

APRIL 2018

Issue 64

This issue includes some highlights of the major accomplishments that the SaskTel Pioneers have been involved with in your community. We DO encourage you to share this newsletter with your family.

*Please give us a call or letter if you have any **comments** or **suggestions** regarding this bulletin or future newsletter items.*

Newsletter Editor:

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3266 Mountbatten Cres, Regina S4V 0Z4
Email: jacgary@yahoo.com

Chapter 59 President

Judi Livingstone
Email: judrud@live.ca
Phone: 306 737-1917



Pioneer Membership Updates

Please advise us of any of the following changes:

- ⇒ address or name change
- ⇒ marital status change (either way)
- ⇒ spousal information
- ⇒ death (employee, superannuate or spouse)

Pioneer Manager - Darrell Liebrecht

Phone: (306) 777-2515
Toll Free: 1-866-944-4442

E-mail: darrell.liebrecht@sasktel.com

Write: 2nd Floor
2121 Saskatchewan Drive,
Regina, Sask S4P 3Y2

**YOU CAN HELP US STAY IN
TOUCH BY KEEPING US ADVISED**

In This Issue

Page	
1	Chapter 59 Executives
	Pioneer Membership Update
2	Message from Chapter #59 President
3	Pioneer Mission & Vision
	Pioneer Website
	Upcoming Special Events
4	Participation/Membership Reports
5	In Memoriam
6	SaskTel Retirements
7	SaskTel Pioneer Payday Lottery Winners
8	Pioneer Cookbook/Tabs/Labels/Stamps
9	Salvage Sales & Computers for Schools
10	SaskTel is 110 Years Old—Happy Birthday
11	Chapter 59 Report
11-19	Club Reports
20	Employee receives Community Award
21	HOOP in Prince Albert
22	Comfort for Kids Challenge
23	Phone Recycling
24	Helping people with disabilities
25	Acts of Kindness in Saskatoon
26	Prince Albert couple come to the rescue
27	Santa Video Form—Regina/Yorkton
28	Wish Angle Tree
29	Teddy Bear Anonymous
30	Telcare Benefits
31	Provincial Bonspiel—Regina
32	Brier in Saskatchewan
33	Saltcoats Student Newspaper
34	Sock Drive in Saskatoon
35	Wheel Chair Rugby—Employee honored
36	Thoughts of Humboldt Broncos SJHL



Saskatchewan Chapter 59

Advisory Bd Member	Darcee MacFarlane	777-4441
Pioneer Manager	Darrell Liebrecht	777-2515
President, Chapter 59	Judi Livingstone	737-1917
Past President	Sharon Finnik	777-0317
Sr. Vice President	Dione Wall	381-4277
2nd Life Member Rep	Carol Sagin	525-8383
1st Life Member Rep	Pat Tegart	761-1441
Secretary	Michelle Hankewich	220-8822
Club & Council Presidents		



Message from our 2018 Chapter #59 President



Greetings Fellow Pioneers

Happy 2018 Pioneers

As spring finally arrives, I know our members are gearing up for a new and exciting year of Pioneering. Along with the tried and true provincial and club projects, I look forward to hearing about some new and exciting projects.

I would like to welcome the newest members of the Chapter 59 core executive: Dione Wall and Pat Tegart and a hello and welcome back to Sharon Finnik, Carol Sagin and Michelle Hanklewich. I look forward to working with these wonderful ladies for the next couple years.

Chapter is always looking for new project ideas, so please do not hesitate to contact us if you have an idea for a project, or just a story about an existing project to share.

Thank you Pioneers

Judi Livingstone
Chapter 59 President

Heartfelt 
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



*"Our focus is our Community
and our strength is our Volunteers"*



Pioneer Mission & Vision



Pioneer Mission

We are a volunteer network dedicated:

To making a recognized contribution to a variety of community needs.

To providing value to our partner organizations by contributing to their strategic priorities.

To creating rewarding fellowship opportunities and personal growth of our members.

Our Vision

To be recognized as a network of volunteers who effect immediate, tangible change in local communities, in partnership with their sponsor companies.



>>>>> **Pioneer WebSite** <<<<<

An electronic version of this Provincial Newsletter is on the website.

This newsletter is issued twice a year - April and November.

www.sasktel pioneers.com

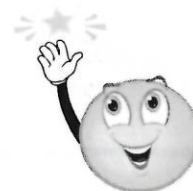
Facebook—SaskTel Pioneers

Twitter—@sasktel pioneers

Visit the International TelecomPioneer website to learn more about our organization as it provides an overview of benefits unique to Pioneer membership

www.telecompioneers.org

www.pioneersvolunteer.org



Upcoming Special events



Computers for School and Regina Salvage have moved

2106 1st Avenue - Back of the TPAC Building

Across from SaskTel warehouse

Regina—call Jolene Norleen or Crawford McKee at 306 777-3431

Computers for School—Keith Grill 306 777-3435

Email: pssregnA@sasktel.net

Hours of Operation—Tuesday to Friday—9:30 to 3 pm



Computers for School and Salvage in Saskatoon

Sutherland Warehouse - 210 103rd Street E.

306 931-5564 Email - npac@sasktel.net

Computers for schools 306 931-5625

Hours of Operation: Monday—Friday 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm



Participation/Membership Reports . . .



Year to Date Participation/Members/Hours

Following information is January to May 2017 >>> UP TO DATE REPORTS NOT AVAILABLE

	Direct West	HAD Allen	Mel fort	MJ	NB	PA	REG INA	SC	Secur Tek	SKTN 2	WYB	YTN
Affiliate												
Associate **		137	4	22	9	14	7	7		53	7	9
Life	11	1127	52	89	98	125		76	5	580	92	119
Partner**	20	641	34	86	78	102	367	70	8	448	61	90
Regular	73	0	14	48	38	77	837	23	66	436	26	33
TOTAL	84	1127	66	137	136	202	837	99	71	1016	118	152

**** Associate and Partner numbers not included in totals**

There are 4045 Life and Regular Members as of May 30, 2017

Total Vol. Hours	286	3110	803	61	201	170	765	348	0	2964	0	936
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**263 members volunteered a total of 7,137 hours in 2018 (GOAL 60,000)
which is 7% of eligible Pioneer volunteers**



**Lord,
Help me live this day,
Quietly, Easily.**

***To lean upon your great strength,
Trustfully, Respectfully.***

**To await the unfolding
Of your will,
Patiently. Serenely.**

***To meet others,
Peacefully, Joyously.***

**To face tomorrow,
Confidently, Courageously**

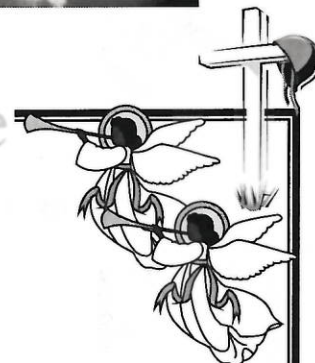


PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED >>>>>>>>

We try our best to advise you of the deaths of employees, supeannuates and/or their spouses. We are not always advised of these deaths, especially when they are the spouse of a working or retired person or a member of the Public Employee Pension Plan.

**Please keep us advised so we can include this information in this newsletter.
Contact your local Club Executives or Pioneer Office at 777-2515 or 1 (866) 944-4442.**

Thank You.



In Memoriam... (Employees, Superannuates and Spouses)

Sympathy is extended to the following employees, Superannuates and their families.

Mary McKenna of Calgary AB (formerly Regina), (spouse of deceased SaskTel Superannuate Don McKenna) passed away 4 Oct 2016.

SaskTel Superannuate Christine Thompson of Regina passed away 2 Mar 2017 at age 60. Retired 2010

SaskTel Superannuate Allan Gurnsey of Moose Jaw passed away 1 May 2017 at age 85. Retired in 1991. Allan is survived by spouse Marjorie.

SaskTel Superannuate Kathleen Latus of North Battleford passed away 3 Jul 2017 at age 81. Retired in 1997.

Darla Harrison of Regina (spouse of deceased SaskTel Superannuate James Harrison) passed away 27 Jul 2017.

SaskTel Superannuate John Crosbie of Moose Jaw passed away 9 Aug 2016 at age 91. Survived by spouse Edith. John retired in 1979.

Walter Ard of Battleford (spouse of SaskTel Superannuate Linda Ard) passed away 19 Aug 2017.

SaskTel Superannuate Gertrude Fromback of Pilot Butte passed away 27 Aug 2016 at age 93. Gertrude retired in 1992.

SaskTel Superannuate Yvonne Dellezay of Saskatoon passed away 27 Oct 2017 at age 83. Yvonne retired in 1992.

SaskTel Superannuate Jean Lobsinger of Regina passed away November 2, 2017 at age 83. Jean retired in 1988. Jean was the spouse of deceased SaskTel Superannuate Dan Lobsinger.

SaskTel Superannuate Doreen Royal of Whitecap Indian Reserve (formerly Regina) passed away 6 Nov 2017 at age 68. Retired 1999.

Connie Watson of Invermere BC—formerly Regina (spouse of SaskTel Superannuate Skip Watson) passed away 7 Nov 2017.

SaskTel Superannuate Arnie Stevenson of Saskatoon passed away 11 Nov 2017 at age 82. Retired in 1992. Arnie is survived by spouse Ethel.

SaskTel employee Phyllis Gordon of Saskatoon passed away 24 Nov 2017.

Larry Wason of Regina (spouse of deceased SaskTel Superannuate Jean Wason) passed away 18 Nov 2017.

SaskTel Superannuate Garry Baker of Saskatoon passed away on 23 Nov 2017 at age 79. Gary retired in 1992.

Jim Tewksbury of Regina (spouse of Lynn Tewksbury) passed away 11 Dec 2017 at age 72.

SaskTel Superannuate Harold Banks of Regina passed away 12 Dec 2017 at age 84. Harold retired in 1991.

SaskTel Superannuate Rae Hebert of Saint John NB (formerly Regina), passed away 9 Dec 2017 at age 84. Retired in 1986. Rae is survived by spouse Betty.

SaskTel Superannuate Bev Perreault of Regina passed away 21 Dec 2017 at age 76. Retired in 1996.

SaskTel Superannuate Ivan Edwards of Regina, passed away on 26 Dec 2017 at age 86. Retired in 1988.

SaskTel Superannuate Jerry Shearer of Regina passed away 15 Jan 2018 at age 80.

SaskTel Superannuate Theresa Hnatiuk of Regina passed away 10 Jan 2018 at age 78. Retired 1993.

Cynthia C. Cable of Duncan BC—Formerly Regina (spouse of deceased SaskTel Superannuate Len Cable) passed away 16 Jan 2018 at age 83.

SaskTel Employee Donna (Dolly) Rissling of Saskatoon passed away 5 Mar 2018 at age 57.

SaskTel Superannuate Marjorie Blackmur of Saskatoon passed away 8 Mar 2018 at age 81. Retired in 1997.

SaskTel Superannuate Reg Broughton of Saskatoon passed away 11 Mar 2018 at age 89. Retired 1986. Reg is survived by spouse Virginia.

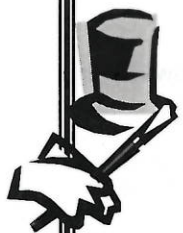
SaskTel Superannuate Wes Biddle of New Westminster BC (formerly North Battleford) passed away 15 Mar 2018 at age 76. Retired 2006. Wes is survived by spouse Vivian.

SaskTel Superannuate Bev Fletcher of Regina passed away 25 Mar 2018 at age 66. Retired 2009. Survived by spouse Lawrence Smith.

SaskTel Superannuate Wayne Laidlaw of Regina passed away 27 Mar 2018 at age 73. Retired 1997. Wayne is survived by spouse Mary.

SaskTel Superannuate Gord Ruschensky of Regina passed away April 14th, 2018. Retired in 1992. Gord is survived by spouse Maureen.

Bev Simes of Fort Qu'Appelle (spouse of SaskTel Superannuate Graham Simes) passed away April 17th, 2018.



SaskTel's Retirements—2017-18

Congratulations and good luck to all of you who have chosen Retirement.
We hope to see you involved in SaskTel Pioneer functions.

Due to Privacy Laws we can only provide a list of
employees who have given us permission to release their names:



03-Jan-18	URSZULAN	LORI	REGINA				
13-Jul-17	RHODES	COLLEEN	REGINA				
14-Aug-17	BROWN	DEBBIE	REGINA	31-Mar-18	SALMINEN	ANGELA	REGINA
22-Aug-17	LEFEBVRE	GAIL	REGINA	3-Apr-18	GRAY	PERRY	REGINA
28-Aug-17	SOBERING	CINDY	REGINA	5-Apr-18	KLASSEN	SHARI	SASKATOON
31-Aug-17	AMUNDSON	TERRY	REGINA	6-Apr-18	STOEBER	ROLAND	SASKATOON
08-Sep-17	MCVICAR	CHERYL	SWIFT CURRENT	9-Apr-18	EGGEN	JONI	REGINA
18-Sep-17	MATEYKO	AUDREY	MELFORT	9-Apr-18	EDWARDS	DOUG	REGINA
20-Sep-17	THACHIK	PATRICIA	REGINA	11-Apr-18	SAWCHUK	MARY	SASKATOON
21-Sep-17	ROSS	BRIAN	REGINA	13-Apr-18	KEDDY	BETTY	PRINCE ALBERT
29-Sep-17	MAZUR	CURTIS	REGINA	14-Apr-18	CARLSON	EILEEN	SASKATOON
04-Oct-17	AVERY	JIM	REGINA	19-Apr-18	PATTERSON	SCOT	REGINA
05-Oct-17	SCHLOTTER	PAT	REGINA	20-Apr-18	PROST	GAIL	MELFORT
				30-Apr-18	BEST	RANCE	REGINA
05-Oct-17	STRICKER	BRENDA	REGINA	2-May-18	ADRIAN	LOIS	SWIFT CURRENT
01-Nov-17	LACKIE	PAULETTE	SASKATOON	4-May-18	LYNCHUK	JEFF	SASKATOON
23-Nov-17	SOLIE	KELVIN	REGINA	4-May-18	ZIEGLER	SHERRY	REGINA
29-Dec-17	WEISSHAAR	MICHAEL	REGINA	11-May-18	PULLES	TOM	SASKATOON
29-Dec-17	DIACON	DOUG	REGINA	18-May-18	BEWCYK	MARGARET	REGINA
29-Dec-17	LIEN	PHUNG	REGINA	18-May-18	FRIESEN	JOANNE	SASKATOON
31-Dec-17	LEARMONTH	BRUCE	MOOSE JAW	25-May-18	BANIULIS	JERRY	REGINA
31-Dec-17	WIEBE	GAIL	SWIFT CURRENT	1-Jun-18	SHIELDS	KIM	REGINA
31-Dec-17	TEWKSBURY	LYNN	REGINA	1-Jun-18	HEIT	LEO	N. BATTLEFORD
				1-Jun-18	SCHNEIDER	LARRY	REGINA
05-Jan-18	DAHL	DARRELL	SASKATOON	1-Jun-18	GALL	BRENDA	REGINA
06-Jan-18	FUZESY	TOM	REGINA	12-Jun-18	WOOD	KELLY	REGINA
08-Jan-18	FINCH	DEAN	REGINA	15-Jun-18	HANGO	DENNIS	REGINA
16-Jan-18	SADOWSKY	JILL	REGINA	15-Jun-18	BOHACH	YVONNE	SASKATOON
20-Feb-18	DELORME	PAT	REGINA	16-Jun-18	NEILSON	EVELYN	SASKATOON
20-Feb-18	FAUCHOUX	DONNA	SASKATOON	22-Jun-18	PEARSON	WES	MEADOW LAKE
23-Feb-18	L'HEUREUX	JUDY	N. BATTLEFORD	22-Jun-18	ILLERBRUN	CATHY	SWIFT CURRENT
23-Feb-18	LOTHIAN	BLAIR	REGINA	22-Jun-18	WATIER	TRUDY	PRINCE ALBERT
28-Feb-18	CHOLIN	DAVE	LA RONGE	25-Jun-18	MOMBOURQUETTE	SHARI	REGINA
28-Feb-18	WILLIAMS	LAVERNE	REGINA	29-Jun-18	SCHNEIDER	RICK	REGINA
3-Mar-18	MERRIAM	LYLE	REGINA	30-Jun-18	NEUFELD	RANDY	REGINA
9-Mar-18	AGIORITIS	MARIE	SASKATOON	8-Jul-18	SCHATZ	GARY	REGINA
10-Mar-18	FORD	CAROL	YORKTON	20-Jul-18	WILLIAMS	DAVE	REGINA
12-Mar-18	KOLODY	SUE	SASKATOON	27-Jul-18	BARON	DALE	REGINA
15-Mar-18	LARSEN	GARNET	SASKATOON	31-Jul-18	MCGUGAN	TREVOR	REGINA
16-Mar-18	LAWSON	BILL	MOOSE JAW	4-Aug-18	HILLMAN	RON	REGINA
30-Mar-18	WUNDERLICH	MARILYN	SASKATOON	07-Sep-18	BOGUSLAW	TONY	PRINCE ALBERT
30-Mar-18	HEIN	MARY	SASKATOON	14-Sep-18	HORDICHUK	DAVE	REGINA
31-Mar-18	SICK	GORDON	SASKATOON	31-Dec-18	HILDERMAN	DOUG	REGINA
31-Mar-18	MAY	CLARK	REGINA				
31-Mar-18	CONLEY	DARLA	N. BATTLEFORD				
31-Mar-18	KAMINSKI	MICHAEL	REGINA				
31-Mar-18	BRÖTZEL	GARY	REGINA				





WHO GOT LUCKY with the 2017 SaskTel Pioneer Payday Lottery

Draws are made every two weeks (on SaskTel payday)

Two Special draws valued at \$2,500
Jan 19 2017 Jeremy Van Caesele Saskatoon

\$500 winners every two weeks

• July 20, 2017	Debra Zlatarits	Regina
• August 3, 2017	Jane Grassick	Regina
• August 17, 2017	Shannon Sambrook	DirectWest
• August 31, 2017	Brenda Klein	Regina
• September 14, 2017	Debbie Eskra	Saskatoon
• September 28, 2017	Jenna Russell	North Battleford
• October 12, 2017	Kelly Saville	Saskatoon
• October 26, 2017	Renee Young	Regina
• November 2, 2017	Leena Menon	Saskatoon
• November 9, 2017	Todd Carroll	Moose Jaw
• November 23, 2017	Mike Mann	Regina
• December 7, 2017	Patti Yick	Saskatoon
• December 21, 2017	Roni Zakresky	North Battleford
• January 4, 2018	Melynn Bru	North Battleford

*On behalf of the Pioneer Lottery Committee we would like to thank you all for participating.
We appreciate your continued support.*

***The funds raised from this lottery goes towards the improvement of our
communities throughout Saskatchewan.***

Congratulations to the 'Winners'



SaskTel Pioneer Payday Lottery More Money, More Chances in Payday Draw

Bi-weekly draws for \$500 and two \$2,500 draws.

**SecurTek employees and Life Members can choose one of the following
Payday Lottery payment options:**

>>> one cheque, covering the entire \$130 enrolment fee or two cheques @\$60 (post-dated)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !!!

Over \$400,000 raised since 2005

Funds are used to provide assistance to many of the communities that you live in

If you have any questions please call SaskTel Pioneer office—Darrell Liebrecht at 306 777-2515.

darrell.liebrecht@sasktel.com

2nd Floor, 2121 Saskatchewan Drive, Regina SK S4P 3Y2

**Do you have any of the following items ?
Check with your Club Executive as to where to send them.**

Keeping Tabs: Metal Tabs

Please save your metal tabs off of aluminium cans. The current tab collection program benefits the Pasqua Hospital.

Contact: Janice Muir, Phone: 306-777-4635



STAMPS – Stamp out Leprosy

—You can help “Stamp Out” Leprosy by saving all your postage stamps. The SaskTel Pioneers are shipping them to the Leprosy mission in Ontario. The Leprosy Mission is 130 years old. Any monies realized from the stamps after they have been sold to collectors will be used to pay for education and medicine etc.

Contact: Darrell Liebrecht—306 777-2515

QUILT MATERIAL

The SaskTel Pioneers are making lap quilts for Seniors and the Allan Blair Cancer Clinic. If you have left over quilt material that you no longer need and would like to make a donation of it to the pioneers, we would be happy to make use of it. The material does not all have to be 100% cotton. Soft materials like fleece and mink are great for the backings. In 2013, we were able to make 27 lap quilts that we donated. The majority of the material was from donations.



Contact: Jolene Norleen Phone: 306-949-7607

WOOL



If you have any wool taking up space in your closets, we will gladly turn it into lap robes for seniors. The SaskTel choir visits senior establishments each Christmas and leaves them with a selection of lap robes for their residents.

Contact Jeannine Nelson at 306-777-1848

Donations for Local Shelters / Outreach Centers

SAEN and the SaskTel Pioneers are accepting donations of unused hygiene items (e.g. soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste / brushes, feminine hygiene, etc) to be distributed to local shelters / outreach centres.

Contact Gina Angielski at 306 777-3341



USED EYEGLASSES - can be forwarded to Darrell Liebrecht at Head Office. District locations can drop them off with their pioneer executive.

SaskTel Pioneer contacts are: Darrell Liebrecht at 306 777-2515 or
Email darrell.liebrecht@sasktel.com

Pioneer Salvage Sales

>>>>OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISER >>>>

All monies raised go towards Pioneer projects.

**Raised over \$100,000 last year for our
Saskatchewan Communities ... GREAT JOB !**

They can teach you all you need to know on inventory,
repairing/refurbishing computers/parts.

If you are interested in volunteering or purchasing,
please call your local Club President.

Regina—call Crawford McKee 306 777-3431
Moved to 2106 1st Avenue
(Back of the TPAC Building)



Computers for Schools

Computers for Schools (CFS) in Regina and Saskatoon are looking for Volunteers to assist
in their weekday and Saturday operations.

They collect and repair donated computer equipment from government
and private sector sources and distribute them free of charge

to K-12 schools and libraries in Saskatchewan.

Contact:

Regina call Keith Grill @ 777-3435

Saskatoon call 931-5625



*To all our Volunteers who have
generously donated their
time and talent.*



*This project is our major
fundraiser*



110 Years You Are Part of the Story

SaskTel turns 110 Years old on June 12, 2018. One constant throughout the years has been dedicated employees serving the province where they work and live.



1908 marked the first year that the ball dropped from the New York Times building, the first year for Ford's Model T, and the year that the Province of Saskatchewan formed the Department of Railways, Telegraphs and Telephones, more commonly known nowadays as SaskTel.

A lot has changed in 110 years. Remember Direct Distance Dialing (DDD), rotary dial phones, party lines, and dial-up internet? Every innovation and solution along the way has helped families and friends to share special moments and make a real difference in communities. Throughout it all, our SaskTel team is dedicated to being the best at connecting the people of Saskatchewan.

Help us tell your story!

Throughout this year, we would like to tell the stories of the people of SaskTel, and for this we need your help. Submit your story and photos to the.source@sasktel.com. Or, grab your smartphone and make a quick video telling your story, then [contact us](#) to make arrangements to transfer your video (large video files may not email). Your story may be featured on The Source.

Here are some ideas to get you thinking:

- What are some of your most memorable moments of your career?
- Tell us about the friendships you've formed
- Is there a time when a co-worker went the extra mile? Tell us about it.
- What did you feel when you found out you got the job at SaskTel?
- Take us back to your first job at SaskTel, what was it like? What has changed since then?
- Do you have a "six degrees of SaskTel" story? (Everyone in this province seems to know someone who works at SaskTel or has a SaskTel story!)
- What makes you proud to work at SaskTel?

To start, Jennifer Longpre (from Regina) has shared her story from when she worked in the Call Centre ...

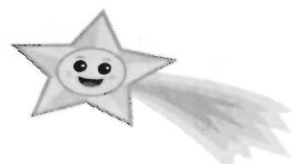
I answered this call exactly like the 20 calls before, "Thanks for calling SaskTel, this is Jen, how may I help you?", only this time it was different.



I heard: "Beeeeeeep ... Beeeeep ... Beeeeep", someone was still trying to input their phone number into the IVR. I glanced up at my computer screen to see a familiar name in the customer profile, it was my Grandma! "Grandma! Grandma!" I said loudly between keytones, "it's me! Jenny!" (Jenny is reserved only for use by my Granny, btw!) Finally she heard me hollering, "Jenny? Jenny? I thought I had called telephones". I was able to get Grandma straightened out with a new calling card that day, and now have a fond memory

of the day my late Granny called me at work.

Congratulations!





CHAPTER 59 PROVINCIAL PROJECTS

- **Donated \$5,900 to Telemiracle.** Chapter donated \$2950 matching the clubs donation of \$2950
- **Provincial 55+ Games - will be held in Moose Jaw July 10—12, 2018**
Donated \$5,000 for Gold Sponsorship **Willow Awards – Darrell Liebrecht**
- **Donated \$2,000 for Bronze sponsorship to The Saskatchewan Young Readers Choice Awards** that will be held in spring/early summer 2018. This is a nonprofit organization that promotes reading.
- **Grade 5 & 6 gazette school paper - operates out of Saltcoats**
Donated \$1,000 to the Saltcoats Gazette School Paper. This project began in 1971 as fundraising for the school. The gazette is written by the students. In 1971 they sold copies door to door for \$0.02. Subscriptions were \$1. Monies raised goes towards sending students to a Leadership Camp in Wolseley.

STARS FUNDRAISER – SaskTel Pioneers have provided volunteers since 2012

STARS carries out life-saving missions to help critically ill and injured patients. They also contribute to the safety of our communities by providing emergency medical training at no cost to rural health care professionals who may be faced with barriers of distance and the inability to leave home at regular intervals to train. Our transport physicians provide valuable medical consultations even in cases where STARS isn't dispatched, and they work with Collaborative Emergency Centres to extend the hours of emergency service in certain communities.

Since establishing operations in Saskatchewan in 2012, our non-profit organization has carried out more than 4,000 missions to 500 communities across the province, providing the prospect of a second chance to those who may not have had one otherwise.

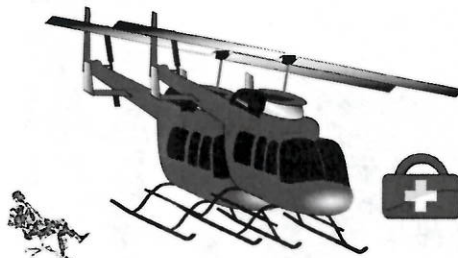
Help STARS out by Volunteering at a ShowHome near you.

STARS-Volunteer-Schedule-Saskatoon-2018

mailto:michelle.hankewich@sasktel.com to volunteer in Saskatoon.

STARS-Volunteer-Schedule-Regina-2018

mailto:darrell.liebrecht@sasktel.com to volunteer in Regina.



IF YOU HAVE SOME 'EXTRA TIME' TO SHARE YOUR SKILLS .. IT WOULD CERTAINLY BE APPRECIATED.

>>>>> Also is an opportunity to socialize <<<<<

SOME PROJECTS THAT SASKTEL PIONEERS ARE INVOLVED IN:

(Check with your local club and see if they are participating in these projects)

- **HUG-A-BEARS**—Donated to emergency vehicles to give to children in crisis situations.
Regina Workshops are held once a month—Wednesday 9 a.m. Contact: Mary Wilhelm 545-5110
- **HEART PILLOWS**—Donated to open heart surgery patients.
Saskatoon coordinator is Brenda Iwasuik and for Regina Contact: Andrea Hasz at 306 789-3700
- **TURBANS**—Donated to cancer patients—for Regina contact Jacki Huynink at 306 545-3827
- **QUILTING**— Regina workshops are held every couple of weeks—6:30 p.m. Call Jolene Norleen at 306 949-7607
- **CARD NIGHTS**—Regina holds them once a month—every 3rd Friday 7 p.m. Contact Brenda Glaspey
- **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**—Regina holds them on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except Apr, Jul, Aug) —306 777-8450
- **COMPUTERS FOR SCHOOLS**—Refurbished computers donated to schools—Keith Grill at 306 777-3435. Saskatoon contact is Barry Rutherford at 306 931-5625.
- **SALVAGE**—Prepares and sells used SaskTel office equipment and computers to the general public. Regina—Contact: Jolene Norleen/ Barry Zerr at 306 777-3431. Saskatoon—Dan Blum Salvage – Dan Blum 306-931-5564

See the Pioneer Calendar for scheduled workshops at www.sasktelpioneers.com
under "get Involved" tab.



Yorkton Club...

Contact Club President: John McMurdo (786-3440)

Email: john.mcmurdo@sasktel.com

President—John McMurdo

Secretary - Sheila Johnson

VP - Social - Adeline Markham/Sheila Johnson

Past President - Bob Hume

Communication—Charlotte Ross

VP Jean Bryski

Treasurer - Wendy Hume

Volunteers can now email Yorkton.pioneers@sasktel.sk.ca to register their hours

- Meals on wheels
- Noreen Hume donated 25 First Books to Saltcoats Pre-School
- Skate Yorkton asks us every year to volunteer for their wind up event held in March: selling tickets & roses, manning entries and helping out. We had 7-8 volunteers.
- Santa meet & Santa parade-great facebook exposure, done in multiple locations – good to see kids party – compliments from teacher assistants. They are overwhelmed by generosity shown to these kids
- Media - receipt & thank you letter from Salvation Army for \$300 donation to their Hunger campaign & thank you card from Leprosy mission Canada for \$200 donation

SaskTel Pioneer manager Darrell Leibrecht along with Pioneers Bob Hume, Wendy Hume, and Norene Hume present a cheque for \$1000 to Saltcoats School. This donation from Chapter 59 will help to support the Grade 5 & 6 Gazette newspaper program and their annual camping trip.



Bev Nystrom and Jean Bryski presented books to the Yorkton Cooperative Nursery School with some books. The enthusiasm of the teachers was amazing, which radiated down to the children

Yorkton SaskTel Pioneers donated approximately 50 receiving blankets to the Yorkton Hospital for the maternity ward. — with Sandra German.



Adeline Markham, Larry Markham, Wendy Hume and Norene Hume.

The Santa elves were filling bags to walk the parade route in Yorkton in December. We are happy to say that no candy was left over. Lots of kids, lots of fun. Pioneer Bob Hume drove the lighted truck and trailer that hauls the antique truck.



Second picture is Larry Markham, Jean Bryski and Adeline Markham



The Yorkton Terriers partnered with the SaskTel Pioneers to host the annual Santa Party for 20 Special Needs children in Yorkton & District.

Directwest . .

Contact Club President: Brittany Bartel 777-0446
Email: brittany.bartel@directwest.com

President - Brittany Bartel
Sr. VP—vacant
VP Participation - Tim Dickson
VP Social & Fellowship—Britney Brodt

Past President— Sharon Finnik
Treasurer - Val Dodman
VP Community Service - Allan Milham
LM Rep—Judy Livingstone

Secretary—Ashley Raddysh
VP Membership —Amanda Kreklewichn
VP Marketing—Michelle Roberts

- Donated \$500 to Telemiracle
- 41 wish angels completed
- Volunteer day – wrapped gifts for Sophia House & donated \$650 worth of PJ's
- made angel ornaments for seniors homes
- Albert School Toy/gift collection and donated \$500 for breakfast program
- Donated \$1000 to help feed turkey dinner to Coronation Park school
- Donated \$200 to Help portrait
- Donated \$500 to Paskiw family to help support them in time of need
- Donated \$1,333 to Humboldt Broncos from Jersey/Casual Dress day
- Sponsor a family – collection items & money to provide them with Christmas gifts & meals Donated \$500 towards this as well



Prairie Council . .

Contact Club President: Sheila Solvason—777-1518
Email: Sheila.solvason@sasktel.com

President - Sheila Solvason
Past President - vacant
HAD Allen Life Member Club – Del Jones
VP Membership—Vacant
Salvage - Jolene Norleen (777-3431)
Computers for Schools—Keith Grill

Secretary - Trina Klein
VP Sports - Bev Cyca
VP Ways & Means - Crystal Isaac
VP Community Outreach & Collections—Laurel Werner
Members at Large—Laureen McWilliams and Tiffany Eide
VP Community Service - Haydee Iglesias (Special) & Sandy Elliott (Routine)

Treasurer - Andrew McKay
VP Education - John Winter
VP Youth —Vacant

Monthly Club Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:00 p.m. at Head Office

- Sold 50-50 tickets for Telemiracle—our club matched the amount of what we raised
- Held a cupcake sale and gave away a coin collection for NICU z99 radiothon
- Donated \$10,000 to STARS – gave back money earned in lieu of time volunteered
- Purchased 50 gifts for wish angels
- Donated \$1000 to Fort Qu'Appelle Outreach Christmas hamper
- Donated \$1650 to Camp Monahan for equipment
- Donated \$1000 to Kids Wish Foundation for pregame meals at Pats hockey game Feb 3

Media mentions: In Kitchener Community school paper for breakfast; thank you from STARS; thank you from special Olympics; Z99 Radiothon for donation from proceeds from cupcake sale; Thank yous from Iron Will funday & Camp Monahan

Over 3500 toys, books and games was delivered to Children's wards in Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Regina as well as some special gifts to the Maternity ward.



The gifts were collected and sorted in Head office

Life Member Report . . .

1st VP —Pat Tegart—761-1441
2nd VP— Carol Sagin —306 525-8383

NB—Hugh Martin
Melfort—Lynne Floyd
Weyburn/Estevan—Paul Wilson
Regina—Del Jones

Saskatoon—Debby Gorlick
PA—vacant
SC—Dennis Riach

Direcwest—Judi Livingstone
Yorkton—Jean Bryski
Moose Jaw—Vacant

Email: Carol Sagin —gwama1@yahoo.ca
Pat Tegart —ttegart@sasktel.net



Bridge City Club . . .

Contact Club President: Mark Grambo 931-5050
Email: mark.grambo@sasktel.com

President—Mark Grambo
Vice President— Dwayne Iwasuik
Vp Publicity—Anita Derksen
VP Community—Michelle Hankewich
VP Membership/Participation—Dorianne Urquhart

Past President—Dione Wall
VP Fellowship— Valerie Lukash
VP Education - Kacey Vooght
VP Environment - Vacant
Life Member Rep—Debby Gorlick

Secretary - Pam Shillington
Treasurer - Wanda Voss
Ways & Means—vacant
VP Salvage—Dan Blum

Our Club meetings are held every 2nd Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

Computers for School and Pioneer Salvage Sales is operated from the Sutherland Warehouse in Saskatoon
210 103rd Street E. 306 931-5564 Email - npac@sasktel.net
Hours of Operation: Monday—Friday 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

- Provided coffee & donuts to the Dundurn Fire Department on March 7
- Donated an ipad to the Saskatoon Special Olympics
- Held heart pillow bee and made about 150 heart pillows
- Donated \$1000 to new playground
- Donated \$1200 for hampers for three families at Westmount school. Members donated items as well. DirectWest in Saskatoon agreed to help up out
- Held Appreciation dinner for volunteers – 50ish shown up
- Attended Sponsorship dinner for Enchanted Forest
- Families to forest was a success – 16 buses, 6 schools, 800 people put through
- Wish angel project on the go
- Christmas social in January
- Donated \$250 to New hope dog rescue donation
- Donated \$1000 to Hayler Wall Memorial Fund
- **UPCOMING**—will be building benches for Langham Recreational center.
- **MEDIA:** Enchanted Forest mention for sponsorship (also SaskTel Pioneer logo on website & facebook page); Thank you from Confederation Park School for Enchanted Forest; Thank you cards for Wish Angels from Central Haven & St Francis school; Thank yous from Greater Catholic school for donation towards playground at St. Kateri, WP Bate Community school for the Enchanted Forest, Confederation Park School & Caswell Community School for wish angels & Stensrud Lodge also for wish angels, Enchanted Forest and Random Act of Kindness mentions on SaskTel's facebook page



WANTED—VOLUNTEERS—To sell tickets at the STARS showhome

Bridge City Pioneers provided Coffee and Donuts to Dundurn and Area First Responders for the Move over and Slow Down Awareness campaign



Making 300 treat bags for the

'Families to the Forest' project with the

Bridge City Pioneers.



Swift Current . . .

Contact Club President: 306-778-9877
Email: rhonda.wollbaum@sasktel.com

President - Vacant
Secretary - Rhonda Wollbaum
Treasurer—Tanya Bouvier-Mortensen

Past President - vacant
Life Member Rep & TPAC —Dennis Riach
Salvage—Frank Dickie and Eliaja LaFontaine

Meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month (except for July and August)
Activity Center—1800 Sidney St. W—Phone: 773-6035

- Donated \$300 to Salvation Army
- Donated \$250 to Swift Current SPCA
- Participated in Salvation Army kettle campaign
- Served refreshments at January Blood Donor Clinic
- Donated \$300 to Composite school for gift cards for Christmas hampers
- Served meals at Fresh Start—December, February and April



- **MEDIA MENTION:** thank you coffee from Great Plains College for scholarship donated; First Book Donation thank you notes received from Community Co-operative Playschool and Social Justice Committee at Christ the Redeemer Parish

SecurTek . . .

Contact Club President: vacant
Email: Brittany.nagy@securTek.sk.ca

President— vacant
VP - Finance—vacant
Community Service—Amber Chepil

Past President—Brittany Nagy
Publicity—vacant
VP Membership—Shayla Hydamacka

Secretary - vacant
Participation—vacant

>>>> NO REPORT SUBMITTED <<<<<

North Battleford . . .

Contact Club President: Dan Nesdoly 441-0118
Email: dan.nesdoly@sasktel.com

President—Dan Nesdoly
Secretary & Treasurer — Brent Degenstein
VP Salvage—Sharon Bogdan

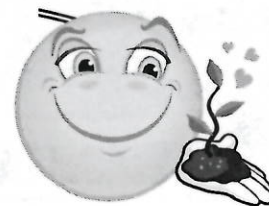
Past President – Brent Degenstein
VP Social - Marion Cashmore
VP Computer Sales & Salvage—Lloyd Edmunds (445-3985)
nbpioneers2sasktel.net

VP Membership - Marilyn Eckel
LM Rep—Hugh Martin

Ladies meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month and the Men meet every Wednesday for coffee.

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Volunteer Hours can be submitted online at
[Http://www.sasktelpioneers.com/form_hours_project.htm](http://www.sasktelpioneers.com/form_hours_project.htm)
or Email: sasktelpioneers@sasktel.com



Prince Albert . . .

Contact Club President: Michael Vancoughnett—930.7200
Email: michael.vancoughnett@sasktel.com

President—Michael Vancoughnett
Treasurer - Janessa Herbert
Communication—Michelle Ostrowski

Past President - vacant
Life Member Rep - Vacant
VP Fellowship—Shauna Uhlik

Secretary - Mark Johnson
VP Social—Mark Johnson
Membership—Rebecca Gartner

Club Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the PA Conference Room (Basement) at noon.
Fellowship held on the 3rd Thursday of every month in the basement Pioneer Room.

**SaskTel Pioneers and Victoria Hospital staff**

The SaskTel Pioneers delivered a pallet laden with Christmas toys, crafts, books and games to the Victoria Hospital to help make a stay in hospital easier for local kids.

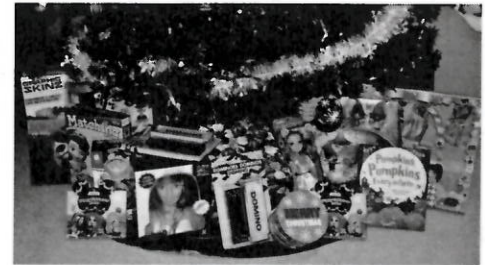
Mike Vancoughnett, SaskTel Regional Sales Manager, said employees across the province held a friendly competition to raise money for the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation and Teddy Bears Anonymous.

"We called it the Comfort for Kids Challenge," Vancoughnett said. "We were encouraged to compete to see who could come up with the highest fundraising numbers, and at the end of the campaign SaskTel em-

ployees raised \$27,000." Employees also logged 2,800 volunteer hours and donated more than 3,500 new toys, he said, but they didn't stop there. Vancoughnett said the Pioneers wanted to share the donation with children across the entire province, so they included every hospital with a pediatric ward in the donation.

"If they're feeling lonely or scared, sometimes it's nice to bring a gift in to them. They really enjoy it," she said. "This will really look after our kids throughout the year."

The gifts can help parents too, Antoine said, who may not have the means to go out shopping or take their child to see Santa at a mall. The donation will help everyone feel more at home over the holidays, she said, including the nursing staff who can use the gifts to help bring a smile to a sick child's face.

**The SaskTel Pioneers stopped by the Herb Bassett Home**

Dec. 21 with boxes of gifts in tow. More than 30 residents in the home, who many not have otherwise had gifts, received something to put under the tree.

"We have many residents who don't have family or who are unable to participate in Christmas and in gift-giving," Herbst Sutor said. "I want to say on behalf of the Herb Bassett Home, how much I appreciate [the Pioneers] coming in here every year and doing this for our residents."

She said the pioneer program has visited the residents at the Herb Bassett Home for all of the nine years she's worked there.

Mike Van Coughnett, a regional sales manager for SaskTel, has participated in the program for four years. He said the exchange of gifts and giving back is for more than just children.

"If you look at seniors, they're just as important. Their eyes light up just as much as somebody that's younger when they receive a gift," Van Coughnett said. "We think it's important that everybody feels the spirit of Christmas, whether they're young or old."



H.A.D. ALLEN Life Member Club . . . President Del Jones — 543-7360 Email: dw.jones@sasktel.net

President—Del Jones
Secretary - Marlene Romanuck
Salvage—Crawford McKee
Computers for Schools—Keith Grill

Past President - Wayne Rutten
VP Publicity/Communications—vacant
Member at large—Alex Yakichuk, Carol Sagin, Gloria Lawson
VP Community Services/Volunteer Coordinator—Marilyn Lorence

Treasurer - Lyle Fluter
VP Social—vacant

☐ Monthly Club Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am at the TPAC in Regina.



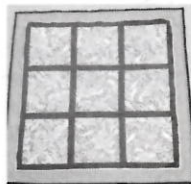
- Donated \$1,000 to NICU z99 radiothon
- Income Tax Program started March 1st at the United Way. Completing about 130 returns a day
- Assisted with Unifor kids Christmas party last Sunday serving and prepping food
- REACH – hand out hampers
- Delivered 8 quilts last week to the cancer clinic.
- Hold Monthly Birthday Parties for members
- Donated \$11,000 in December to Qu'Appelle House seniors place for upgrade to alarm system to assist with residents who have Alzheimer's. Right now, they are not equipped and those with Alzheimer's can wander off
- Media: ¼ page photo in Leader Post of Special needs kids for Santa face to face at Ramada & on local news
- Media: Del was at the z99 radiothon for the neo natal unit—lots of mentions in the 5 minutes. There was also a big screen display regularly cycling the Pioneer name as a donor
- Presented H.A.D. Allen award April 18th to the group that was involved with move to the renovated TPAC and to new facilities for Computers for Schools/Salvage. Co-chaired by Jolene Norleen and Jim Goldie.

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

- Walk for Alzheimer - Tues May 29, 2018 Wascana Park- Greenspace 1km or 5km loop
- Refreshing Wascana Rehab garden beds for residents



The SaskTel Pioneers were happy to present the Alan Blair Cancer Clinic with 8 quilts on March 2, 2018. We invite anyone interested in helping make quilts to join us three Monday mornings a month at 9 am at 2106 1st Ave. Please call Jolene at 306-949-7607 to get the dates



H.A.D. Allen Life Member Achievement award for 2018 was to the volunteers who helped with the move to their new location. Accepting trophy was Joleen And Blain Norleen presented by Sandy (daughter of Harry Allen) and Regina LM President Del Jones.

2106 1st Avenue,
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3Y2
Phone: 777-8450 for bookings
Email: tpac.pioneers@sasktel.net



Melfort Club . . .

Contact Club President: Ted Magis- 752-3024
Email: tamagis@sasktel.net

President - Ted Magis
Past President—Doreen Parenteau
Life Member Rep - Lynne Floyd

VP Education - Kathy Fidyk
VP Membership- Claude Bourgeois
Members at Large—Karen Skwark , Russ Floyd and Kelly Bonk

Treasurer—Maureen Wood
Secretary—Diane Bonk

- Income tax program on the go
- Selling 50-50 tickets for Mustang Hockey games
- 16 wish angels completed
- 3 days doing Salvation Army kettles
- Donated \$400 to Salvation Army
- Media: thank you for MS society appreciation

**Weyburn Club . . .**

Contact Club President: Belinda Kradovill 848-3392
Email: belinda.kradovill@sasktel.com

President—Belinda Kradovill
LM Rep—Paul Wilson

Secretary - Vacant
Member at Large—Willie Kradovill and Dale Huff

Treasurer - vacant

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

**Moose Jaw Club . .**

Contact Club President: Kristian Sjoberg 775-4308
Email: kristian.sjoberg@sasktel.com

President - Kristian Sjoberg
VP Education— Iden Tolley
VP Community - Michelle Wiley

Past President - Karena Warren
Secretary - Todd Carrol
VP Fellowship & Social —Hoy Chey-Hill
Email: mjpioneer.news@sasktel.net

Treasurer —Todd Carrol
Environment—vacant
VP—Ryan Dionne

- Donated \$500 to Gamers Association fundraiser to put on an event for board, card & internet games.
- Donated \$1250 to Hunger in Moose Jaw which provides 1250 lunches for students.
- Working with Moose Jaw Gamers Association for fundraiser

Media: Global TV morning show (pioneer signs were up in the background); CHAB 800, Country 100 & Mix 103. max on demand has a spot on about gamer location with Pioneer info displayed on the background

Moose Jaw is hosting the Saskatchewan Special Olympics—Summer Games—July 11-13

Volunteers needed to help with these Summer Games.

Please identify yourself as a SaskTel Pioneer, that would be great. To sign up to volunteer:

<http://www.specialolympics.ca/saskatchewan/news-events/provincial-games>.

A Source of Strength SaskTel Employee Receives Community Enrichment Award

*Melanie Cote (c) receiving the Isador Pelletier
Community Enrichment award in Regina.*



There's no better way to make a difference with a cause that's important to us than to step up And decide to become involved.

That's exactly what Melanie Cote did!

Her achievements were recently recognized at the 25th Aboriginal Government Employees' Network (AGEN) Annual General Meeting & Conference. Melanie, who is an HR Assistant from the Employee Development Centre (EDC), received the **Isador Pelletier Community Enrichment award** at the event.

The award recognizes 'an outstanding volunteer who mentors, inspires and leads others by serving on community boards or organizations that advance the well-being of Aboriginal people in their community. The individual assists in community development by promoting Aboriginal culture and language in a positive manner and is recognized as a source of strength in his/her community.'

"I was very honoured and humbled to be recognized by AGEN for the Isador Pelletier award," said Melanie. "I am dedicated to Aboriginal initiatives and throughout my working life I have joined and participated in many boards such as RAPA (Regina Aboriginal Professionals Association), AGEN and SaskTel's Aboriginal Employees Network."

Melanie is an avid participant and supporter of initiatives within those organizations as a means of bringing together people from all walks of life.

She also recently walked in support of ORANGE shirt day (29 Sep 2017) which recognizes the children who attended residential schools.

"I am a survivor of the residential schools (from my mother), and I am making a way for my children to be strong and become successful citizens in our community, and to be their role model."



SaskTel was also recognized at the event. The company received the AGEN Achievement Award which recognized SaskTel for helping to increase Aboriginal participation in Saskatchewan's economy. This is being done through the recruitment, retention and advancement of Aboriginal people within SaskTel. With a corporate commitment to Aboriginal people, SaskTel also actively engages in Aboriginal business and employment opportunities.

This article is copied and edited from 'The Source' at SaskTel



A Little Help From Our Friends A Prince Albert Employee Is Hyped About HOOP

Jordan Weatherbee, Operations Manager - Service in Prince Albert, is a grateful beneficiary of SaskTel's Helping Our Own People (HOOP) initiative.

Helping Our Own People (HOOP) is an organization helping SaskTel employees to offset the financial burden of extended health care and illness – things not always adequately addressed by existing social programs.

If you've ever wondered about the efficacy of HOOP, talk to Jordan Weatherbee, Operations Manager – Service in Prince Albert. In December 2014, Jordan was diagnosed with cancer. "It was a shock for both me and my wife," says Jordan. "We're the parents of young children. My coworkers told me about HOOP, so I contacted Darrell Liebrecht in January 2015. HOOP was able to help me with travel expenses to my medical appointments."

Jordan had surgery in January 2015 and began chemotherapy two months later. "Sessions were three weeks apart and were always in Saskatoon at the cancer clinic," says Jordan. "At the time, I was living in La Ronge. We would get up early to travel to Saskatoon for treatment. Treatments lasted three hours. Then we'd head back to La Ronge and I would start to get sick by the time we reached Hague. Between my wife, Tara, friends and family I would always have volunteers to make the trip with me, as I needed a driver to shuttle me the almost 800 km round trip."

While going through treatment, Jordan also received help when bidding on a management job position. "My current manager, Jeff McKeand, Director – Customer Services (Prince Albert) and Human Resources arranged an interview time to fit my schedule," says Jordan. "They ensured it didn't happen in the midst of one of my treatments. Later, I received a call from Jeff telling me I had been awarded the position, which I gratefully accepted. I'm very thankful for all the help I got from HOOP, Human Resources and Health Services, and all the great people in La Ronge and Prince Albert. Concerning SaskTel? You couldn't ask for a better company to work for."

HOOP is funded by an annual contribution from SaskTel. HOOP also receives donations from numerous employee groups and events scheduled around the province. Since its inception in June 1991, HOOP has allocated over \$750,000 to assist employees throughout the province.

"Don't be shy or too proud to ask for help," says Jordan.

"Being a Pioneer member since I first started with SaskTel, I always knew our contributions were helping others and their families. It wasn't until I had my own difficulties that I realized just how much good HOOP does. A simple deduction on your paycheque and joining the Pioneers can do so much for your coworkers or a family in need."





Healing Comfort COMFORT FOR KIDS Challenge Is Over and the Winners Are... Saskatchewan Kids!

Darrell Liebrecht (front l), and in the back (from l) Ken Yick, Faraz Rizvi and Jennifer McLeod, delivering gifts to children as part of the

Toys are an important source of happiness for any child. They propel creativity, physical activity, and can challenge young minds to get out of their comfort zone. But toys can also be a source of comfort, particularly for children facing difficult medical situations.

"Having a sick child is something many of us have experienced or could experience at any time. It could be your child, grandchild, niece or nephew. It can be a very scary time and if we can assist in making that hospital stay a little easier, we at SaskTel want to support that" said Jennifer McLeod, HR Manager.

Over the past few weeks, the Comfort for Kids Challenge has brought SaskTel employees and SaskTel Pioneers together to support Saskatchewan families having a chronically or terminally sick child. Following the success of our first 'comfort' challenge in 2016, SaskTel approached the SaskTel Pioneers to partner on a new initiative to spread kindness and warmth in the community. Earlier this month, we were proud to announce Teddy Bear's Anonymous and the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation as this year's beneficiaries. The challenge ran from 29 Sep to 19 Oct 2017. The challenge involved two teams.

"There were lots of creative ideas within the teams to have fun and collect items," said Jennifer. "It was successful beyond our expectations and there was a lot of participation from across the company." Some of the ideas:

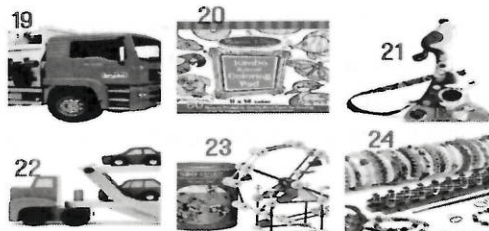
- * Strategy and Brand hosted two dance classes (Jazz and Hip Hop).
- * Technology Division flocked desks and sold copies of the 'Men of Technology' Calendar.
- * Customer Service Operations ran a FOKO Contest.
- * IS and SI had a Casual Jersey Day and a 50/50 draw.
- * VP of Corporate Counsel & Regulatory Affairs John Meldrum and Chief Information Officer Jim Dundas hosted a Silent Auction in the SaskTel Auditorium.

Every donation is important since every dollar, every item collected, stays here in Saskatchewan.

In all, over 3,500 toys, books, and games were donated to the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation. A total of \$27,000 was also raised for Teddy Bears Anonymous, the largest single donation the organization has ever received. A cheque was presented by Doug Burnett to the organization on 30 Nov 2017 at SaskTel Head Office.

Deliveries were made to pediatric departments to hospitals in Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina, as well as Saskatoon PICU, Saskatoon Maternity and the Alvin Buckwold Centre in Saskatoon. Employees delivered Teddy Bears to Wynyard, Weyburn, Watrous and Rosetown last December. Teddy Bears Anonymous will also deliver the remainder of the bears we buy with the funds raised to hospitals and ambulances across the entire province.

On behalf of all the children who will benefit from this year's challenge, thank you for generosity. Your simple acts of kindness will help to spread some joy and hope to Saskatchewan children receiving medical care and show their families that someone cares.



**No act of kindness,
no matter how small,
is ever wasted.**

- Aesop

This article is copied and edited from 'The Source' at SaskTel

Gift of a Fresh Start Another Milestone for Cell Phone Recycling Program

SaskTel's "Phones for a Fresh Start"
Program has recycled over 100,000
mobile phones, to date



We all have an old cell phone lying around or a collection of outdated chargers taking up space in that proverbial bottom drawer. In this day-and-age when we are increasingly aware of the impact of electronic waste, did you know there's a way to tame some of that tech clutter while helping others out in your community?

Phones for a Fresh Start, SaskTel's cell phone recycling program, uses the proceeds from recycled donated phones to purchase pre-paid calling cards and cell phones. They are then distributed to 21 women's shelters across Saskatchewan.

Founded in 2009 in partnership with the Provincial Association of Transition Houses (PATHS), the program is celebrating a significant milestone. The program has now recycled over 100,000 cell phones. As of September 30, 2017, the program has recycled a total of 100,817 cells.

The program provides cell phones to women who otherwise would not have had access to one. In 2016 alone, more than 250 kilograms of batteries and 7032 wireless accessories were collected through the program. As a result, Phones for a Fresh Start was able to distribute 450 pre-paid calling cards and 453 cell phones to PATHS in 2016.

In total, Phones for a Fresh Start has provided more than \$78,000 in pre-paid cards and over 2,600 cell phones for use by victims of domestic violence.

Cell phones and prepaid calling cards are distributed at the shelters, where staff members educate victims on the importance of using their cell phones safely and wisely.

A Fresh Start phone:

- allow them to look for housing or jobs
- allows shelter and outreach staff to follow up with women for ongoing support and to check on their safety
- helps women who abandon their personal cell phone, if the abuser is the primary account holder
- helps to empower women to rebuild her life and gain a sense of independence. Many women have never had access to a phone of their own before.
- Allow women to find employment as they are able to receive calls without husband's interference in their efforts."



Devices can be dropped off at collection bins at all SaskTel Stores and participating dealers or at any Canada Post outlet for free shipping to SaskTel. We only ask that you erase all personal data and remove SIM cards prior to drop off.

The Phones for a Fresh Start program accepts any type of hand-held wireless device. The make, model and condition of your cell phone doesn't matter. Donations of wireless chargers, batteries and accessories are also accepted.





Hey-Hey They're The Munchees!

SaskTel Sponsors Supper Event Catered by Trainees With Cognitive Disabilities

"Munch" trains people with cognitive disabilities to develop food service skills.

"Munch" is an idea that was conceptualized by Gwen Herman and Emily Tarr in the spring of 2015.

Gwen and Emily wanted to do something to bring with a disability about change in the workforce for people with cognitive disabilities. They combined this idea with their love of food to formulate a business plan designed to hire and provide food service training for people with cognitive disabilities. Soon after (Feb 2016), Munch was incorporated as a non-profit entity and launched their catering menu that focuses on corporate and business lunches and breaks. Living Spirit Centre in Regina graciously provided the rental of their kitchen space for this effort.

On 09 Nov 2017, Munch held their 2nd fundraising event at Holy Child Catholic Parish Hall in Regina. SaskTel sponsored this event this year.

The fundraising evening focused on the societal contribution of people with cognitive disabilities in our community. Five catering assistants working at the event were introduced to those attending and were celebrated in various ways throughout the evening.

The supper included featured foods from Munch's catering menu. The evening included a raffle, silent auction and the evening ended with entertainment by Colby Nargang - an Elvis Presley and Roy Orbison tribute artist, and also someone. Although the present focus of Munch's business is catering services, the organization does aspire to open a café one day.

Once again, SaskTel is helping to celebrate inclusion, diversity and culinary creativity within the community



This article is copied and edited from 'The Source' at SaskTel

RAK is Back! Saskatoon Pioneers Bring Random Acts of Kindness Back to Saskatoon

Bridge City Pioneer members Scott Cubbon (l), Ian Howard (centre), Kacey Vooght (centre lower) and Mark Grambo (r) handed out some "kindness" in Saskatoon on 03 Nov 2017.



Volunteers from the Bridge City SaskTel Pioneers joined in during Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Day in Saskatoon. This year, they took to the streets of downtown Saskatoon and shared SaskTel's community spirit by randomly giving away \$5 Tim Horton's gift cards paired with scarves or mitts that could help brighten someone's day.

This year marked the fourth straight year the Bridge City Pioneers have taken part in the Saskatoon RAK Day. Organized by the Saskatoon Community Foundation, RAK Day proved to be a rewarding experience for the volunteers.

"I sometimes forget how big a difference a simple pair of gloves or a toque can make in someone's life, or how cold my own fingers can get in 15 mins," said Judy Forest, Customer Loyalty Manager at SaskTel.

Five of the volunteers got started the night before by setting out 50 pairs of scarves and Tim Horton's gift cards around downtown Saskatoon with a RAK Day note asking whoever found them to pay the act of kindness forward. After scouting the locations the next day, the volunteers were happy to find that all the scarves and gift cards had been claimed.

On RAK day, a group of 14 volunteers used their lunch hours to hand out roughly six pairs of mitts and six \$5 Tim Horton's gift cards each; giving away 100 pairs of mittens and gift cards in total. They also had one extra special gift for a Rider fan who happened to be waiting for a bus. They surprised him with a signed Naaman Roosevelt jersey!

Despite their overall success, the day wasn't without its challenges. "It was interesting in that we kind of had to explain what we were doing because people's first reaction tended to be 'I don't want to buy anything or I'm good'," said Giselle Howard, Quality Assurance Manager at SaskTel and the Pioneer's liaison with the Saskatoon RAK Day Organizing Committee.

"Part of the reluctance for many of the people we approached seemed down to the fact that acts of kindness may not be as common as we'd all like to think," said Giselle. "But, they are beginning to happen more often. You see it in small things like people holding a door or someone paying for the person's coffee in line behind them."

"The most rewarding part of an initiative like this is to help people who don't expect it. It's about community spirit and positivity," said Mark Grambo, Manager of SaskTel's Proposal Office. "Having the belief that those people will then pay it forward in some way to someone else makes the process even more rewarding."

Our culture at SaskTel isn't just about the strong relationships we build with each other or how we treat our customers, it's also about the active role we play in the community.





Roadside Assistance! Employee Helps to Rescue Accident Victims Who Were Trapped in Truck

Dale Peet (l) in a quieter time shown here with his wife, Leslie and baby

The quick thinking and selfless actions that Dale Peet displayed on 29 October 2017 will not soon be forgotten by the two Saskatchewan residents he helped to rescue.

Dale, an Operations Manager from the Prince Albert office, was travelling home with his wife Leslie on Highway #3 near Melfort when they noticed a pickup truck overturned in a slough with its lights still on. They are now being credited for the successful rescue of two Saskatchewan men.

After pulling over on the shoulder, Dale ran outside while his wife called 9-1-1. As he made his way through the muddy waters to the badly damaged truck, Dale says that he kept calm but wasn't entirely sure what to expect. Once he made it to the passenger window, he saw the two men stuck inside the truck. With the truck partially submerged, he knew that he would have to break the window to reach the trapped men.

"There was a lot of water and the truck was pretty smashed up. I wanted to make sure that water wouldn't rush into the truck and make the situation worse," he said. The men were wet and cold, but thankfully they were able to communicate with Dale throughout the ordeal. "They were a little confused and disoriented. The driver couldn't tell whether he was upside down or backwards because it was so dark."

Although the driver of the truck was able to get out on his own, it was clear that the passenger would need help in order to get to drier ground. His body was mostly underwater and Dale and the driver had to work together to keep his head above water. Contrary to earlier media reports, however, Dale is quick to point out that it wasn't him that freed the passenger from his seatbelt. "The passenger tried to cut his own seatbelt first while the driver held the flashlight and the passenger's head above water," explained Dale. "We then piled items under the passenger's head to keep him afloat." Once the passenger's head was safely outside the water, Dale took a turn holding the flashlight. With both hands free, the driver was finally able to cut the belt.

The knife used to free the passenger was from a survival kit kept in Dale's truck. Dale explained that he purchased the kit a number of years ago with his own family's safety in mind. "You never know when you might need a flashlight to change a tire. But it's funny, I've had it for a while and never used it," he said jokingly.

The paramedics arrived just as he and the driver were able to get the other passenger to the roadside. Though the rescue only took moments, Dale is quite aware that the outcome could have been very different. "It was really a matter of being at the right place at the right time," he said.

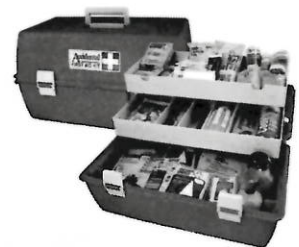
Dale's wife is also deserving of accolades for her important role in the rescue. She stayed on the phone and relayed important information about their location and the condition of the men until the ambulance arrived. She was prepared to jump in if needed.

After the accident, Dale and Leslie managed to continue on their journey back home. The driver and passenger are both well and back at home after receiving treatment at the Melfort Hospital.

The experience highlighted how you can never take good driving conditions for granted and that you always need to be prepared for the unexpected. "Up until that area, the roads were clear, but then it turned into a curling rink. When we left the accident scene, a few hundred yards down the road, it was good winter driving conditions again."

In addition to the survival kit, Dale now keeps a seatbelt cutter on his keychain – a valuable reminder of how things can change in the blink of an eye.

"You need to be able to take care of yourself out there because anything can happen."



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You're Never Too Old Santa's Face-to-Face Visit Lets All of Us Be Kids

The 29th annual Santa Face-to-Face Event for Children had SaskTel's elf crew busy and immersed in the kids' world for the whole morning in Regina.

The carefree days of childhood... that's a refrain we all hear at various times when we struggle with the complexities and contradictions of adult life. At times, we yearn for the carefree days of childhood. And at times, we can experience them again.

Don't believe me?! Just ask the 36 SaskTel employees and retirees who volunteered to help out at the 29th annual Santa Face-to-Face Event for Children With Disabilities at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Regina in December 2017. The event was hosted by SaskTel and the SaskTel Pioneers.

The event provides children with special needs with a safe, non-threatening environment where they enjoy a personal visit with Santa Claus and the undivided attention of a dedicated elf.

"Every year at this event we are lucky enough to be part of little Christmas miracles," says Hope McCheyne, the Chief Elf. "One little girl had seen Santa at the mall and was terrified of him. But, at our event, and with a dedicated elf at her side, she had a very happy visit with Santa. She was smiling, reaching out to him and even gave him a high five. Something scary and threatening became something happy and magical!"

This year, our last call for elves had such an amazing response that we were able to increase to 25 the number of children from schools in Regina who were able to be invited to visit Santa Claus, in person.

As the children arrived they were greeted by "elves," some of whom were seasoned veterans but many of whom were new in our polar workshop occupation. The elves led the kids to the "activity room" where we elves gave gift bags to the kids. The bags contained crayons, colouring books squishy rainbow caterpillars (that even light up) and possibly best of all... Play-Doh.

After mining the gift bags and playing some floor games like bean-bag tossing, we took the kids upstairs to Santa's Regina office where, after a warm greeting by Mrs. Claus (a.k.a. Phyllis Pearson), they got to meet Santa (a.k.a. Jim Goldie). After affirming that all the kids' names belonged in the "nice" column of the gift list, Santa led a sing-a-long to "Jingle Bells." Santa took the time to chat to each kid about their favorite things and the goings on up at the North Pole. He gave high fives and hugs to all the kids, said his goodbyes and gave each of the children a Hug-A-Bear.

The rest of the morning was filled with music and singing (thanks to elf guitarist, Burt Laird) and other activities. The Street CultureKidz showed up to paint faces. There were lots of tigers, kittens, bunnies, dogs, as well as the universally beloved Spidermen. It was the fun and joy that lifted their spirits and ours.

As it happens, the **Yorkton Pioneers held their very own Santa Face-to-Face event on Tuesday, 05 Dec 2017** at the Gallagher Centre in Yorkton. Thirteen volunteers, that included SaskTel employees and retirees and members of Yorkton's very own hockey team, the Yorkton Terriers, hosted a fun event for children with disabilities.

While the kids were grateful for a morning of fun, we volunteers were also grateful for the company of those kids This article is copied and edited from 'The Source' at SaskTel who reminded us of how to be kids again.

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Comfort and Joy SaskTel's Wish Angels Project an Important Part of Christmas

Santa poses with a student at Sacred Heart School in Regina.



**To see the results of SaskTel's Wish Angels project
is to experience pure joy.**

Santa's delivery of this year's gifts to Regina's Sacred Heart School occurred 18 Dec 2017. For many of the kids, that day was their Christmas.

"The reality is that not all of the students at our school will receive gifts outside of what they get here today," said Dave Magnusson, Sacred Heart's principal. "So, it really means so much to them."

"Watching the smiles and elation on the children's faces is a tribute to SaskTel's sense of community and to the generosity of its employees. We cannot thank them enough!"

The Wish Angel project is part of a partnership that the SaskTel Pioneers (Prairie Council Club & HAD Allen Life Member Club) have with Sacred Heart Community School and Kitchener Community School in Regina. Through the project, a Christmas gift is provided for Grades Pre-K to Grade 3 at the schools, including any special needs students.

A similar program also exists in Saskatoon, where gifts are supplied to Grade 4 and 5 students at Howard Coad and St Frances Elementary schools. Gifts are also provided for seven nursing homes.

"The schools have told us kids in Grades 4 and 5 at these schools are at higher risk of having moved around a lot, losing friends, and may not be getting a present at Christmas, so we concentrate the Wish Angels on them," said Dione Wall, Service Representative and President of the Bridge City Pioneers in Saskatoon.

"Doing it this way ensures all kids from Grades 1 – 5 receive something from the SaskTel Pioneers within the school year, since Grades 1 – 3 receive Pioneer Power Packs (a Pioneer program which collects school supplies and educational equipment thanks to donations from SaskTel employees).

Sandy Elliott is an Administrative Assistant who is the project coordinator for the Regina portion of Wish Angels. She's been a part of the program since 2000.

"Seeing the excitement on the face of kids is what keeps me coming back," said Sandy. "So much work goes into coordinating everything, but when we come here every year, it's definitely all worth it!"



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BEARing Their Heart! Couple Behind Teddy Bears Anonymous Has SaskTel Roots

Luke (l) and Jan Lawrence are responsible for Teddy Bears Anonymous, which gives cuddly companions to Saskatchewan children interacting with the health care system, and was a major benefactor of SaskTel's 2017 Comfort for Kids Challenge.

It is said that in both life and business, we must prioritize the issues that matter most: Family. Community.

While SaskTel is known for making a difference in the community, what may be lesser known is that very often it is our employees taking the lead.

Luke Lawrence is well-known throughout the SaskTel community both for his time as an employee and as the founder of Teddy Bears Anonymous. The province-wide charity gives cuddly companions to Saskatchewan children interacting with the health care system, and was a major benefactor of our 2017 Comfort for Kids Challenge.

For Luke, his journey as a community leader began back in 2008 after his daughter, Erin Lawrence, passed away from a rare form of gastric cancer known as Hereditary Diffuse Gastric Cancer (HDGC). In founding Teddy Bears Anonymous, Luke set out to change the hospital experience for children in Saskatchewan and weave in a sense of comfort and peace. Since then, he has dedicated countless hours to the love and support of kids. Never far from his side is his wife, Jan, who works as a great "behind the scenes" force for the charity. Luke and Jan are also both SaskTel retirees.

"Jan and I have always felt very blessed to have had the opportunity to work for and retire from SaskTel," said Luke. "SaskTel and SaskTel TelCare have supported Teddy Bears Anonymous since the charity became registered in 2011. We have been so grateful for this support in the past."

Since retiring from SaskTel, the charity has become a full-time job and labour of love for the couple. Their home is often lined with boxes of teddy bears ready to be shipped to different pediatric wards across Saskatchewan. It is also very much a family affair. His son, Jared, serves as Vice President, and his daughter-in-law Vicki contributes her business and organizational skills as Director for the charity.

A total of \$27,000 was raised for Teddy Bears Anonymous through the Comfort for Kids Challenge, resulting in the largest single donation the non-profit has ever received. A cheque was presented to the organization in November 2017 which will help with the purchase of over 6,700 safe and sterilized teddy bears. The bears will be distributed on an as needed basis to health regions throughout the province.

When recalling the November 30 event, Luke described the flurry of emotions behind the photographs. "We almost fell over! There are no words to describe our gratitude," said Luke.

"Who would have thought 42 years later that we would have this opportunity for "our" SaskTel to embrace us with such a gift? We were once again blessed by SaskTel in a different sort of way."

In Saskatchewan, our true wealth comes from giving. The Lawrence family has strived to make their province a better place and we are proud to support their dedicated service in the community. "Jan and I will always be indebted to SaskTel. Thank you to all the employees who donated and continue to support Teddy Bears Anonymous!"

From charity champions to community volunteers, SaskTel employees from across the province can often be found at the heart of ground breaking local initiatives. If you know a SaskTel employee that deserves recognition, contact us to share their story





Employees Help at Home Telcare Benefits Programming Right in Your Community

Margerie Sazon, Service Representative and Secretary of the Estevan District TelCare Committee, presents a cheque to Tania Hlohovsky Andrist of Envision Counsel-

The importance of giving back is engrained in the culture at SaskTel, and few programs show this better than SaskTel TelCare.

Now, over 65 years later, the program continues to foster its tradition of giving back to the community. Every year, SaskTel TelCare members in nine communities including Estevan, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, Weyburn and Yorkton select various charities in their district to support an initiative, program, or annual campaign. The money collected by each district stays within that district to support non-profits in those communities.

In 2017, TelCare members province-wide contributed over \$197,000 to caring organizations that share TelCare's goal of improving the lives of Saskatchewan people. And, for every employee dollar donated, SaskTel gives an additional 50 cents, making each employee's donation go just that much further. As a result, more than \$296,000 has been given to over 75 non-profits in 2017.

"As a TelCare member, I can say that it's incredibly rewarding to be able to see our donations at work," said Darrell Liebrecht, SaskTel' manager responsible for overseeing the TelCare program.
"For many employees, it's a great way to support their favourite charities year-round."

There are currently over 900 employees who contribute through TelCare. Darrell says it's a very convenient way to give back to the community. "Employees can have their contribution automatically deducted from every second pay cheque, adds Darrell. "And, easier still, all TelCare contributions are tax deductible and automatically appear in the Charitable Donations box on your T4 slip. So, you don't have to hunt for receipts at tax return season."

Province-wide, organizations are benefiting from the generosity of SaskTel employees. As one example, the Canadian Mental Health Association – Saskatchewan Division was one of the 23 charities voted on by the Regina & District TelCare membership to receive support.

TelCare's donation will support their **Healing through Humour program** which helps those living with mental illness use the power of humour to break down barriers and build self-esteem. The program teaches the art of comedy writing and stand-up performance and has done over 20 performances across the province since 2010. Program is lead by Ian Morrison.



Another recipient is **Envision Counselling & Support Centre Inc.** which received funding for their Family Support Program from the Estevan TelCare Chapter. The program, which serves the Weyburn and Estevan area, provides assistance for families experiencing an overwhelming situation or traumatic event.

Many families rely on the program to help get themselves and their young children to medical and other appointments in and around the community. TelCare's donation will help cover the costs of 24 new infant and child car seats as well as high chairs that can be used when the need arises.



"This goes right back to our clients," said Tania Hlohovsky Andrist, Resource Development Coordinator at Envision. Whether it's volunteering in the community or contributing funds to local programs, SaskTel employees have a long tradition of giving back to Saskatchewan that continued strong again this year.

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Curling? Si! Provincial Bonspiel Takes on Mexican Flavour

There was lots of curling and fun times (with a Mexican theme)

Mexico didn't have a curling team entered in this year's Olympics. Not on the women's side, not on the men's side, and not even in the mixed doubles category. In fact, it's safe to say the words 'curling' and 'Mexico' have rarely been used in a sentence together – until now that is.

This year's SaskTel Provincial Curling Bonspiel, which featured a Mexican theme, took place 16 & 17 Feb 2018 at Regina's Tartan Curling Club.

"Curling is one of the few sports you can play without a referee, and the camaraderie that goes with that makes it a perfect sport for an event such as this," said Lloyd Johnson, Solution Architect, who has been one of the bonspiel organizers since 1999.

This year's event featured teams from Regina, Saskatoon and Weyburn.

For the opening ceremonies, all teams were led into the rink by a piper and welcomed on behalf of SaskTel by Ben Ryan, Director – CSG & Carrier Relations.

The curling then began, with many teams getting into the spirit of things with Mexican attire.

OUR WINNERS:

- Cliff Walter rink took the Men's side
- Craig Offet and his crew won the Mixed side
- Trevor Kerr skipped the winners of the Open A side
- Lyndon Knutson's team won the Open B side.

There was also an epic battle between a team skipped by SaskTel's Acting President & CEO Doug Burnett and a team of UNIFOR union members skipped by Lyndsay Moorman. After the UNIFOR team came back from a big deficit to take the lead, the game came down to the last shot by Doug, which was so close that a measurement was required. Doug's team prevailed (by 10 millimeters!) to win the match.

Besides the curling, off-ice activities included a Friday night social (featuring a snack of tacos of course!) and a Saturday banquet.

"I've been fortunate to be a part of many of these and it's always surprising how much a game like curling can require some of the skills we use at SaskTel," said Lloyd. "Specifically, the teamwork that's needed and the communication between team members to produce an enthusiastic effort."



"The bonspiel is a great way to meet fellow employees we might not normally meet on a normal work day," he concluded. "The bonspiel continues to be a great way for co-workers to have a little fun outside of a work setting."

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Back to the Brier! Employee's Son Competing in Curling Championship

Wenda Moskowy hugs son Braeden in 2011 right after his rink captured the Junior Men's Nationals in Calgary.



As a child, it was hard to get young Braeden Moskowy out of the curling rink. Who could have known then that his dedication to the game would one day lead him to some of the highest heights of curling, including the 2018 Tim Horton's Brier? Well – possibly his mom Wenda for one!

"Braeden grew up watching curling as most of our family Curled at one time or another," said Wenda, who is Acting Director – Corporate Services (Asset Management). "He actually wanted to be a hockey goalie, but decided to take up curling competitively in Grade 9. That came as a bit of a shock as we had just purchased all new goaltender equipment for him!"



Braeden progressed quickly, and went on to some very impressive achievements in the curling world. He found success at the provincial level representing Saskatchewan at the Junior Men's Nationals twice. The second time (in 2011), he won the Junior Nationals in Calgary and went on to represent Canada at the World Championships in Scotland.

Braeden eventually played third with Brock Virtue when his rink represented Saskatchewan at the 2013 Brier. "I believe getting to that Brier fueled his desire to get back to the Brier in the future," said Wenda. After a few years in Men's leagues, Braeden made the commitment to play with Reid Carruthers, Derek Samagalski and Colin Hodgson, a rink based in Manitoba.

In 2015, Team Carruthers represented Manitoba in the Brier. This year, they make their return to the Brier, which will be held in Regina in March 2018. "The sport of curling has been good to Braeden," said Wenda. "Being able to share in these special moments, it just doesn't get better than this. To watch Braeden grow in a sport he loves and his dreams come true is so very special! I know this is a dream come true for him to play at a Brier in Regina.

Speaking of cheering, do we even need to ask which rink Wenda will be rooting for?

"Obviously I am a Saskatchewan girl born and raised so when Saskatchewan is not playing Manitoba, I will be cheering for them!" said Wenda. At this Regina Brier, there is no doubt I will be wearing Manitoba colors and cheering on Team Carruthers!"



Team Manitoba with Braeden Moskowy (2nd from l).

SaskTel's Gold Sponsor status included various forms of name recognition for this major event, including on the event's website and other promotional material.

"Being able to share and create memories with your kids is a great feeling," she said. "I hope the years ahead allow us to continue to watch Braeden curl as we thoroughly enjoy it."

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Saltcoats to Scotland Pioneers Support Student Paper

Bob Hume (2nd from l) and Darrell Liebrecht (3rd from r) present a cheque to the students at Saltcoats School on behalf of the SaskTel Pioneers.



This is a story about a tradition.

The beautiful thing about traditions is the notion they will be passed down to new generations.

Such a tradition exists at a school in a Saskatchewan community where a newspaper has been produced for almost 50 years.

If you live in the communities of Saltcoats and Bredenbury, you're probably aware of the Gazette, a newsletter style paper that's published twice a month. You're probably also aware that the paper is produced by grade 5 and 6 students.

"The Gazette has been running since 1971," said Crystal Farquharson, a teacher at Saltcoats School who helps to edit the paper. "It began (and remains) a way for these students to raise funds for a class camping trip."

The students help to put the stories together on computer. Photocopies are made and the issues are stapled together. The finished product is then delivered to subscribers. Currently, 150 copies are made for each issue. While the majority of papers are delivered locally, a few are mailed out to farther locations, including to a subscriber as far away as Scotland!

"Working on the paper is so beneficial for the students," said Crystal. "It shows them the power of words and how they can affect people positively. It also teaches responsibility, and allows the kids to connect with the community when they deliver the papers and chat with subscribers. People always look forward to receiving the Gazette!" One avid Gazette subscriber is SaskTel retiree Bob Hume. When the SaskTel Pioneers were looking for worthy causes to support recently, Bob suggested the paper would be a great cause.

"The Pioneers are always looking to support the youth of our province and educational causes," said Pioneer Manager Darrell Liebrecht. "Bob brought this great story to our attention, and we made a decision to support the Gazette with a financial donation."

By doing so, the Pioneers not only help with the costs associated with the paper, but also assist in the fundraising for the students' camping trip. The camping trip usually occurs in September, allowing the students to get to know each other and to create a great learning environment with teachers that lasts throughout the year.

"We are very appreciative for the Pioneers' support," said Crystal. "It really helps to keep the paper alive and takes the stress off of raising funds for the paper. It will help to ensure the tradition of the Gazette lives on long after the latest students have moved on."



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A Little Heart & Sole Employees Organize Sock Drive for Saskatoon Homeless Shelters

Lindee Richards is pictured with donation boxes collected from SaskTel Stores and the Warehouse in Saskatoon.

There's nothing worse than cold feet. And, as any true Saskatchewanian will tell you, having a warm pair of socks on your feet can make life a little easier when heading out on those cold, blistery days on the prairies.

Unfortunately, for Saskatchewan's homeless and at-risk population, the cold, hard reality is that many don't have sufficient access to this staple of basic care. New, unused personal clothing items like socks and underwear are rarely donated to shelters and can be a challenge to keep in stock for clients. When cold spells go on for weeks, it can become even more difficult for shelters to keep up with the needs of the community.

After witnessing a homeless man without socks on his feet during a particularly cold January day, Lindee Richards, a Service Manager at Saskatoon's Customer Support Centre, knew that she needed to do something to help.

"There are people in our community that are braving the elements without the basics like hats, scarfs and gloves," Lindee explained. "Socks are something that we often take for granted, but for someone who is in need or without a home, it can make a big difference."

Lindee reached out to other team members at the Customer Support Centre to discuss the idea of putting together a sock drive for homeless shelters and safe havens in the community. The idea quickly took off and, with help from Clerical Associate Sherri Korol, Stonebridge Store Manager Carla Cowley and Warehouse Manager Kim Valen, employee donation boxes were set up at the Customer Support Centre as well as at the Saskatoon Warehouse and both Saskatoon SaskTel Store locations.

The Valentine-themed "Warm Feet, Happy Hearts" donation drive kicked off in early February. Employees were encouraged to bring in new socks for men, women and kids in any size, make or material, but thick cotton or wool socks were at the top of the wish list as they provide the best insulation during the cold winter months. By mid-February, all the boxes were filled and brought back to the Customer Support Centre where they were sorted by employees. In all, a total of 2,046 pairs of socks were collected!

On 26 Feb 2018, Lindee Richards and Service Manager Sarah Lewko filled up their cars and drove to Saskatoon's Lighthouse, Larson House, Interval House, and Food Bank to drop off the much-welcomed donations. "One small idea blossomed into something so amazing! The need for socks was so apparent and the Food Bank manager was overwhelmed with gratitude when she saw the amount of socks we brought!" Lindee said.

At Saskatoon Interval House, the donation will go a long way in providing comfort to the women and children in their care. Tanya Wiggins, Executive Director at Saskatoon Interval House, explained that many women and their children arrive at the home without any personal belongings so it's important to make them feel comfortable and at ease once at the shelter.



"When families arrive, we do all we can to make them feel welcome and comfortable. Warm cozy socks aide in that comfort, I mean who doesn't love the feel of a new pair of socks! Your donation truly makes a difference in ensuring warmth and comfort to our families. Thank you once again!"

This year's inaugural sock drive helped to raise awareness about the challenges faced by Saskatchewan's most vulnerable and the organizations that are there to help them. Thanks to the incredible generosity of Saskatoon employees, many happy feet will be kept warm, dry and protected over the coming months and seasons.

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The Hall Comes Calling SaskTel Employee Honoured for His Contributions to the Sport of Wheelchair Rugby in Canada

Alan Semeniuk (front, right) and other members of the 2002 Canadian National Wheelchair Rugby team recently became inaugural inductees into the Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Hall of Fame.

SaskTel's Allan Semeniuk recently received recognition that was more impactful than any hit he ever delivered as a member of the Canadian National Wheelchair Rugby team.

Allan and his teammates from the 2002 national team were among the inaugural inductees into the Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Hall of Fame. The Hall recognizes the achievements of individuals who have made significant contributions to wheelchair rugby in Canada since the sport was invented in 1977. The team's place in history was forever immortalized as part of a special gala in Ottawa on 16 Dec 2017.

"It is an honour to be one of the first inductees into the Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Hall of Fame," said Allan, Technical Assistant in Saskatoon. "I feel fortunate to have been a member of Team Canada, and to have been involved with 'Murderball,' at a time when the game was first showcased to the world in the hopes of being included as a Paralympic sport. Known today as wheelchair rugby, the sport will always hold a special place in my heart."

Allan's induction into the Hall is the latest – and perhaps greatest – milestone in a more than 20-year career that featured success at the provincial, national and international level.

He first hit the hardwood in 1987 as a member of Saskatchewan's SaskSquash wheelchair rugby team. He would bring his talent and competitive fire to the Canadian National Wheelchair Rugby team a year later. His achievements during that time speak for themselves. Five consecutive national championships, a Paralympic silver medal and countless all-star team selections.

However, the defining moment of his sports career came in 2002. Allan and his teammates defeated a heavily favoured American squad to capture Canada's first – and only – Wheelchair Rugby World Championship. He says it is a special feeling to be honoured all these years later for such an important sporting achievement.

"The 2002 World Championships in Sweden were the highlight of my wheelchair rugby career. It was the first time any team had ever defeated the Americans in international competition," he said. "To be forever etched in history as a gold medal champion, and to be inducted into the Hall of Fame for those efforts, is the greatest accomplishment an athlete could ever achieve."

Allan officially retired from the sport in 2006. In addition to his recent induction, he has been enshrined in both the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame and the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame. He says his success can be attributed to the many people who gave him the strength to carry on with the sport.

"I had a great support system in place. My wife, family and friends were always there for me, cheering me on every step of the way," he said. "I also benefitted greatly from the support of my work family. Whether it was sponsorships, a flexible work schedule or the willingness of my co-workers to help with my workload while I was away, SaskTel, and its people, provided me with the opportunity to compete at a very high level for many years. That means the world to me and I couldn't have done it without you."



DID YOU . . .

..... ever think about



How such a tragic accident impacts so many people !!

Incredible display of Human Kindness as we all struggled with their grief. People across Canada and USA opened up their hearts and wallets.

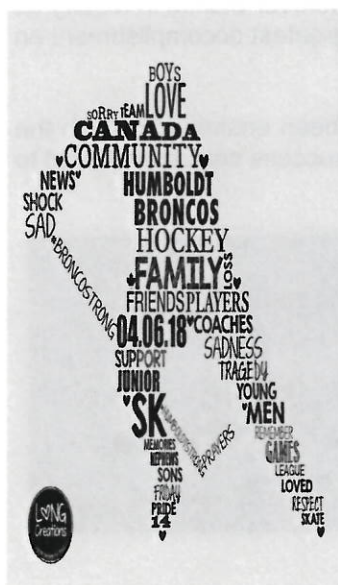


The **Humboldt Broncos bus crash** occurred on April 6, 2018. The coach bus collided with a semi-trailer truck near Armley, Sask., killing 16 people and injuring 13. The bus was carrying members of the Humboldt Broncos, an ice hockey team that plays in the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League (SJHL), as well as coaches and others associated with the team. They were travelling to Nipawin, Sask. to play game five of their playoff series with the Nipawin Hawks when the accident occurred.

This tragic accident will have major long term impacts to so many people. The families, friends and communities and especially to the emergency response team from the accident site—to the hospitals. There were so many agencies and people involved all doing whatever they had to do. There was an influx of patients that required a lot of coordination. Logistics had to be coordinated in a day and a half (food, counselling support, media relations, Sunday prayer Vigil—such a short deadline and pressure).

Tributes to the victims were honored such as:

- #PutYourSticksOut—leaving their hockey sticks out on their front porches
- #JerseysForHumboldt—people across Canada encouraged to wear sports jerseys
- Yellow and Green Ribbons were worn by thousands of supporters
- Memorials organized in the three provinces—Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba
- NHL teams wore the names 'Broncos' on their hockey jerseys
- Fundraisers were set up by various groups
- Hotels, restaurants, churches and friends opening up their business and homes for free
- Condolences and support poured in from world leaders, national sports teams, musicians and celebrities. Four members of the 1986 Swift Current Broncos team were there to offer their support as they experienced this same tragedy—4 of their members were killed in a bus accident in 1986). Major Increase in blood donors and number of people signing up to Gift Of Life Program —organ donations.



But most astonishing was the **'GoFundMe'** that was initiated by Humboldt resident **Sylvie Kellington** within hours of the collision to support victims and their families. Over \$1 million dollars was raised within 24 hours and \$4 million by the next day.

As of April 18, it surpassed **\$15 million dollars** making it Canada's largest GoFundMe campaign and the third largest in the history of the site.

SASKTEL and SASKTEL EMPLOYEES DONATED \$60,000 towards the Humboldt Broncos GoFundMe campaign. The money was raised by a province-wide Jersey/Casual Dress Day held on Thursday April 12th. SaskTel matched employee contributions.

Our deepest sympathy to all the families and friends affected by this tragedy.

We pray for strength and comfort as you cope with this unimaginable loss.

We encourage everyone affected by this tragic accident to seek counselling available.

