



# SPARKS OFF THE ANVIL<sup>®</sup>



Newsletter Of The Saskatchewan Western Development Museum

January - March 2014 Volume 38, Edition 1

Editors: Corinne Daelick & Kristine Flynn

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT *By Joan Champ*

So much has changed in the world since the Western Development Museum began serving as the keeper of Saskatchewan's collective heritage more than 65 years ago. When it was officially created in 1949 by provincial legislation, the WDM was inspired in part by the need to preserve large numbers of abandoned farm machinery before it was scavenged for scrap metal recycling during the Second World War. Can you imagine how different the Museum would look if it were founded today?

Like most organizations, the WDM is affected by both global and regional trends, as well as by changes within our own organization. External trends include changing demographics (aging population, influx of newcomers to Saskatchewan, growing First Nations and Métis populations), and new technologies.

Within the Museum, collecting is evolving as we seek artifacts that reflect the culture, social life, economy and innovation of post-Second World War Saskatchewan, particularly during the 1950s, 1960s and beyond. Other recent changes at the WDM include communications strategies, such as emailing of event invitations and this newsletter, and increasing staff diversity, including a multi-generational staff mix (Boomers, Gen Xers, Gen Yers).

With the pace of change accelerating, how will the WDM look even a decade from now? As with most things in life, it is our response to change that is crucial. As Mark Twain once said, "I'm all for progress. It's change I object to."

The key to the WDM's success rests in its people – especially as we navigate, and adapt to changes at the Museum. More than ever, we need to work together collaboratively – with our communities, our partners and supporters, our members, our volunteers, and our staff.

Thanks to all of those people, the WDM is having a great year in



Western Development Museum

Built by Draganfly Innovations of Saskatoon, this remote-controlled unmanned aerial vehicle reflects the WDM's interest in artifacts from both present and past.

*WDM Photo*

this, the 2013-2014 fiscal year. People are visiting and supporting the Museum in droves, and our staff and volunteers are working really hard to keep the Museum vibrant and exciting. As a result, our attendance has increased; we have opened exciting new permanent and travelling exhibits throughout the system; we have forged some terrific new partnerships; more and more new Canadians are visiting the four WDMs; and, I am pleased to inform you, the WDM is in a good financial position. Status quo budget allocations from the province may continue, but, armed with our business plan, we are implementing a number of new initiatives designed not only to save money, but to generate more revenue in order to keep the Museum progressive, sustainable, and thriving.

## CURATORIAL CENTRE STAFF CHANGES



Kathy Furtney  
*Ruth Bitner Photo*

In December 2013, the WDM bid farewell to Katherine Furtney. Over 38 years with the Museum, Kathy evolved from Secretary to Administrative Assistant to Director of Administration. She attended over 140 WDM Board meetings, looked after HR, assisted with accounting functions, provided IT support for staff, and served as a liaison between the Curatorial Centre and the four Museums. Her patience, intelligence, and humour will be greatly missed.



Roxanne Enns  
*WDM Photo*

We are happy to have Roxanne Enns stepping in as the WDM's new Director of Administration. Her warmth and good humour have already helped to brighten the halls. Roxanne grew up in Rose Valley, SK. She has experience as an accountant and office manager, as well as working as a consultant and instructor for the accounting software currently used by the Museum. Roxanne has two sons and lives with her husband near Martensville, SK.



# YORKTON WDM

By Carla Madsen, Education/Special Events Programmer

Happy New Year! We extend our best wishes for a happy and healthy year ahead and look forward to seeing you at the Yorkton WDM in 2014.

Once again the **Celebrate Christmas Past** program was a great success as 861 students shared in the fun and excitement of an old-fashioned Christmas. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers and staff, the children enjoyed a wagon ride, gallery scavenger hunt, craft session and snack while visiting, plus took home a goody bag and wooden ornament as a souvenir. Bouquets of appreciation go to the *Yorkton Threshermen's Club*, *Museum Explainers Group*, local retired teachers and the *Yorkton Antique Auto Association*.

The anticipation of his arrival had been building and now he is finally here! Who are we referring to? **Omāciw - Hunter of the Prairie Sea!** This fascinating travelling exhibit from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum will be on display at the Yorkton WDM until mid-May. An exhibit opening was held on December 19 with greetings delivered by dignitaries and the RSM. We look forward to offering an exhibit that is something "out of the ordinary" for our Museum.

**Heritage Day** will be celebrated on Sunday, February 16. *Heritage Canada The National Trust* has chosen the theme of "Have Fun with Heritage:

Historic Places Made for Play." Annual partners in this event include the *City of Yorkton* historian and *Heritage Advisory Sub-Commission*, as well as the *Yorkton Chapter of the Saskatchewan Genealogy Society*. The event runs from 2-5 pm and everyone is welcome to join us.

The *Yorkton Threshermen's Club* has resumed its regular meetings held on the second Saturday of each month. The Club is looking forward to this year's **Threshermen's Show and Seniors' Festival** on August 2 & 3, and welcomes new members who would like to assist in their efforts to preserve and demonstrate techniques from the past. For further information, contact the Museum at 306-783-8361.

Members of the *York Colony Quilters Guild* have returned from their holiday break for weekly meetings each Wednesday beginning at 10 am. Technique sessions and workshops are held throughout the year with time devoted each week for discussions on personal projects. Novice and experienced quilters alike are invited to join and can call Sally Sibley at 306-782-2277 for further details about the group's activities.

The Yorkton WDM galleries and gift shop are open Tuesday to Friday, 9 am-5 pm, and weekends from 12-5 pm. We are closed on Mondays from January through March and on statutory holidays.

## SASKATOON WDM

By Scott Whiting, Education/Public Programs Coordinator

The holiday season has come and gone, and once again we wish to thank our visitors, members, volunteers and staff who made the Shaw Toy Tree drive a resounding success. More than 600 new toys were donated this year to bring some Christmas joy to less fortunate children in Saskatoon. The number of toys collected this year was up a remarkable 50% from last year.

Thanks to our volunteers and staff who put in so much hard work to deliver our Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 3 Christmas programs and for their help with the City Hospital Foundation's **Festival of Trees**. Thousands of visitors passed through our doors to take part in these wonderful holiday events.

For the second year, the WDM is offering the Grade 7 **Smarter Science Better Buildings** program. The public is invited to an open house on January 28 from 2:30-4:45 pm. This is an opportunity for visitors to get a close-up look at the program components and learn about sustainable housing.

**Wheels and Runners**, our popular Grade 2 transportation program, is once again being offered from January through mid-May. In this program, children discover how transportation has changed our communities from the days of horse-power to modern vehicles. Grade 2 teachers are invited to register their classes for this program.

Once again, the Saskatoon WDM will be host to the **Heritage Festival of Saskatoon**. The 26th iteration of this annual Festival will be held on Sunday, February 2 from 12-5 pm. This year's theme is *Bridge Mixture: Who Do You Think We Were?*, exploring the rich history of Saskatoon through heritage and multicultural themed displays and interactive exhibits. For more information, please visit [www.heritagefestivalofsaskatoon.com](http://www.heritagefestivalofsaskatoon.com).

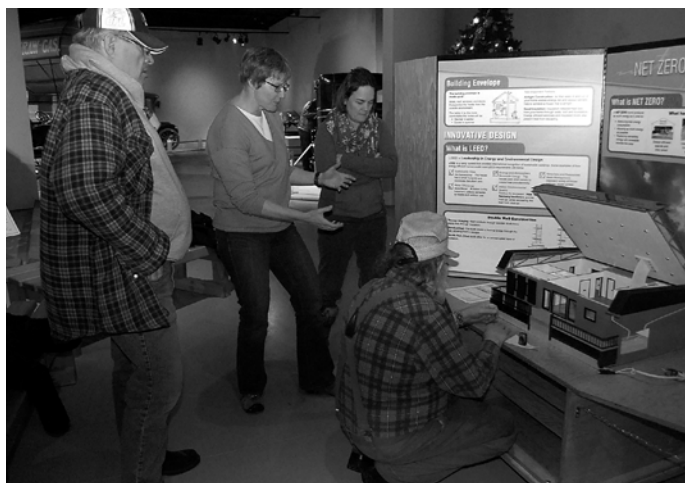
Community partnerships help enhance what the WDM can offer to our patrons. One example is the **All Aboard 2014 Model Train Show** which takes place February 22 & 23. This is the 30th year for this event which is put on by Prairie Rail Workshop. There will be an amazing array of model train layouts on display. For more information on this event, please contact Prairie Rail at [allaboartrainshow@gmail.com](mailto:allaboartrainshow@gmail.com).

Looking for something to do with the kids during the February school break week? Why not visit the Saskatoon WDM where each afternoon from February 18-21, you will find museum volunteers in 1910 period costume and a variety of pioneer demonstrations. If it is not too cold, our volunteers with the *Saskatchewan Pleasure Driving Association* will be on hand to provide sleigh rides.

For January, February and March, our Museum hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 9 am-5 pm.



## SMARTER SCIENCE BETTER BUILDINGS



WDM volunteers and SES staff put the finishing touches on the workstations for the Smarter Science Better Buildings program.

WDM Photo, Julie Jackson

The WDM has partnered with the Saskatchewan Environmental Society (SES) to offer a program for Grade 7 students entitled, **Smarter Science Better Buildings**. This program was first offered at the Saskatoon WDM in February 2013. We are now proud to offer it at all WDM locations. The program deals with the theme of energy efficient homes, past and present. The public is invited to learn more about this program at public open houses. Explore workstations designed around water conservation, efficient lighting, home retrofits, solar heating, building materials as well as a model of a net-zero home.

**Public Open Houses** will be held as follows:

- Saskatoon WDM – January 28
- Moose Jaw WDM – April 2
- North Battleford WDM – May 9
- Yorkton WDM – Coming in October

Thank you to the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, VerEco Homes and Sunridge Group for their dedication to this project.

# NORTH BATTLEFORD WDM

By Cheryl Stewart-Rahm, Education and Volunteer Coordinator

All of us at the North Battleford Western Development Museum are bringing in the New Year with confidence and excitement of a bright and successful season!

We have some exciting new additions coming up in 2014. Visitors will see changes as we renovate our indoor gallery space. We are also pleased to offer new programs and travelling exhibits. Coming this spring is the **Smarter Science Better Buildings** program for Grade 7. The public is invited to learn what this program is about at an open house on May 9. Grade 7 Teachers: Look for information coming soon about this great new program.

Visiting from the *Royal Saskatchewan Museum*, we will have two exhibits coming in June: a replica skull of **Scotty, the Tyrannosaurus Rex** found near Eastend, SK and **Omācīw - Hunter of the Prairie Sea**. Omācīw, is a replica of a Tylosaurus that lived around 70 million years ago. We look forward to welcoming these prehistoric guests to the North Battleford WDM.

Don't forget about our **Great Escapes Vacation Lottery**. There are still 11 draws to be made! Tickets are only \$100.00 each with only 500 tickets to be sold. 100% of net proceeds will be used for restoration of the North Battleford WDM Heritage Village buildings. Tickets can be purchased at the North Battleford WDM.

If you are a fan of cowboy poetry then mark March 8 on your calendar as our popular **Cowboy Poetry** event returns for another year. This fun-filled evening begins with cocktails at 5:30 pm, followed by a roast beef supper at 6 pm. Advanced tickets are only \$30.00 each. Please call the Museum to get your tickets or for more information.

**Blues & Brews** will be back for another year. Join us on April 12 for good times, music, food and great company. See the next issue of *Sparks* and our website for more details.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our 2013 sponsors, members and volunteers. We appreciate your generosity and look forward to your continued support in the upcoming year.

## ARTIFACT DONORS

Recently, the WDM received donations of artifacts from:

Elizabeth Brant - Saskatoon  
Thom Cholowski - Saskatoon  
Corinne Daelick - Martensville  
Carol Jahren - Saskatoon  
Sigrid Kirmse - Saskatoon  
Mine Supply Company - Saskatoon  
Bill Pritchard - Moose Jaw  
Saskatoon Funeral Home - Saskatoon  
Valerie Sheppard - Saskatoon  
Jane Sullivan - Saskatoon  
Dale Wruck - Saskatoon

## WDM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ken Azzopardi, Chair – Regina  
Diana Ireland – Moose Jaw  
Kevin Kurulak – Biggar  
Susan Lamb – Saskatoon  
Dennis Naphin – Yorkton  
Raymond Sadler – Biggar  
Dave Whitehead – North Battleford

# MOOSE JAW WDM

By Jackie Hall, Program/Education Officer

Happy New Year! Thank you to our volunteers and staff who helped with our successful Christmas events, **Kids' Secret Shopping Day**, *the Girl Guides' Breakfast with Mrs. Claus* and **Shortwave to Santa** with the *Moose Jaw Amateur Radio Club*. We also hosted a number of Children's Corporate Christmas Parties and Kindergarten classes who had the opportunity to learn about the festive season.

The New Year is an excellent time to reflect on how much has been accomplished in 2013 and to look forward to the coming year. The Moose Jaw steam volunteers have completed the repairs to one coach and are about to start on the second. The Vintage Aircraft Restorers are one year closer to completing the Vickers Vedette replica. The Vedette will be a huge addition to the aircraft collection in Moose Jaw. We thank these groups for their efforts in preserving the history of transportation.

The Moose Jaw Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club is offering a workshop this winter, **Model Railroading 101**. Each Saturday from January 18 through February 1, participants will learn the basics of model railroading and take home a 30cm by 45cm diorama. Pre-registration is required.

Come celebrate Canadian history at the Moose Jaw WDM during our **Heritage Day** event on February 8. John Diefenbaker impersonator, Neil Mallard, will be showcasing memorabilia and sharing stories about the only Prime Minister raised in Saskatchewan. Moose Jaw historian, educator and author, Bill Heselton, will also be on-hand to share his knowledge about the history of transportation.

Grade 7 Teachers: Look for information coming soon about the **Smarter Science Better Buildings** program. Designed to accompany the Heat and Temperature unit in Grade 7 Science, this program will educate students about designing energy efficient and sustainable buildings. The program will be offered at the Moose Jaw WDM from April 1-17. A public open house will be held on April 2 for those who would like to learn more about the program.

Don't forget to stop by to visit Big Bert, a travelling exhibit from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Big Bert is an impressive replica of an ancient crocodile that lived around 92 million years ago. This interactive display will be at the Moose Jaw WDM until mid-March.

Our galleries and gift shop are open Tuesday to Sunday, 9 am-5 pm. We are closed Mondays from January through March.

WE'RE  
TURNING  
65!



To help celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Western Development Museum, we encourage you to visit your local WDM this year. If you are celebrating your 65th birthday in 2014, we will give you free admission on your birth date, as well as a birthday present from the Museum! On April 6, 2014 (the Sunday after the actual anniversary date of April 2), admission to the four WDMs will be only 65 cents. We have so many achievements to celebrate and so much to look forward to. Thank you for supporting the Museum in the past, present, and future!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MOOSE JAW WDM

Open Tuesday to Sunday 9 am-5 pm  
 CLOSED Mondays January - March  
 Shop at the *Museum Gift Shop*  
 Call 306-693-5989 for information

Oct. 2013 – March **Big Bert** travelling exhibit from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum  
 February 8 **Heritage Day**  
 March 22 – 23 **Thunder Creek Model Train Show**  
 April 2 **Smarter Science Better Buildings**  
 Open House  
 April 6 **65th Anniversary Celebration**

## NORTH BATTLEFORD WDM

Open Tuesday to Sunday 9 am-5 pm  
 CLOSED Mondays January - March  
 Shop at *The Loft*  
 Call 306-445-8033 for information

March 8 **Cowboy Poetry**  
 April 6 **65th Anniversary Celebration**  
 April 12 **Blues & Brews**  
 May 9 **Smarter Science Better Buildings**  
 Open House  
 June – October **Omāciw: Hunter of the Prairie Sea** and **Scotty's Skull** travelling exhibits from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum

## SASKATOON WDM

Open Tuesday to Sunday 9 am-5 pm  
 CLOSED Mondays January - March  
 Enjoy the *Boomtown Café* Daily specials weekdays  
 Shop at the *Museum Store*  
 Call 306-931-1910 for information

January 28 **Smarter Science Better Buildings**  
 Open House 2:30-4:45 pm  
 February 2 **Heritage Festival of Saskatoon** 12-5 pm  
 February 18 – 21 **School Break Week programming** 1-3 pm  
 February 22 – 23 **All Aboard 2014 Model Train Show**  
 April 6 **65th Anniversary Celebration**  
 April 12 **Pioneer Threshermen's Club Flea Market**

## YORKTON WDM

Open Tuesday to Friday 9 am-5 pm, weekends 12-5 pm  
 CLOSED Mondays January - March  
 Shop at the *Museum Gift Shop*  
 Call 306-783-8361 for information

Dec. 2013 – May **Omāciw: Hunter of the Prairie Sea** travelling exhibit from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum  
 February 16 **Heritage Day** 2-5 pm  
 April 6 **65th Anniversary Celebration**

# NEW MEMBERS

*New members joining the Museum are:*

Julie Barilla - Saskatoon	Barry & Jeannie Loewen - Osler
Nichole Berezowski - Saskatoon	Brian & Samantha Loewen - Saskatoon
Kara & Kevin Broks - Saskatoon	Darrell & Darlene Loewen - Martensville
Xeing Bronson - Moose Jaw	Steven Loewen - Martensville
Frederick M. Bull - Saskatoon	Rob & Erin Loomer - Saskatoon
Julie & Keith Carey - Saskatoon	Leona & Chris Lortie - Saskatoon
Carl & Carolyn Carduner - Saskatoon	Lorien & Craig Lowenberg - Saskatoon
Carl & Helga Christensen - Saskatoon	Jennifer & Stephen Lyster - Saskatoon
Barb & Lynne Clay - Saskatoon	Jennie Mah - Saskatoon
Kaelee Corcoran & Devin Koenig - Saskatoon	Manas Mambetsadykov - Saskatoon
Tobey Corcoran & Matt Purdy - Saskatoon	Jamie Mamer - Hanley
Costermans - Saskatoon	Heather & Eric Micheels - Saskatoon
Lee Craik - Saskatoon	Don & Dolores McCartney - Saskatoon
Al & Glenda Doerksen - Saskatoon	Jana & Gloria McKay - Biggar
Rachel & Zach Drew - Saskatoon	Barbara & Jill Nadon - Saskatoon
Danielle & Shawn Dukart - Saskatoon	Tracey Neustaeter - Wymark
Tammy Evans - Camduff	Wendy & Dean Nystuen - Saskatoon
Terrell Fisher - Saskatoon	Crystal Peters - Kinley
Darren & Susan Ford - Saskatoon	John Phillips & Sharon Janzen Phillips - Saskatoon
Beth Fuentes - Saskatoon	Karen & Bernie Pidskalny - Saskatoon
Carey Gilmore & Trevor Ross - Saskatoon	Neil Poncelet - Meacham
Angela & Brett Graham - Saskatoon	Amanda & Brad Pottle - Clavet
Tara & Jason Goodwin - Saskatoon	Sharon & Guy Poncelet - Saskatoon
Trina & Mike Gust - Saskatoon	Kate Renneberg & Mel Coutts - Saskatoon
Sheldon & Melissa Hart - Saskatoon	Julie Rodomsky Bradfreed - Saskatoon
Hanson/Pastor - Saskatoon	Caryn & Jonathan Rogowski - Saskatoon
Terry Heckman & Kim DeLaforest - Saskatoon	Glenn Ross - Saskatoon
Kevin & Sarah Heit - Saskatoon	Arnold & Evelyn Schellenberg - Nipawin
Conrad & Anna Herman - Saskatoon	Karen & Dale Schmidt - Saskatoon
Marlene Hoknes - Saskatoon	Tamara & Daniel Selvig - Waldheim
Christina & David Hughes - Regina	Jenna & Darcy Shenher - Saskatoon
Michelle Hunt & Brendan Aubin - Saskatoon	Shalla & Troy Shular - Saskatoon
Robert Thomas Hunter - Saskatoon	Chelsea Suit-Thomas - Saskatoon
Matt & Erin Ingrouille - Saskatoon	Tara & Carey Tait - Saskatoon
Grady & Lana Janzen - Saskatoon	Melissa & Todd Threlfall - Saskatoon
Heidi Jepsen & Chris Simister - Saskatoon	Jim & Rosella Tucker - Outlook
Marian Kalenikoff & Lloyd Haight - Saskatoon	Lindsay & Brendan Tumback - Saskatoon
Gailene Klein - Saskatoon	Darcy & Jade Usselman - Saskatoon
Sara Knowles - Saskatoon	Amar & Maxine Vasani - Warman
Linda & Paul Labelle - Saskatoon	Josh Vrinten & Jen Blocka - Saskatoon
Julie & Christian Labrecque - Saskatoon	Dawn & Rudy Wiebe - Saskatoon
Shannon & Dan LePage - Saskatoon	Branko Zdravkovic - Saskatoon
Alisha Lilley - Saskatoon	
Anne & Wilf Loewen - Warman	

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