

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 29, 2013

Rewarding Excellence in Parks and Recreation

The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA) paid tribute to exceptional volunteers for their outstanding contributions to parks and recreation in their communities at a special Awards Banquet held at the Living Sky Casino on October 25, 2013. The Awards Banquet was part of the 2013 SPRA Conference and Annual General Meeting hosted in Swift Current, from October 24-26, 2013.

The 2013 SPRA Award Recipients include:

Shane Sitter (Leader) – Volunteer of the Year Award
Shelby Van De Woestyne (Weyburn) – Youth Volunteer of the Year Award
Diane Therrien (Moose Jaw) – Fitness Leadership Award
Shelly Thoen-Chaykoski (Foam Lake) – President’s Award of Distinction
Friends of the Walkway (Swift Current) – Community Achievement Award
Yorkton’s Broadway – King Recreation Corridor (Yorkton) – Parks and Open Space Award

2013 SPRA Scholarship Recipients:

Jessica Stephanson (Recreation and Tourism Management Program, SIAST)
Matthew Okrainec (College of Kinesiology, University of Saskatchewan)

The 2013 SPRA Awards Banquet also included the presentation of the Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals Awards (S.A.R.P.) and the *Communities in Bloom* Awards, which recognizes community participation in projects involving environmental awareness, heritage conservation and the maintenance and development of local green spaces.

Congratulations to the recipients of the Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals, Communities in Bloom and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Awards!

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For more information, contact Christian Bates-Hardy, SPRA Consultant – Communications, by phone at (306) 780-9268.

SPRA is a non-profit member organization dedicated to enhancing quality of life in the Province. SPRA provides parks and recreation services and support to Saskatchewan communities and speaks for the recreation and parks field at the local, provincial and national level. SPRA is funded by the Saskatchewan Lotteries.

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