're all working, there are some special gatherings." In Moosomin, Navarro manages the KFC, which he began managing at the start of this year. Before he came to Canada, Navarro spent 10 years living in Saudi Arabia where his wife worked as a nurse, and before that , he was a manager at a fast food restaurant in the Philippines.

He says because there are so many temporary foreign workers working at KFC, sometimes it feels just like working in the Philippines. The difference is, Na-varro strives to make sure communication "Most of the time, I tell the guys if there

is a Canadian in the kitchen, to speak Eng-lish, because I don't want miscommuni-

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cation to happen. If it's all Filipino guys, we're comfortable to talk our own lan-guage, but if there's anyone who doesn't speak Filipino, we speak English." When Navarro received the offer to

come work in Canada as a temporary for-eign worker, he went back to the Philipeigh worker, ne went back to the Printp-pines for just 15 days for his paperwork to be processed by the federal government, and made his way to Canada. He says the opportunities in Canada were better.

"Honestly, opportunity wise and salary wise, Canada is better than Philippines. Saskatchewan is an open province for me, there's lots of privileges here, it's still growing."

Growing." Six months later, his wife was able to join him under the Live-In Caregiver pro-

"She works as a continuing care assistant in the Moosomin hospital, but before.

she worked as a live-in caregiver for a docshe worked as a live-in caregiver for a doc-tor here. It was an adjustment for her as well, because she was formerly a nurse in Saudi Arabia and the Philippines, but the doctor needed a caregiver, so she arrived doctor needed a caregiver, so sne arrived here with a work permit under the live-in caregiver program. Now she's very happy because she was done with this contract, and had the opportunity to work in the hospital, and she loves it."

hospital, and she loves it." Navarro's wife has become a permanent resident, and he is waiting for his papers to come back from the federal government to become a permanent resident, and hopes that will happen before the end of the year. Once that happens, Navarro can bring his 12-year-old son and six-year-old daughter to Canada. Currently, they live with their mother-in-law. Navarro says they talk via Skype but he misses them Continued on page 10 10



From left: Brady Metz, Arnold Sia, Herman Navarro, and Erwin Garcia. Arnold, Herman, and Erwin came to Mossomin as temporary foreign workers at KFC. Herman became the manager of the restaurant in January, 2013.



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### In Regina:

### **Electrophysiology lab a benefit to South Sask patients**

BY JULIA DIMA

Ethel Rambold has lived with auricu-lar fibrillation for 48 years. As a young mother of two, Ethel found herself feel-ing exhausted and short of breath on one weekend trip.

After many doctors, the heart problem that affects an estimated 350.000 Canadi-

that affects an estimated 350,000 canadi-ans, was diagnosed in Ethel, the result of a viral infection causing myocarditis. Auricular or atrial fibrillation is a type of cardiac arrhythmia in which the heart is beating abnormally. While some people living with atrial fibrillation don't experi-ance sumptome, others can expression ence symptoms, others can experience a quickened heart beat, palpitations, shortness of breath, and exhaustion.

Ethel was one of those patients. "Even with a little exertion, my heart

would take off, and I'd have to go sit down," she recalls, "one visit to the hos-pital, just walking from the parking lot, I had to stop and lean against the wall. My

pulse jumped from 85 to 185." Her husband Larry remembers his wife cooking dinner, and needing to take breaks to sit down throughout.

Ethel was on medication to control the problem, but eventually the medication was not doing its job, and her cardiologist, Dr. Hassan Mohamed, told her he couldn't keep increasing her prescription.

Keep increasing ner prescription. Then he suggested a new procedure that gave Ethel hope. Last year, Regina's first Electrophysiol-ogy Lab opened at the Mosaic Heart cen-tre at the General Hospital. The lab was designed to treat arrhythmias like Ethel's. The treatment offered at the lab is called atrial fibrillation ablation, a procedure that is less invasive than traditional surgery.

With ablation, a catheter is inserted into the leg vein, and travels to the heart, where intense heat or cold is applied to the heart cells that are causing the irregular rhythm, returning the heart to a regular rhythm. The Saskatoon Health Region also opened an Electrophysiology Lab at Roy-



Ethel Bambold at home four weeks after her ablation procedure. She says she felt more energetic immediately after the procedure.

al University Hospital in 2012, but before that, anyone in Saskatchewan seeking the treatment would have to travel out of the province. With 700 patients being admit-ted to hospital with atrial fibrillation in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region an-nually the produces there.

The lab was able to open thanks to a \$1.25 million donation from the Kinsmen Telemiracle Foundation. The provincial government provides \$900,000 annually to the lab as well. The opening of the lab allowed the

health region to hire a permanent electro-physiologist, Dr. Omar Sultan.

For Ethel, Dr. Mohamed suggesting she go ahead with the procedure was welcome advice.

"All the doctors said go for it, because my heart was getting weaker, and I had

nothing to lose," she says, "So I went for it. I'd recommend it to anyone with atrial fibrillation '

Ethel was on a waiting list for over year, but on August 22 she went to the EP lab for the ablation procedure. Under a sedative, Ethel recalls feeling

differently immediately after the 20 min-

"The doctor said they were all done, and I never thought much about it, but my chest felt different right away," she says, "Lalways had an unsettled feeling in my chest, and it's been gone ever since. It was like a miracle how it happened, when

I realized that feeling was gone." It's been just over four weeks since Ethel had the ablation done, and she says she's in a different frame of mind. She savs she felt more energetic the first day

after the procedure, and has spent her first few weeks at home canning, baking, and cooking.

"I'm not tired. Everything I did before was a struggle, and I had to force myself to do these things."

Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region says the EP lab is well funded through Sas-katchewan Health and it remains busy with 216 procedures budgeted for next year

But when it opened, there were some growing pains. "One of the things from a budget per-

spective, is generally there is a year to an-nualize and look at how much things will cost," says Lori Garchinski, director of the region's cardioscience program, "As we did our predictions, we did have some initial budget overruns." Garchinski says this is typical of the first

year of a program's operation. "Our volumes exceed what we predict-

ed, but we had to start somewhere," she

says. In the new budget year, the Ministry of Health provided funding to keep the lab operating. The annual budget is over \$7 million. Garchinski says the lab is now expect-

ing to grow. They are hoping to hire a sec-ond electrophysiologist to help address

With the high demand for ablation therapy in Canada, Ethel and Larry were surprised that after many cardiologists and hospital visits, they only heard about ablation therapy when Ethel had no other options

Ethel says the procedure has changed how she lives her life, and she wants oth-ers living with atrial fibrillation in South Saskatchewan to know about this option, "I've had my treatment. I know I've

been helped by it. But there are so many people who live with this condition, and there's nothing else to fix them."



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Continued from page 8 "Hopefully they can come before the year ends, or the start of 2014, when I get my permanent residency papers. They are very excited. I spoke to them two days ago, and said that maybe my papers will come through before the year ends, and they keep asking 'When, when? What's it looking like? What will we do there, what will we bring, do we need to bring our toys," he laughs, "I haven't told my kids about the winters here, yet — that's going to be a surprise." a surprise.

When Navarro first came, he knew there would be cold weather, but says nothing could prepare him for seeing snow for the first time in his life. "It was weird to have a winter, because I've never expe-

rienced it," he says, "It was something like a dream come true, because we have only ever seen snow in calendars and postcards. When I first experienced what snow is, I thought, 'I like this place.'"

Navarro says he wants to stay in Saskatchewan, be-cause the province offers better opportunities to become a citizen.

"Saskatchewan has a better program for foreign workers, because after six months here, you can apply for the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) and Saskathewan minigrait Normite Program (Sher) and have a chance to become a permanent resident here, not the same way as Toronto and Vancouver, it's hard to get an SINP, there, "he explains, "In Toronto, it could take 10 to 12 years to become a citizen, here it's about five years." Navarro says when he first came, there were some chal-

Navarro says when he first came, there were some chal-lenges in adjusting. He had no car, and the only stores that sell Filipino groceries are in Brandon and Regina, and there were few Filipino people to spend time with. But he had help. Both his managers at KFC helped him get everything he needed, and the small Filipino community at the time was a friendly one. "Father Dennis Remot was very helpful. He was the first person who helped me find everything, he drove me to Brandon to get my groceries at first too before I had a car."

car.

As Navarro spent more time in Moosomin, the commu-

As vavarro spent more time in Noosomin, the commu-nity began to feel like home. "It's a different environment here in Moosomin. When I was in Saudi Arabia, it was big malls, everybody was busy, the streets were busy, so it's different here with a small population," he says, "and the people here are friendly and very supportive, they helped me out, even

though I didn't know them.

Navarro says the only missing thing in his life is to have his kids with him. Once that happens, Moosomin will be "Moosomin opened the doors for me and my family.

I don't know if I'll be here forever, but for now, we're staying. It feels like home now. I've been here for three years, I've met lots of people, and I know people around town.

At KFC, Navarro manages seven temporary for-eign workers, and like him, many of them are calling Moosomin home.

Erwin Garcia is one of those workers. Before coming to Moosomin, Garcia worked on a farm in British Columbia. Like many temporary foreign workers, Garcia saw better opportunities in Saskatchewan.

"It's hard to apply for permanent residency in Vancou-ver, so I came here," he says, "Now, hopefully this month or next month, I'll get my papers and can apply for per-Like Navarro, Garcia feels like Moosomin is home

"I like Moosomin because it's a quiet place with friend-ly people. I want to stay here." Welmer Tabiano also used to work on a B.C. farm, and he has been working at The Red Barn since February,

2010.

2010. He works as a line cook, a very different career change for him. Before he worked on the farm, he worked in the Mayor's office in Sibalom, Philippines. "When I came here, working in the kitchen was a bit of a challenge, because I didn't know too much about that, but I learned, and I discovered new things, so I feel great because I learned new things, and improved my life in that way" that way.

Tabiano said when he came to Moosomin, he was the 18th Filipino temporary foreign worker in town. He worked with two other Filipino workers in the kitchen at the Red Barn.

In June of this year, Tabiano became a permanent resident, and he hopes to keep working at the Red Barn.

"It's nice to be here, Moosomin is quiet, and the work-place is so good. When I came, Dan Davidson had a place for me to live, it wasn't included in the contract, but he

found a place for me anyway." Tabiano says the biggest adjustment for him was the Saskatchewan weather.

"I moved here in December, so when I left Vancouver it was plus 13 degrees, and when I came here, it was minus 13 degrees," he laughs.

He says the change in the food he eats is something else he is still adjusting to.

"I'm starting eating Canadian food. Before, I wouldn't eat the salad or anything, because my stomach is new to it, but now I've learned how to eat potatoes and salad and everything.

Tabiano says he sometimes gets homesick for the Phil-ippines as well, but having a lot of Filipino people in the community now helps.

"I miss hanging out with friends. Here, you can hang chines hanging out with mends. Here, you can hang out with friends, but you have to set a schedule because everyone is busy working, while in the Philippines you can hang out every day. I miss my family too, of course. The good thing is there is internet, so we talk on Skype, and can watch the Philippines TV shows on the internet." he says, "But there's more Filipinos here, so I feel at home too. The people are so warm, so it feels like home." Tabiano, like Navarro, feels like Moosomin opened the

doors for him to work, become a resident, and help his family back home.

"I'm here because I want to stay here. Our families back home need our help. Although we were working there, our jobs didn't pay enough to support our families. It's far better here compared to the Philippines. Here you can save money and send it back to the Philippines. Here you can save money and send it back to the Philippines. There, the cost of living is high with respect to your salary, so that's why I decided to go to Canada. You have to support your family back there," he says, "My mom is there, and some aunts and uncles too." Tabiano now lives in a house with four other Filipino

"I like Moosomin, it's quiet. Work is good, and the peo-ple here are so kind, respectful, and courteous," he says. In just three years, the population of Filipino workers be hellowed, and for three when and colling

his ballooned, and for those who are staying and calling Moosomin home, it's beginning to feel like home. Every year, the Filipino group holds a basketball tour-nament, a sport many of them played back home, and a

Tabiano says these little things are a way for the com-munity to unite, and make Saskatchewan home.



### Marie Everett resigns Opening on regional health authority board

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

There is an opening on the Regina Ou'Appelle Regional Health Authority with the resignation of Marie Everett of Moosomin. Everett has moved to British Columbia.

The process for appointing a replacement involves the health region and the ministry of health.

A spokesperson for the Region Qu'Appelle Health Region referred questions on the appointment process to the Ministry of Health, as the minister makes the appointment, but an official with the ministry of health said the ministry will take suggestions on a replacement from the regional health authority.

authority. Perry Martin, senior advisor to the deputy minister of health, said there will be a replacement named.

"They will definitely want to replace that member," he said. "I expect they will be doing a call for interest."

On the question of whether a new board member will be sought from the eastern end of the region, Martin said health board members do not represent specific geographical areas, but that geography would be taken into account.

"Geography is a factor, but it's not the only factor," he said. "Skill set is another component."

Martin said it's up to the health region if the vacancy is communicated to the public. "They advertise at their discretion," he said.

"When board terms come due, there's a more formal call for names. In this situation we will be looking to them. "Candidly it's up to them. We don't prescribe a process."

Martin said people interested in serving on the board could contact the health ministry, but they would be wise to contact the health region

the health region. "They could do either they're certainly free to contact us—but the best route is to go through the board, the board chair specifically.

cifically. "We will be looking to the board to give us advice"

There is no set deadline for filling the vacancy on the Regina Qu'Appelle board, but Martin said it would make sense to fill the position quickly.

"We keep them busy, we expect a lot from them, and the more you can spread the work between a few people, the better. It's in everyone's interests to move as quickly as possible." Martin said the health

Martin said the health ministry has some names in its database from the last time there was a call for nominations. "We would keep a lot

"We would keep a lot of names in our database, there had been appointments made a year ago, and we will still have some names from that, but ideally, we kind of like the board to make their suggestions for the best fit."

gestions for the best fit." Health board members were elected in Saskatchewan until 2002, when the Regional Health Services Act came into effect and the system moved from elected to appointed boards.

Declaration of interest forms are available from www.health.gov.sk.ca/ board-member





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#### BY JULIA DIMA

For many Saskatchewan farmers, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, and fungicides are part of the business. They offer protection in uncertain growing conditions.

But for farmers like Marion McBride in the Moosomin area, that's not the case

Marion and her husband Ray have been certified organic with the Organ-ic Crop Improvement Association. McBride says it's always been organic, and that isn't going to change anytime soon.

"We have a personal belief system to be part of the solution. We see lots of health and environment issues around, and I don't want to be putting chemical on someone else's food

She says that the organic market is more challenging than the conven-tional grain market in Saskatchewan, and while things are better today, there's been struggles. "Five years ago, when the economy

went nuts, there were people who de-cided to sit on their money and keep their phones and TVs, but started to eat poorly. At that time, this mentality caused prices for organic food to go down," she says, "and when the price dived, a lot of the people who got in for economic reasons left the organic industry, and we lost about 25 to 30 per cent of our producers. For us, that meant we had a lot of grain, and not a big market.

But that's changed now.

"Right now, there's increased inter-est from the public and the consumer for having options to eat organic food. So, that has pushed the price up for the producers at this time — so it's a really good time to be an organic producer

However, most of Saskatchewan's organic grain is not staying in Saskatchewan

"A lot more supermarkets are car-rying organic now, but because of our storage and distribution issues, we ac-tually import 96 per cent of our food, and export 96 per cent of our product. So not a lot of local Saskatchewan or-So fiol a for of nodal Saskatchewari ganic produce is making its way into our supermarkets," she says. She says other organic products are more in demand in Saskatchewan, like dairy and vegetables. While Saskatchewan boasts the highest number of organ-ic grain farmers, there are very low numbers of organic vegetable and dairy farmers, and not a lot of infra-

structure for processing. "Organics are still a small part of the market, only about two per cent of the market and certain commodities are much more in demands than others locally," says McBride. "It's not been easy for Saskatchewan producers to get into the organic products that are more in demand than grain — dairy, meat, fruits and vegetables." While organic agriculture faces the

same challenges of conventional agri-

culture of drought, flood, and market fluctuation, McBride says there are special challenges with growing organic

"The changing weather and understanding the need to adjust our agronomic practices accordingly to deal with weeds is a concern, because we don't have the options that conven-tional farmers do for chemical inputs so you have to find cultural methods of dealing with fertility and weed is-sues," she explains, "We don't grow the same crops back to back. If you do that, you run the risk of disease, so we avoid monoculture. With weeds, in the Moosomin area because of moisture, we have found that we pretty much need to take every second year to grow a legume crop. So you can't continuous crop, but you end up with less weed pressure.

While the industry is profitable, to be a certified organic farmer, McBride

says you have to be committed. "It's a three-year transition to be-come an organic farmer, before you have certified crop, so it's not something you can jump in and out of. You go to take a crop in to grain millers, and they test every load, they can tell if there's chemical residue. It's not without its efforts, but it's very rewarding both emotionally, and because you work in a great community of people."

Continued on page 20 🖙

## **IN-STOCK HOMES READY FOR FALL POSSE**



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October 2013



The harvest isn't over, but farmers are calling this year's harvest a bumper crop. Some report this is the best harvest of their careers.

#### Harvest Roundup

### East Central Sask farmers seeing record harvests seen in my 30-plus years of farming. Ev-

ву JULIA DIMA "It's a bumper crop, but it's the bumper

crop of bumper crops." Kevin Woods of Westwood Land and

Cattle has the same consensus as many farmers in Southeast Saskatchewan this fall. The harvest so far has been the best it's been in years. For Woods, it's a definite "We went from having the worst crop

we've ever grown last year to the best crop we've ever grown this year," he says, "I could conservatively say that on our farm, we're going to at least double the bushels. Last year, we had spring wheat that was in the 35 to 40 bushels per acre range, and this year our spring wheat is in the 70 to 80 bushels range." He says he's seen the most improvement

in his canola, which suffered flooding followed by drought last year

"Lots of canola was going at 15 to 20 bushels last year, and this year, it's any-where from 45 to 65 bushels"

Woods says there hasn't been a harvest this good as long as he remembers, and he hasn't seen a very good harvest since 2009. So while it's a bumper crop, it is just helping farmers get back on their feet after the past few harvest years that Woods calls disastrous.

"2011 was a disaster on our farm. We wanaged to weather the storm of the poor years, and this helps us get back in the game. It is a big year though." It hasn't just been a big year for Woods. Louis Hebert at Hebert Land and Cattle

says he's two thirds finished the season's harvest, and things are looking good.

"It could be the best ever. Barley is be-tween 90 to 100 bushels, wheat is 60 to 70 bushels, the canola is about 45 bushels," he says. "That's probably the biggest barley crop we've taken off maybe in my whole

Ron Dietrich produces cattle near

Kon Dietrich produces cattle near Mossomin, and grows oats and corn. He's also seeing career firsts in his yield. "The average yield for oats is about 70 bushels but this year it's about 90 to 100 bu," Dietrich says, "This is the best I've

erything just came together. We had a bit of a late start, but we had lots of moisture, and everything turned warm when we needed it Talk at the elevators has been good as

well Chris Thomas at the Parrish and Heim-

becker terminal believes so far, the harvest is a record breaker. "The yields are incredible, it's a once-in-a-lifetime crop that we're looking at and

a-lifetime crop that we're looking at and up until now, all the grain has been a num-ber one grade," says Thomas. "Normally, you'd get 40 to 45 bushels for wheat, 35 for canola, 60 to 70 for barley, and probably 70 to 80 for oats. This year,

it's safe to say it's 65 to 70 for wheat, 45 to 50 for canola, 100 for barley and 120 for oats The high yields mean farmers are going

to have a long winter of grain hauling, but it also means lower market value, which Thomas says is typical of a large crop

"Right now, wheat is around six dollars a bushel, and off the combine last year, they could have gotten nine dollars. Prices were high because of supply and demand, and now they are low because of supply and demand."

Kevin Woods says the price is higher, but the high yield evens out the price dis-"The prices are down about 25 to 30 per

cent over a year ago's levels, but we have bushels, right? We grew double or more than we grew last year, so even if you take 25 to 30 per cent less for it, you're still bet-ter than you were last year." In this region, Chris Thomas says about two-thirds of the crop is harvested. Almost

all of that has been number one grade grain, but that's likely to change for the last third. Last week's rainy days set the harvest back, and for those with cereal grains still in the ground could face concerns of bleaching and sprouting, which will reduce the grade of the grain.

Kevin Woods says he was fortunate to get his cereal grains all harvested, because the rain is going to decrease the value of

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the crops "After this rain, there will be no number "After this rain, there will be no number one wheat," he says, "I talked to a grain buyer, and they're hoping they'll still get some that will grade as number two." Nonetheless, Woods says this year has

been one of the best for grains across the entire Prairies

As for cattle production, prices are look-ing better this year than they have in previous years

"Calf prices are really strong because feed grain prices are dropping," says Lou-is Hebert, "in the past two or three years, feed prices were high.

Ron Dietrich says it's an improvement in profitability, but there are still some concerns moving forward. "The price of feed has been high in the

last couple years, so there was no profit in fattening up cattle.

Continued on page 21 🖙



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### Kaitlyn Cross heads to Miss Globe Pageant since day one, and the friends I've made in going to be language barriers, and I'll hav

"When I did bikini, I psyched myself out "When I did bikini, I psyched myself out and thought I couldn't do it. But in the back of my head, I thought, 'who would I be, if I told everyone to be confident with who they are, but I didn't go on stage?' So I went out there with confidence, with my tan lines and bruises, and I owned It," she says. Cross says that while she's made her best friends in the pageant, the journey hasn't been with structers.

with struggles.

"When I first won my title, I had a lot of negative opinions from people, from class-mates, from my age group, and it was de-pressing. Lots of things like 'you think you're better than everyone else' or 'you're fake', and people treated the title like it changes you and people treated the title like it changes you and makes you someone else, but it doesn't, it didn't change me at all, I'm the same person I was before, except confident," she says, "So you have to learn to take the negative com-ments and let them go. You can't focus on it, because I did for a few months, and it was mis-erable. Focusing on the negative takes away your power with that sash and crown, which is to promote confidence. How can you pro-mate being confident to others if you're not is to promote confidence. How can you pro-mote being confident to others if you're not confident in yourself anymore because you're listening to negativity. You definitely have to learn to let go of the negative criticism. In the long run, being able to brush off these nega-tives is a good quality." Cross says that having her support system helped her through this, and continues to help her

her

"My family has been my support group

A room of 186 people watched as eight-time cancer survivor Di-

cancer survivor Di-onne Warner threw off a curly-haired wig, and announced "This is who

I am. I am not ashamed,

Warner came to speak for the first annual fund-raiser for the Moosomin

and I'm alive."

since day one, and the friends I've made in the pageant have been huge. My director, my coaches, my boyfriend, my parents, my grandparents, and my cousins have been my support system all along." Cross says coming from small-town Sas-katchewan has given her a different perspec-tive. She says when she competed for Miss Teen Canada Globe, very few people knew anything about Saskatchewan. "When I told girls I came from a community

When I told girls I came from a community of 1,000 people, it opened up their eyes to re-alize there are smaller communities like that. My director has lived in Toronto her whole life, and she couldn't believe I drove two hours to go shopping, and that Regina didn't have all these high brand stores Toronto does. But when you don't come out here, you don't get used to it. When you travel and get to experience different things and different lives, that's when you become more open to things."

Cross says growing up in small-town Sas-katchewan has also taught her to be humble.

"I definitely think being humble is over-looked. We lose the idea of working at what we love, now it's all about money for some people, and I want to bring the humble small town aspect to Europe and to those girls in that competition, as a small way of spreading some Canadian beliefs.

some Canadian beliefs." Cross says she's looking forward to meeting the delegates from the other countries when she goes to Albania, to get a sense of how oth-er young women in the world live. "I'm looking forward to meeting all the dif-

ferent girls from different countries. There is

going to be language barriers, and I'll have roommates so it'll be really interesting to learn to deal with that and learn how these girls from different countries get ready and every-

thing." Cross worked in a daycare in Kipling for three years, and now, though she's taking a year off, she's been accepted into the Faculty

year off, she's been accepted into the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Regina. "Being that I would be gone for so long in Albania, I am taking a full year off to work, and that will help me with the cost of univer-sity," she says, "I want to be able to say, hey I did this myself, I can be self-sufficient, and in-dependent, that's important to me as a young woman the scenn as independent." woman, to be seen as independent." Cross says that while she likes to keep her

future plans and options open, she wants to stay involved in the Miss Globe Canada Pageants. She wants to see pageants be inclusive and she wants to change people's perceptions about beauty pageants. "I want to see more pageants look like Miss

"I want to see more pageants look like Miss Canada Globe productions. I want to see them inspiring girls to take what they have and embrace it instead of changing themselves. I want to see pageants boost girls' confidence, and keep opening up doors for all girls to compete. What's the harm of letting every girl compete? What's the harm of letting every girl compete? Why should you have a height re-striction? Let every girl compete, and let the world see they are a lot different than what everyone perceives them to be," she says. The Miss Globe 2013 Pageant Cross will

The Miss Globe 2013 Pageant Cross will compete in will be taking place from October 20 to November 2



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branch of Victoria's Quilts branch of Victoria's Quilts Canada. Currently un-dergoing treatment for her fourth liver cancer, Warner shared a story of hope with those who came to the fundraiser at Hall on September 27. Afterwards, she and her husband Graham Warner were signing Deana Driver's book *Never Leave Your Wingman*, which was written about Dionne and Graham. Following her talk, a line of people stretched the length of the ball to huw the back

hall to buy the book. The fundraiser, along with Warner's speech, in-cluded a silent auction,

\$7,600 was raised at the fundraiser. Sharon Baker, the

Sharon Baker, the group's secretary, says she didn't expected they would raise so much.

ceeded our expectations,

### she says. The funds raised will go to help the group pay for the materials and the shipping costs to send guilts to cancer patients across Southern Saskatchewan,

some of whom came to the fundraiser. "Some of the people there, we have actually



Dionne Warner signs the book written about her and her husband at the Victoria's Quilts Fundraiser in Moosomin



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# given quilts to, so it was nice to see them there," Baker says. Baker says the high amount of funds



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## First Victoria's Ouilts fundraiser a success live auction, and desserts live auction, and desserts and coffee. While the fundraiser was the first for Victoria's Quilts, it was more suc-cessful than the group could have imagined.

"We had a really good turnout, we were only hoping for 100 when we first started, so it all far ex-

### **Natural Saskatchewan continued**

Continued from page 13 McBride says there is also a challenge on

the administrative side of the business. "In Saskatchewan, one of our issues

is that we haven't adopted the national standard for organic certification so anystandard for organic certification so any-one can say they're organic without going through the process of certification at this time if they are only selling in Saskatch-ewan. It's a bit of an inequity for those who do paid to be certified," she explains, "to sell out of the province, you do need certification, but right now, if you're in Saskatchewan, until this system changes, you can say you're organic. For buyers they have to take the initiative to ask for certification papers and do a third-party inspection For consumers. It's buyer beinspection. For consumers, it's buyer be ware

There are also pressures from the non-organic sector that can impact certified organic farmers

Alfalfa has been approved fo \*Alfalfa has been approved for GMO this summer. They cross pollinate, so that disallows the use of alfalfa in our crop rotation, because they can test for GMO and they will," she explains, "The whole organic industry is not in a position to be able to grow some things like alfalfa and canola because there's too much chance of contamination through wind seeding. of contamination through wind, seeding equipment, cleaning equipment, and so on, and it's not worth the risk, because if you take the risk of the extra expense of growing those crops, and they're found with GMO, it's not organically certified anymore.

McBride says at the end of the day, she wants to feel good about what she grows.

But going organic is not the only way to feel good about what you grow. Ken Wilson raises cattle near Wawota, and in the last thirty years, his cattle have

"I think it's like giving someone medi-cine when they don't need it," he says, "My theory is you get better tasting beef with no chemicals."

He says he doesn't advertise his beef as natural, but his customers know there's

no growth hormones in his beef. Wilson says that giving the injections causes stress for the animals and keeping his cattle happy is a priority. "I raise my animals like babies, like my

own kids. They become a part of the fam-ily, and maybe I'm a little silly, but when I feed my animals, I like to talk to them, too," he laughs.

Wilson also says that stressed animals are more prone to sickness.

"The animals don't get sick because they are not under stress. In a feedlot, they animals are bought from an auction mart, they've been weaned, they're miss-ing their mothers, and then they're transported. So, they are stressed, and then their immunity goes down, and they can catch viral or bacterial colds and get sick. The less stress you have for an animal, the healthier than animal is." Wilson says he hasn't become involved

in the organic market because of the pa-perwork and cost of certification, and the loopholes in Saskatchewan's certification process. He says what matters is that the animals are healthy and his customers know the beef is hormone free.

"I'm a natural grower. The animal will get treated if it needs to be treated, and it will eat fertilized grain, but it never will get a growth nijection." Wilson says organic cattle growing has

its benefits but for his local niche market, it's more about the happiness of his ani-mal and the taste of the beef.

"The least amount of stress you put on the animal, the happier it is," he says.

### Saskatchewan passes 1.1 million for the first time



According to Statistics Canada, the number of people living in Saskatchewan has passed the 1.1 mil-lion mark for the first time. That's an increase of 20,757 people in the past

year and more than 106,000 people since 2007. Premier Brad Wall says the government's new goal

is to have 1.2 million people by 2020. savs the economy He

He says the economy is drawing people to Sas-katchewan for jobs and helping to keep new grad-uates in the province. The premier also says better immigration policies

helped. "We've got to keep our eyes focused on that be-

cause we need newcom-ers as well, not just for the

economy and the labour shortage, but because it shortage, but because it makes us better," Wall said Thursday. "I love all the accents.

Amol Cheema is one of those newcomers who has

those newcomers who has settled in Saskatchewan. Cheema, who is origi-nally from India, was in university in Toronto when a couple of his friends moved to Saskatchewan. He followed in 2011. "They said it was a good

"They said it was a good province, lots of oppor-tunities, so I came here," Cheema said at a gathering for newcomers Thursday

at the legislature. He said it's been great, except for the "really harsh" winter, which Cheema jokes that he's get-ting used to.

Cheema, 27, is working as a civilian with the Re-gina police. He hopes to become an officer when his permanent residency pa-

perwork is complete. Cheema said he "abso-lutely" sees himself stay-ing in Saskatchewan for

ing in Saskatchewan for the long-term. "I love it here," he said. "It's the same like my province where I came from (in India), it's an agriculture province as well. It's like life is kind of relaxed, you're not rushing to your job. It takes five minutes to go to work. And then I got this opportunity, and I think as an immi-grant it's my responsibility to serve the people of Saskatchewan and the people of Canada."



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### East Central Sask farmers seeing record harvests

Contined from page 14 Currently, the price of grain has come down substantially, so as a result, there is some profitability now," he says, "but if we look at the industry, because there was no profit for some time, the number of cattle in North America has diminished. New weire option price a period in the cycla Now we're going into a period in the cycle where breeding stock will become a premium

mium. "As for the feed lot industry, because they've had substantial losses the last couple years, the equity in that industry is very low right now, so they're going to be very cautious, but in the last week or so, they were able to see some profit in the next feeding period, so there is some optimism there

Kevin Woods runs a large cattle operation, and agrees that while it's an improve ment, the cattle industry is still far away from previous levels of profitability.

"It's a firm improvement, but a long way

from becoming profitable again." Cattle farmers say along with the pre-vlously very high feed prices, the cattle industry is still recovering from the BSE outbreak in 2003, and more recently, com-plications with Country of Origin Label-ling (COOL) regulations. "Four to five years ago, Americans im-posed a rule where meat packers had to say where cattle were raised, so consum-

say where cattle were raised, so consumers could see that in the grocery store," Dietrich says, "but under the World Dietrich says, 'but under the World Trade Organization, Canada and Mexico launched a protest to say it gave an unfair advantage to the United States, because the packing industry would have to seg-regate all the cattle in the plants to accu-rately label the meat, and that added guite a bit of cost. After a year or two, the WTO ruled in Canada and Mexico's favour, and said the United States had to change the restrictions. The Americans actually put more onerous restrictions into the new

regulation. So this summer. Canada and Mexico asked the supreme court to have an injunction that would limit the ability to go ahead with these new regulations, and lost that court decision, and it's currently being appealed." What exactly does this mean for Cana-

dian heef?

clan beet? "They want to keep Canadian and Mex-ican cattle segregated, so you can imag-ine the added cost of that," says Woods, "When our Canadian cattle go down there, they can't be processed alongside the American cattle, so they have to have days where they have to process only Ca-nadian meat. It's a regulatory process that is going to cost millions of dollars, and that just comes back to us — they just take it off the value of the animal." Woods says it's also completely freezing the flow of Canadian beef into the United

States

"There are certain plants that have

normally processed Canadian cattle that normally processed Canadian cattle that won't anymore, because they don't want to be bothered with the extra processing and requirements to slaughter Canadian cattle that all has to be packaged and la-

Woods says the COOL regulations are going to end up having a negative impact on the American cattle market as much as the Canadian market

"In the United States, a lot of processors feed lots and even consumers are dead set against COOL because they know it's go-ing to increase the cost of doing business, and quite frankly, they need our supply of cattle to keep the plants and feed lots

open." Both Dietrich and Woods are not sure how much of an impact COOL is going to have yet, but believe Canada has a strong case against the regulation, and that gives the cattle industry some hope in its long recovery



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# **Crossborders Community Growing Project**

#### BY JULIA DIMA

"In the scripture, it always talks about the first fruits. The first ten per cent of the harvest was supposed to be given back to the Lord to be given to the poor, and then the rest was for yourself. I think it's people reflecting on that, and saying, this comes first."

Jim Cornelius of Canadian Foodgrains Bank is talking about the harvest for hun-ger than happens every year when farm-ers across Canada harvest a crop they've planted and grown for the Foodgrains Bank.

G

candmhomes@sa

The bank was established in 1983 to respond to global food crises overseas. To-day, it's a partnership of 15 church agen-cies across Canada, and the goal of fighting global hunger hasn't changed.

Last year, the Foodgrains Bank raised over \$12 million for projects overseas. The Foodgrains Bank has hundreds of growing projects across the country. Farmers plant a crop, and send the profits of the crop to the Foodgrains Bank. From here, the Foodgrains Bank has member agencies across the world who receive the money to fund food programs in over 80 countries.

The Foodgrains Bank funds three kinds of programs overseas. The first is a feed-ing program that brings food to people ing program that brings food to people who are facing a humanitarian crisis, like a drought, flood, or displacement. The second kind are nutrition programs that focus on ensuring children have access to adequate food in their early years. The last are agricultural livelihood programs that help communities successfully grow food and earn income

and earn income. Along with the funds Foodgrains Bank gets from farmers, the federal govern-ment matches donation 4:1. This year, the Foodgrains Bank is in dire need of funds to deal with the humanitarian crisis in Syria that has displaced five million Syrians. Cornelius says that Foodgrains Bank has

been providing food to over 50,000 people a month in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan. He says that growing projects have an enor-mous impact in fighting hunger in these situations

"I was just in Lebanon a few weeks ago, and this is a sign that someone cares," Cornelius says, "when they find out that the food that's coming is from farmers like themselves, that it's not just government, that has an enormous impact."

Continued on page 23 🖙





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### **Crossborders Community Growing Project**

☞ Continued from page 2 Cornelius says that the growing project is important in making a global is-sue like famine something Canadians can under stand

"The nature of society now is it's very difficult for connections to be made. If you were in rural Mani-toba, how do you connect with someone facing hun-ger in Africa? This is a tangible way of making a real connection." One of these farmers

making that connection is Don Neufeld from Kola. Don Neufeld from Kola, Manitoba. He and his wife Jan co-ordinate the Kola Crossborders Community Growing Project. On Friday, September 13, nine combines met on a 270-arc pasture of land two miles south of Kola.

The land was donated by Helen Koop, who's been part of Foodgrains Bank for many years, herself. She used to only have 80 acres to donate. Now, farmers from the whole area come together to harvest her land for the bank.

"It's amazing seeing all these people here." Aside from the farm-ers with their combines, grain carts, and trucks, the community and school children came out for a barbecue picnic. The food was provided and cooked by Virden Sunrise Credit Union and BDO.

the Harold Penner, the Foodgrains Bank representative for Manitoba was also at the Harvest. He shared with those gath-ered that the funds raised through the Foodgrains Bank will help alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Syria.

"It's a very difficult time for people there, so the more we can support them, the better," he said.

At the harvest, Neufeld shared the importance that



The combines lined up to start harvest at the Kola Crossborders Growing Project

the harvest day has for

"Today is emotional for me, because ten years ago on this day, my father died," he said, "dad was a big part of the Canadians Foodgrains Bank, so I'd like to give him honour, and just say that, Dad, I apprejust say that, Dad, I appre-ciate you for all the years that you tried to teach me the right thing." Neufeld's family has been involved in the Grow-ing Project for thirty years.

Neufeld's uncle was in-volved in the organization, and after he passed away, Neufeld's father took over the project. He wasn't a farmer, but got involved. Neufeld chose to farm, so he naturally became inhe naturally became in-volved in helping his dad with the seeding and har-vest that the community of Kola did every year for the Foodgrains Bank.

Neufeld remembers his dad telling him it was imperative that he did this

harvest Neufeld replied by saying he would get it done, but he had to get his own harvest done first. After his dad passed away,

that changed. "Ten years ago, my father passed away. He was the co-ordinator of the project, so when he passed away, I said, I guess that's it, someone else will take over," Neufeld remembers, "So we did the harvest that year, and we thought, someone will pick up the ball. Then one night in Jan-uary, I was fast asleep, and I had this dream that there was thousands of people standing out in front of me with their hands out, and they were pleading with me, 'feed us'. I woke up, and woke up Jan, and said, 'I don't know exactly what just happened, but if you believe in destiny, then I have just figured out my calling in life.' And that is to make sure that these people get a chance to eat.

And I made a commitment that if we were seeding, that would be the first crop

I plant." And that's what Neufeld has done for the past ten years. Each fall, the comyears. Each fall, the com-munity and surround-ing agriculture retailers get together and harvest the 270 acres of land for the Foodgrains. Since the growing project started, Kola has raised over \$3 million, and in some years, they've raised as much as \$680.000

"When you get a few people together commit-ted to doing something, it's amazing what can occur," Neufeld says. He says he supports Foodgrains Bank so strong because of their commit-

ment to providing those first fruits to the hungry in the world. "I'm so passionate about

Foodgrains because only five per cent of funds raised actually go to administraJulia Dima photo:

tive costs. With some ortive costs. With some of-ganizations, only 40 cents of every dollar actually go to the people who need it. With this, 95 cents of every dollar goes to food, and that's why we're so passionate to help feed the world.

Voria." Cornelius says that passion is what keeps Foodgrains going. "When I go out and meet with people, the level of

commitment of Canadians, especially in rural Canada is just astounding, and people have been dedicated to doing this work for year after year. It's an act of faith, generosity, and com-mitment."

Neufeld says he and his wife have felt privileged to be involved with the project

"As long as we're able to do it, we will. We feel very fortunate that we can be involved."

He said that the support from the Agricultural community in and around Kola has always been strong. But that doesn't surprise him.

"I think the reason peo-ple in agriculture are so passionate about it is that we realize that food is the most important thing on the planet. We would hope that if the shoe were on the other foot, and we were a nation starving to death, that there would be compassion somewhere on the passion somewhere on the planet, that we would get to eat, because life is pre-cious," he says, "and to just turn a blind eye and say 'well that's too bad for you, your stars didn't line up, you didn't get the right weather, so now you're go-ing to die', to me, that's un-acceptable."

The nine combines set The nine combines set out to harvesting the crop on Friday at about 1:30 and worked throughout the afternoon. Neufeld es-timated that the crop har-vested would raised about \$100,000, a profit that the federal government will match 4:1. Before any in-dividual donations made, the Kola Growing Project raised half a million dollars for the Foodgrains Bank.

Neufeld says it's all about using what he's been blessed with to make sure people who don't have that can still eat every night. "This day is about feed-

"This day is about reed-ing hungry people, and it's about community, and it's about all you people get-ting together with us to give to others," Neufeld told the group who came out to the harvest.

Cornelius says that's what Foodgrains Bank is

what Foodgrains Bank is fundamentally about. "This is a way of mak-ing sure everyone gets to sit around the family table and eat. That's how we see it, it's about extending the table, and making sure everyone gets around it everyone gets around it. Tables of food are really at the heart of a community.





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	\$2,200
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2006 KTM 5X - 85 Dirt Bike	\$2,200 \$6,800
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# Rocanville Museum Day

Rocanville and District Museum held its Museum Day Saturday, September 14.

The day included a variety of old tyme activities, including demonstrations of the many antique tractors at the museum, and blacksmith demonstrations.

The highlight of the day was a demonstration of Threshing with Steam. A steam powered tractor propelled the antique threshing machine, the predecessor to the combine. Three or four individuals hopped up onto the cart of wheat sheaves and pitched them into the threshing machine.

One of the people pitching sheaves was 91-year-old Peter Hirney (in photo) who worked until the cart was empty.

After the threshing demonstration, there was live music in the old legion hall, and a barbecue supper in the evening.



Threshing with an antique steam powered machine was the highlight of Museum Day



Above: Children enjoy a ride on a hay rack. Below: Running the antique steam engine.





Julia Dima photos Peter Hirney (right) pitched sheaves of wheat into an antique threshing machine at Rocanville Museum's Museum Day.





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