

Bridging the RAK Gap

Pioneers in Saskatoon Show Acts of Kindness

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Members of the Bridge City Pioneers hit the streets on RAK Day 2018.

If you happened to be in Saskatoon on Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) day, there's a good chance you were bundled up!

As typically happens this time of year in Saskatchewan, the dog days of summer are in the rear-view mirror, and people walk bravely into the crisp pre-winter weather that awaits them.

"It was cold that day, serving as a bit of a reminder of the kind of weather some people might not have adequate shelter from," remembered Giselle Howard, Quality Assurance Manager at SaskTel and the Pioneer's liaison with the Saskatoon RAK Day Organizing Committee.

"The wind was blowing, and it was damp out. But the spirits of our volunteers were very high for RAK Day!"

RAK Day is organized annually by the Saskatoon Community Foundation which supports a wide range of community projects and initiatives. It's a city-wide celebration of kindness promoting a 'pay it forward' movement in the community that takes place annually on the first Friday in November. RAK Day is meant to be a fun and simple way to encourage unexpected moments of kindness in the community of Saskatoon.

This year's RAK day took place 02 Nov 2018. As the sun began to fall at around 5:30 p.m., 11 members of the Bridge City Pioneers (along with five family members and friends) gathered to

hand out 100 pairs of mittens, 50 scarves along with \$5 Tim Horton's cards to pleasantly surprised passersby in downtown Saskatoon.

While many may take keeping warm for granted, the mittens, scarves or possibly a warm coffee, tea or hot chocolate will help to keep people warm as the winter season fast approaches.

“Some of the people we met that day were a bit apprehensive at first, but all of them were genuinely appreciative for the kindness they experienced from our group,” said Giselle. “It’s a great feeling to know you’ve made some small difference in a person’s day.”

“We’re fortunate to work for an employer like SaskTel where we make a point of trying to improve and impact the communities in which we live. And we do so because it’s the right thing to do!”