



Defining Challenges

Connecting Ideas

Delivering Results



Saskatchewan
Parks and Recreation
Association

2013-14 Annual Report

ABOUT SPRA

Read more about the many programs and services we offer and how through commitment and collaboration, SPRA supports the network that builds quality of life in Saskatchewan communities.

Organization Vision

SPRA is the recognized leader for the wellbeing of people and communities through recreation.

Mission

SPRA provides leadership, facilitation, programs and services to enhance the impact of recreation for the quality of life in Saskatchewan.

Roles

Our roles include Training and Education, Advocacy, Funding, Information Management, Research and Networking.



SPRA's Board of Directors

Back Row – left to right

Mike Powell, President
Jasmine Jackman - Director for Cities
Clive Craig - Director for Villages
Dawna Nielson - Director at Large
Coralie Bueckert - Director at Large
TJ Biemans - Director for the North

Front Row – left to right

Guyline Green - Director for Towns
Corrine Galarneau - Director at Large
Mimi Lodoen - Director at Large

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO

2013-14 was an important year for SPRA. The signing of the new five year Lottery License Agreement, the approval of the organization's five year Strategic Plan and the continued work on the development of the National and Provincial Recreation Frameworks were significant events that will impact the organization and the sector into the future.

The signing of the new Lottery License provides ongoing sustainability and stability for the over 12,000 beneficiary groups that are part of the sport, culture and recreation network. It also provides a re-affirmation of the government's commitment and recognition that Sask Lotteries is an extensive and efficient volunteer and community driven network. The programs and services it supports provides quality and safe recreation environments, supports healthy and active lifestyles, is inclusive, builds leaders for tomorrow and improves quality of life in communities throughout the province. It is part of the Saskatchewan advantage and is a system that is admired across the country.

The new 2014-19 SPRA Strategic Plan provides a solid foundation on which the organization can move forward. Based on a planning model that recognizes the important role and the synergies that exist between SPRA, the service providers at the provincial and community level, the delivery network and society as a whole, the Plan provides long term and intermediate outcomes that will help address some of the challenges being faced by our members. The Plan will also be well aligned with the Provincial and National Recreation Frameworks that are currently in the development stages.

The alignment of the National, Provincial and SPRA Recreation Frameworks are of significant importance and will help the field

move forward in a unified and collaborative manner. The recreation sector must take steps to play a larger and more significant role in addressing some of the challenges that are facing us in Saskatchewan and across the country. Sedentary living, rising obesity rates, social and geographic isolation, deteriorating infrastructure, the changing face of volunteerism and the changing face of our populations are challenges that SPRA and the recreation sector have increasing potential to address.

We must be more assertive and aggressive in showing how recreation can play a significant role in addressing many of these challenges that confront us. The field has a broad reach and can act as a bridge builder by bringing together the numerous stakeholders that play a role in improving the quality of life in the province. It is time for us as a sector to recognize our potential and to show decision makers that recreation is necessary to the wellbeing of our communities and that we should be an equal partner in the human services dialogue. We are comprised of highly trained and competent professionals and volunteers and are an integral component of the Province's Growth Strategy.

SPRA will continue to work with our members and our partners to find ways to draw on the existing strengths of the sector, while transforming it so it has increased relevance to communities and decision makers. It will take time, effort and determination to meet our objectives; however, we are solidly anchored by a strong membership, dedicated staff and passionate volunteers. At times, our road may be windy and bumpy but we will travel down it confident that we share our path not only with each other in the province, but with our colleagues across the country.



FROM THE FIELD

SPRA Field Consultants live and work across the province. Field Consultants are dedicated to working with and supporting members and communities to reach their recreational goals.



What Do Field Consultants Do For You?

After three plus years of existence, the Field Services Division continues to evolve to meet the needs of the SPRA members and of the sector.

SPRA Field Consultants:

- Assist your community in assessing needs
- Provide information on SPRA funding, programs and resources
- Identify linkages to other sources of funding and revenue generation
- Streamline information relevant to the sector
- Assist with networking, collaborations and partnerships
- Advocate on behalf of parks and recreation
- Share information and act as a resource for SPRA's provincial priorities

“ It was a great day to meet with you and I am excited for the partnership and promotion of each other's organizations ”

– Holly Stevens, Saskatchewan Physical Education Association

Highlights from the Field

Service Excellence Program

8 out of the 12 communities and organizations participating in the Service Excellence Program completed its pilot phase. Pilot communities engaged in a self-directed evaluation of their parks and recreation delivery processes which helped them analyze and refine their programs and services, building excellence in the areas of programs, parks, facilities, community building, leadership and management. Through the program, areas where their delivery of parks and recreation services could be improved were identified, and plans have been put in place to make those changes happen. Areas of opportunities to the Service Excellence Program were also identified, and measures have been taken to enhance the program for 2014-15.

Resource Development

SPRA is developing a Provincial Recreation Board Development resource that can be used by communities looking to establish a Recreation Board or revamp an existing Board. This resource will include the benefits and challenges of a variety of different models, information about bylaws, municipal and provincial legislation and much more.

SPRA is also developing a resource that communities can use when they are going through the process of hiring a Recreation Practitioner. These initiatives are being completed with the assistance of several provincial and regional partners.

Partnership Development

The Field Services Division has established partnerships with several different stakeholders including Regional Intersectoral Committees, the Community Initiatives Fund, Northern Healthy Communities Partnerships Core Group and other organizations. These partnerships have not only strengthened the connection SPRA has with other stakeholders, they have also provided more platforms where the benefits of parks and recreation can be discussed.





FITNESS LEADERSHIP

SPRA is committed to providing individuals with the knowledge and resources necessary to become leaders in fitness and physical activity. These Leaders help our communities to adopt a lifelong commitment to physical activity.



400 Fitness Leaders Trained to National Standards

SPRA is dedicated to developing, promoting and implementing national standards for the training and certification of exercise professionals in Saskatchewan. We are nationally and internationally affiliated through the National Fitness Leadership Alliance (NFLA) which ensures leading practice, career portability and professional recognition for fitness certification.

Leaders were trained in Fitness Theory, Group Exercise, Aquatic Exercise and Exercise for Older Adults, according to NFLA performance standards. This year, SPRA introduced its own Group Cycle Workshop, a practical course to support Fitness Leaders in obtaining the "Cycling Designation" to lead indoor cycling classes. There are 400 certified Fitness Leaders working in the province to educate people to adopt a healthy, active lifestyle.

Participants Per Course



Encouraging Ageless Fitness

SPRA is working in partnership with various organizations to provide and promote safe physical activity opportunities for older adults in Saskatchewan through the provincial *Forever...in motion* program. Resources and materials were developed including **Forever...in motion** leadership training and training resources for older adults.

In 2013-14, 85 **Forever...in motion** Leaders were trained in communities across the province. With over 60% of Saskatchewan seniors classified as inactive, SPRA is committed to the delivery of physical activity programs that enhance the quality of life for older adults in the province.

SaskFit

The 2013 SaskFit Conference brought together a unique team of presenters, both local and from across Canada, for an outstanding weekend of workshops, lectures and special events to inspire, educate and motivate Fitness Leaders! The event, held November 1-3, 2013 in Regina, attracted close to 200 Fitness Leaders from across Saskatchewan. SaskFit also provided Fitness Leaders with the continuing education credits required to maintain certification.

“

I thoroughly enjoyed each session and adored the keynote speaker as well. I don't think I've had so much fun doing a step class or listening to how to improve customer service or learning super-neat suspension exercises or listening to a how-we-are-influenced-by-food presentation! I adored every aspect of SaskFit and have no suggestions for improvement. It was simply a spectacular experience!

- SaskFit Participant

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“

I've enjoyed the pace, especially with the music. The other exercises are gentle and easy to do. My balance has improved a great deal and I've especially noticed this when I do other exercises in a class that I attend. Great asset to the community.

- **Forever...in motion** Participant

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SAFE PLAY

SPRA is committed to providing quality assurance and leadership training so children and youth have the opportunity to participate in recreation and parks activities in safe and effective environments.



Quality Assurance

Community leaders and coaches received the training and education necessary to offer safe, quality and developmentally appropriate recreation programs for youth ages 6 - 12 through the HIGH FIVE® Program. HIGH FIVE® is Canada's only quality standard for children's recreation and sport programming.

Training in the Principles of Healthy Childhood (PHCD) and HIGH FIVE® Sport workshops enhanced their ability to provide quality experiences for children, ages 6 - 12, in their programs. QUEST 2 offered an evaluation tool that program supervisors and managers could use to assess the overall quality of the children's programs happening in their community, facility or organization. QUEST 1 offered managers online training to review the effectiveness of current policies and procedures.

In January 2014, SPRA hosted a "HIGH FIVE® Trainer Week", training 10 individuals to become HIGH FIVE® Trainers, bringing the number of HIGH FIVE® Trainers in Saskatchewan up to 27. The first 11 HIGH FIVE® Sport Trainers were also trained this year.

“

HIGH FIVE® is an amazing tool to assist in working and interacting with youth in a structured and knowledgeable way.

- HIGH FIVE® Participant

”

Participants in 2013-14

PHCD
400
participants
28 courses

**HIGH FIVE®
Sport**
45
participants
3 courses

QUEST 2
36 participants
5 courses

99 Play Leaders Trained

8 Play Leadership Courses were held throughout the province providing 99 Play Leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to plan and coordinate safe, accessible and enjoyable play opportunities for children. Communities and organizations hosting Play Leadership training opportunities included Parkland Valley Sport, Culture and Recreation District, Lakeland District for Sport, Culture and Recreation, South West District for Culture, Recreation and Sport, Northern Sport, Culture & Recreation District and Yellow Quill First Nation.

In 2014, SPRA completed a comprehensive review of the Play Leadership program. Through this process, trainers, Districts and workshop participants were contacted for input regarding the future programming.

“

The Play Leadership course was a good way to get experience in being a leader with a group of young kids.

- Play Leadership Participant

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RECREATION ENVIRONMENTS

SPRA is committed to the delivery of high quality, cost effective training opportunities for recreation, facility and parks operators to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain quality recreation environments.



Training to Meet Provincial Standards

The 2013 Spring Education and Training Symposium provided 124 participants with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary to develop quality parks and open spaces and operate safe, efficient recreation facilities. New courses were offered, including the Advanced Pool Operators Course, which is targeted at Pool Facility Operators and Managers, Trail Building and Development and Construction 101. Many of the courses provided at the Symposium were component courses of the Western Facility Operator Master Certification Program. The Symposium continued to provide training and education which allowed workers, operators, volunteers and directors to become certified and licensed to perform their jobs in accordance with provincial standards.

“ We now have a fully licensed caretaker to operate the recreation complex efficiently and correctly. Our people can feel comfortable that we have a certified person dealing with such an integral part of the community. ”
- Symposium participant

Facility Courses

SPRA held facility courses across the province to provide participants with the knowledge and resources necessary to improve the operation of their facilities and ensure their recreation programs and services are offered in safe and efficient environments. The Arena Operators Level 2 Course - Refrigeration Operators Certification, continued to be very popular with municipalities, as communities recognize the importance of having a licensed operator to run their ice plant. SPRA also continued to improve its facility courses by adding an Ice Maintenance component to the Arena Operators Level 1.

Municipal Ice Rink Program

SaskPower and SPRA continue to work together to provide communities with solutions to reduce energy costs. SaskPower contributed \$20,000 to assist SPRA training by adding an energy efficiency component to the Arena Operators Level 1 Course. SaskPower also provided funding to have IB Storey Inc. teach two Energy Efficiency Management 101 Courses in Moose Jaw and Warman in the fall of 2014.

Playground Safety

A Playground Inspector Certification Course was held in Saskatoon November 4-8, 2013, with 14 participants becoming Certified Licenced Playground Inspectors. This course helped participants understand CAN/CSA Z614 “Children’s Playspaces and Equipment” standards and learn how to conduct a hands-on inspection and audit of playspaces.

Urban Parks Worker Course

16 individuals attended the Urban Parks Worker Course to learn about park management, horticultural assets, outdoor recreation facilities, support services, park maintenance planning and park systems. The Urban Parks Worker Course is also a component course of the Western Facility Operator Master Certification Program. To date, 31 individuals have received certification in this course.





ADVANCING THE SECTOR

SPRA is committed to advancing the profile of parks and recreation in the province and achieving recognition for the value of parks and recreation in your communities.



Communities in Bloom

42 communities registered in the 2014 Saskatchewan *Communities in Bloom* program. The program continued to assist Saskatchewan communities in achieving civic pride, environmental responsibility and overall community development. Popularity of the new Novice and Evaluated Friends categories continued to grow as communities enjoyed a non-competitive evaluation process. We applaud our provincial participants for their dedication to the program and are proud of the six Saskatchewan communities participating in the 2014 National *Communities in Bloom* program.

“

What [*Communities in Bloom*] brings to Gull Lake is a unity and a sense of belonging. There are a lot of good volunteers out there with a lot of good ideas and they bring these ideas forth to the committee, and more often than not we act on those ideas. It also brings in a sense of showmanship because there is something beautiful for visitors to see when they come to town.

- Ed Lowenberger, Town Councillor for Gull Lake

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Quality Parks and Open Spaces

SPRA once again worked with the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association to develop seven Pocket Parks for its annual Convention. The Pocket Parks featured an arrangement of plants and trees, “grass” and park benches which not only beautified the corridor but also provided delegates with the opportunity to pull up a park bench and sit down in a tranquil park setting. Signs highlighted the importance of parks and open spaces and the role they play in addressing some of the issues impacting Saskatchewan communities. Partnerships also continue between SPRA and the Saskatchewan Trails Association, the Association of Saskatchewan Urban Park and Conservation Agencies and the Trans Canada Trail.

56 Ambassadors for June is Recreation & Parks Month (JRPm)

SPRA once again coordinated the celebration of *June is Recreation & Parks Month* in Saskatchewan. The JRPm launch event was hosted by Regina Beach Recreation on June 7, 2014. The day consisted of a sampling of summer activities, both water and land events and a noon BBQ. Our launch event was just one example of how communities celebrate the return of summer programming, recognize volunteers and get residents involved in our parks. The Government of Saskatchewan continued to support JRPm by proclaiming *June as Recreation & Parks Month* and attending the JRPm launch event.





WORKING TOGETHER

SPRA fostered partnerships with organizations, communities and Government organizations that share the common goal of a healthier, more physically active Saskatchewan.



Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

SPRA continues to benefit from a close working relationship with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport (PCS). The support of the Ministry was instrumental in the development and signing of a new five year Lottery License Agreement. The funding made available through the Agreement for volunteer sport, culture and recreation focused organizations, not only demonstrates the Ministry's commitment to the sector, but more importantly provides much needed stability and support to grassroots organizations and groups.

The Ministry, with SPRA's support, once again provided funding through the Community Rink Affordability Grant to communities in support of the maintenance and operation of municipally owned indoor ice surfaces. By working together on this project, SPRA and the Ministry have, in the past two years, disbursed over **\$3.25 million dollars** to Saskatchewan Communities.

SPRA continues to work with the Ministry on the development of a Provincial Recreation Framework that will not only provide for a common vision and direction for the field, but will also be well aligned with the National Recreation Framework. By collaborating together on these two initiatives, common priorities and a unified direction for the field can be developed which, in turn, will help guide the sector well into the future.

SPRA is fortunate to have such a strong working relationship with the Ministry and is looking forward to continuing our work together into the future.

Sask Sport and SaskCulture

Our relationship with our two global partners remains very strong. Through Tri-Global initiatives such as the Community Grant Program, the Northern Community Schools Initiative and support of the Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts, we have collectively been able to strengthen and provide much needed support for local programs and services.

Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA)

SPRA continues to play an active role in the work of the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association and sits on a number of committees including the Finance and Operations Committee, the Professional Development Certification Program Committee and the National Recreation Framework Working Group. In April and May of this year, SPRA (as the lead agency), CPRA, and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport collaborated together and hosted nine National Recreation Framework Consultations throughout the province. By working together with our other provincial and territorial partners, SPRA not only shares a Saskatchewan perspective with the rest of the country, but also benefits from information sharing, research and joint program ventures.

Community Initiatives Fund

SPRA continues to benefit from its ongoing relationship with the Community Initiatives Fund. Joint ventures including *in motion*, HIGH FIVE®, and senior fitness and active living programs have provided an opportunity for SPRA to continue to develop initiatives in support of physical activity and leadership.

SUMA Partnership

SPRA and Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) continued to work together, in partnership, to meet the needs of Saskatchewan communities. SPRA sponsored a session on Regional Recreation Collaboration at the 2014 SUMA Convention, which discussed the value of recreation and why and how some local governments are moving to more collaborative approaches in service delivery.

Requests for more discussion led to the current research project, jointly sponsored by SPRA and SUMA. This project will review practices for the delivery of inter-municipal recreation services, along with a guide that local governments can use to investigate increased collaboration as an option to meet increasing demands for recreation.



DOLLARS AND SENSE

SPRA is committed to supporting the parks and recreation network to deliver quality recreation and parks programs and services through the provision of financial assistance opportunities.



Over \$2 Million for Recreation Associations

SPRA distributed \$2,060,000 to 32 Provincial Recreation Associations (PRAs), as the steward for the Recreation Section of the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. With this annual funding, our PRAs were able to deliver quality recreation experiences to the residents of Saskatchewan.

“

“We are continually grateful to Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust funding for the support of Camp Grizzly, and the programs we provide to persons with special needs.

- Gwen Herman, Harvest Community

”

\$4.2 Million to Communities

The Saskatchewan Lotteries continued to assist in the development of sport, culture and recreation programs by providing over 4.2 million across 800 Communities through the Community Grant Program.

Through the Community Fund:

- Seven Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts received \$2,168,900.
- The Northern Community & School Recreation Coordinator Program continued to improve the quality of life for northern Saskatchewan residents by providing community-based sport, culture and recreation programs after school, in the evenings and on weekends. 26 full-time and one part-time CSRCs were working in 27 schools to help deliver 886 programs including sport (29%), culture (29%) and recreation (42%).
- The Dream Brokers Program helped connect less fortunate children with sport, culture and recreation opportunities using local elementary schools as the hub for contact and facilitation. 13 Dream Brokers worked in 23 inner city schools to provide 2,085 children and youth with more than 2,721 community sport, culture and recreation opportunities.

\$24,036 for Leadership Development

21 projects were approved as part of the Member's Initiative Leadership Development Grant. Through this Grant, SPRA helped develop community capacity by facilitating leadership opportunities, to ensure recreation leaders are available to deliver quality recreational programs in the community.

“

Thank you to SPRA for not only providing me with the funding to participate in the Spring Education symposium, but also for implementing leadership opportunities like the education symposium. These opportunities ensure that proper leadership decisions are being made throughout different communities in the province.

- Andrew Crowe, Town of Rosthern

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Over \$70,000 for Trend Analysis

8 organizations were approved as part of the Emerging Trends Fund. Through this Fund, organizations identify upcoming trends and access development money to assist them in becoming more effective in meeting their membership demands.

“

We are so grateful to receive this funding to help us address the recruitment of New Canadians.

- From Yvette Crane, Red Cross

”

\$27,550 for Older Adult Programming

11 communities received funding through the **Forever...in motion** grant program for the development and implementation of **Forever...in motion** programming in their community. Communities receiving the grant were Bengough, Bellevue, Borden, Domremy, Hudson Bay, La Ronge, Lintlaw, Moose Jaw, Nokomis, North Battleford and Unity.



MORE DOLLARS AND SENSE



Photo courtesy of the Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District

\$24,000 for First Nation Recreation

The First Nation Member's Recreation Grant assisted First Nation Active Members in developing recreational opportunities within their communities. 12 projects were approved.

“ With the funding SPRA provided us with, we were able to start a recreational activity for the youth of our community by purchasing 23 pairs of snow shoes. This recreational activity was utilized by both females and males (ages 6 to 17). This program will continue next winter when snow fall permits
- Lester Ledoux, Mistawasis First Nation ”

\$15,980 to Support Métis Recreation

8 projects were approved as part of the Métis Recreation Development Grant to develop recreation programming for Métis communities.

\$10,000 to Celebrate!

SPRA offered the JRPM Celebration Initiative Grant for the fourth consecutive year. The grant assisted 21 communities with hosting recreational events and celebrations during the month of June. Communities received up to \$500 each in funding for a total disbursement of \$10,000.

Support for our Future Leaders

The SPRA Scholarship Program supported individuals pursuing careers in recreation who were enrolled in recreation and leisure programs across Saskatchewan. A total of three Scholarships were awarded: SIAST – Stacey Rude; University of Regina – Clark Munroe; and University of Saskatchewan – Nadia Philipenko.

\$1,605,000 for Indoor Ice Facilities

The Community Rink Affordability Grant (CRAG) was made available for the second year to communities and organizations. The grant served as a mechanism in the continued support of the Provincial Government to aid the operation and maintenance of indoor ice facilities. The grant was administered by the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association with support given to assist applicants in accessing the program. 363 communities received the grant:

- 531 facilities total
- 386 skating rinks
- 255 curling rinks
- 18 First Nation communities or bands
- 13 new communities applied this year

“ As with most smaller Saskatchewan communities, our rink is aging and in need of constant repairs and upgrades. By using this grant to help pay for utilities to run the rink, it frees up other money to allocate to upgrades. Older rinks cost a lot of money to maintain and run throughout the winter season. Without this grant we may not be able to offer this opportunity to our community.
- Haley Ingham, Lampman ”





ABORIGINAL SUPPORT

SPRA is committed to supporting the values and teachings of the First Nation and Métis people in our recreation delivery system.



Engaging the Network

SPRA drew upon the expertise of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for recommendations and advice on how to increase opportunities for Aboriginal communities to access and provide quality recreation programs and services. The Committee met twice in 2013-14 to discuss programming and provide feedback on how SPRA can engage Aboriginal groups and meet the needs of communities in the North. This information was considered when determining which types of programs and initiatives to move forward.

Building Leaders

SPRA collaborated with SaskCulture and Prairie Central District to develop the Holistic Empowerment Leadership Program (HELP). HELP strives to build leadership capacity and assist First Nation and Métis communities in developing the understanding, knowledge and skills required to provide holistic recreation, culture and sport programs. A HELP workshop was held February 19-21 at the Calling Lakes Centre by Fort Qu'Appelle. 17 aboriginal service programmers were trained in Everybody gets to play™, Working, Living and Playing Together, Red Cross: Beyond the Hurt, Lifesaving Society: Emergency First Aid and the Indigenous Pathways Initiative.

Developing Quality Recreation Boards

SPRA developed a manual to assist First Nation and Métis communities in building quality recreation boards and committees. The Aboriginal Recreation Board Manual teaches the basics behind committee development and provides insight into how values and traditions can be sustained through culturally based recreation programs. 5 Board Development workshops were held, training 26 individuals.

Supporting the Field

SPRA visited Aboriginal Communities across the province to share information on our many programs and services and to encourage communities to apply for grants that support culture based recreation programming.

Training Leaders and Increasing Funding Success

2 Grant Writing Workshops were held throughout the province, training 24 individuals in the fundamentals of a successful grant application. SPRA also developed a Grant Writing Manual which explains step-by-step the basics behind proper proposal writing and provides information on Community Profiles, Community Assets, Program Planning, Outcome Based Program Evaluation and other information needed for success.

Everybody Gets to Play™

SPRA partnered with the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association to provide *Everybody Gets to Play™* Workshops in Saskatchewan communities. The program has been expanded to include a First Nation, Inuit and Métis supplement that focuses on engaging Aboriginal communities and the recreational professionals serving these populations. The new supplement teaches participants how to reduce barriers in recreation participation and increase awareness and understanding about core Aboriginal values, as well as traditional customs. One workshop was held in Saskatchewan training 11 individuals.





IN THE KNOW

SPRA is dedicated to ensuring our members are current, connected and informed. We communicate information, trends and research to support lifelong learning and informed decision-making through resources and technologies.



Connecting You to Information

Helping over **600** people find resources, research and information relevant to the parks, recreation and fitness sectors.

Sharing more than **40** alternative grant and funding opportunities to support initiatives and programs.

“

There are just so many grants out there, it's overwhelming and we just needed you to point me into the right direction.

- Weldon School Community Council Member

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Supporting physical activity and the use of parks and green space by providing **27** schools, communities, health regions and organizations with free access to geocaching and pedometer lending kits.

Assisting ongoing learning by providing access to over **4000** resources on topics such as community gardens, risk management, grant writing and volunteer recognition.

“

[The volleyball coaching resources] were very helpful. Thank you very much for those great resources.

- Teacher/Coach

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Informing you of the latest news and research in the sector. This past year, the Media Monitor showcased **407** park and recreation news stories from across the province.

In Print and Online

Our official magazine, **DIRECTION**, offered issue-based stories and feature articles of interest to the parks and recreation sector, submitted by members and experts in the field.

Parks & Recreation Connection, SPRA's electronic newsletter, became a weekly update featuring programs, services, events and funding for the recreation sector.

Member-Driven Technologies

This year we expanded website membership services by:

- Offering online membership renewals, conference registrations, and award nominations.
- Enhancing the events calendar to provide better access to training, education and events within the sector.
- Launching the Community Recreation Forum, an online resource to support networking and best practices among Recreation Directors.

“

The Forum is a great idea. Every time that I have visited it, I have left with extra knowledge of how other communities are dealing with things, and gain ideas on what we could do differently here in my community.

- Community Recreation Forum User

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Highlights

Website: Our website traffic surged in June 2014 with nearly 6000 people looking for information on *June is Recreation and Parks Month*!

Video Development

SPRA developed two promotional videos “Recreation Makes It Happen” (www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-dMoTJpdkY) and “June is Recreation & Parks Month” (www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xtu8O83Ntxo).

Twitter Followers

1000+

Facebook

600+





CHILDREN AND YOUTH

SPRA fostered partnerships with organizations, communities and Government organizations that share the common goal of a healthier, more physically active Saskatchewan.

Building Leaders through Play

Take the Lead! reached new heights this year by engaging 37 schools. This year, 450 youth leaders were trained and mentored to lead active play opportunities. New this year, SPRA incorporated a Master Trainer curriculum which has built capacity for the Take the Lead! program. Educating 7 Master Trainers, gave us the opportunity to train an additional 108 adult trainers to deliver Take the Lead! workshops across the province.

Through the Take the Lead! Provincial Initiative Grant, a total of \$14,000 in funding was awarded to 27 schools and community organizations to support their programming.

“ The Take the Lead! program has been very beneficial to our community creating young Leaders and providing opportunities to improve their employment chances as they volunteer and learn new skills. This year three young leaders that participated in Take the Lead! will be employed by the community, one as a playground leader and two with the crossing island camps.”
- Marvin Sanderson, Muskoday First Nation

”

Helping Teens Be Physically Active

The ParticipACTION Teen Challenge, sponsored by Coca-Cola Canada, and delivered provincially by SPRA, continued to enable teens to get active and to have fun in ways that mean something to them. In 2013-2014, 28 Teen Physical Activity Grants were distributed in Saskatchewan, totalling \$12,250.

“ Students from Kerrobert and surrounding area have been given the opportunity, through ParticipACTION, to train and learn about the incredible sport of Track and Field. Through the funding, we were able to surpass our goal of having 50 teens be involved with new equipment, healthy nutrition and professional coaching.”
- Bobbi Hebron, Kerrobert Composite School

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After-School Time Period (ASTP)

With support from the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, SPRA was able to address two shared areas of action recognized in the National Multi-Sectorial Framework on the After-School Time Period.

■ Human Capital

SPRA along with its partners, offered 9 Principles of Healthy Childhood Development (PHCD) and 3 QUEST workshops. The workshops were successful in training 225 additional ASTP program leaders across the province.

■ Access, Transportation and the Physical Environment

SPRA conducted research around Joint Use Agreements which included compiling a list of current Joint Use Agreements to serve as best practices. The information was distributed to 364 contacts including the SPRA membership, school districts, municipal partners and a network of ASTP programs in the province.

Saskatchewan *in motion*

Saskatchewan *in motion* works in partnership with key influencers and leaders to inspire action to help children in Saskatchewan to be more active, more often.

- 4th annual Active Toy Guide launched and viewed 2600 times.
- More than 300 Education graduates from Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions received *in motion* school resources.
- Dalmeny was declared the winner of the *Get Our Community Moving Challenge* powered by Saskatchewan Blue Cross. The 18 participating communities logged an outstanding 1,770,792 minutes of physical activity, during the 15-day period.
- Moving Together Symposiums held in Melville, Meadow Lake and Flying Dust First Nation.
- 32 schools participated in the 60 Minute Kids' Club, a simple, low-cost, and engaging project for elementary schools that gets kids excited to make and track their healthy choices, including physical activity.



SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

	2014	2013
Cash	\$ 138,203	\$ 138,080
Short-term investments	967,697	1,476,871
Accounts receivable	237,311	188,052
GST receivable	9,041	9,795
Prepaid and other	111,116	23,216
Capital assets	87,403	83,949
Long-term investments	<u>807,808</u>	<u>730,910</u>
	<u>\$ 2,358,579</u>	<u>\$ 2,650,873</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

Accounts and adjudication payable	\$ 177,164	\$233,312
Post retirement benefits payable	43,200	39,476
Grants payable to funders	44,534	117,926
Deferred contributions and unearned membership revenues	<u>295,278</u>	<u>742,590</u>
	<u>\$ 560,176</u>	<u>\$1,133,304</u>

Net Assets

Unrestricted	990,595	786,659
Restricted	<u>807,808</u>	<u>730,910</u>
	<u>1,798,403</u>	<u>1,517,569</u>
	<u>\$2,358,579</u>	<u>\$2,650,873</u>

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Revenues

	2014	2013
Operations	\$ 3,413,562	\$ 3,269,683
Program initiatives	2,308,275	2,254,197
<i>in motion</i>	<u>792,955</u>	<u>1,550,298</u>
	<u>6,514,792</u>	<u>7,074,178</u>

Expenses

Operations	\$ 3,209,626	3,139,603
Program initiatives	2,251,318	2,239,962
<i>in motion</i>	<u>773,014</u>	<u>1,529,633</u>
	<u>6,233,958</u>	<u>6,909,198</u>

Net Revenues (Expenses)

	<u>\$280,834</u>	<u>\$ 164,980</u>
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Detailed financial statements are available to members on request.

The accompanying summarized statement of financial position and statement of operations are derived from the audited financial statements of Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc. as at June 30, 2013 and for the year then ended. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated September 25, 2013. Those financial statements, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on those financial statements.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures which were concluded in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements."

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association for the year ended June 30, 2013 are a fair summary of those financial statements, in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

Mintz & Wallace
Chartered Accountants

September 25, 2014
Regina, SK

CONTACT US!



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