



Saskatchewan  
Parks and Recreation  
Association

# CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES

## 2011-12 Annual Report



Supported by:

*Saskatchewan*  
**LOTTERIES**





### **SPRA Board of Directors**

Back Row (left to right): Director at Large - Mike Powell, SPRA President - Darrell Lessmeister, Director for the North - Sandy Rediron, Director for Villages - Clive Craig, Director for Towns - Mike Schwean

Front Row (left to right): Director at Large - Mimi Lodoen, Director for Cities - Jasmine Jackman, Director at Large - Corrine Galarneau, Missing from Photo: Director at Large - Kyle Lamkey

# ABOUT SPRA

## Our Vision

We are the leader for a parks and recreation network that builds healthy active communities in Saskatchewan.

## Our Mission

We provide leadership and support to enhance the quality of the parks and recreation network.

## Roles

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

## Board of Directors

SPRA's volunteer Board of Directors govern and set the policies by which SPRA is guided.

## Our ENDS

SPRA's Ends define what results we hold ourselves accountable for achieving, and for what audience.

End 1 The parks and recreation network is coordinated

End 2 There is a strong recreation component throughout the Province

End 3 The parks and recreation network is supported

End 4 The network advocates for parks and recreation in Saskatchewan

End 5 Parks and open spaces are supported

End 6 Recreation facilities are supported

SPRA offers a variety of programs and services which contribute to meeting these Ends. Read on to learn more about the many programs and services SPRA offers and how they have helped bring communities together and enhanced the quality of life in the Province.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

This past year, considerable effort and resources were directed towards “Connecting with Communities”. These connections incorporated not only our geographic communities/municipalities but also included communities of interest like the Provincial Recreation Associations, Fitness Leaders, youth agencies, community associations, committees and schools.

The formation of the Communications, Information and Research Division and the continued work of our field staff were instrumental in strengthening communication and the connections between SPRA and our communities. We worked hard to develop interconnections between the communities themselves to ultimately produce a strong multi-dimensional web of connections that will lead to enhanced services and a more collaborative and coordinated recreation network.

But it did not end there. Connections were also strengthened and aligned at the strategic level through the development of the National Recreation Agenda and the Provincial Recreation Strategy.

Armed with the information gathered from a number of sources, including the Associations 2011 Strategic Plan and program review, SPRA collaborated with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport and sent a delegation of “wise thinkers” to represent Saskatchewan at the National Recreation Summit held in Lake Louise in October 2011. These discussions contributed to the significant outcome of the Summit; the Federal and Provincial Ministers responsible for recreation across the country, endorsed a formal process that will lead to the development of a national recreation agenda. SPRA is committed to playing an active role in supporting this initiative to build national connections for the recreation community.

A strong partnership between SPRA and the Ministry led to significant progress on the development of a Provincial Recreation Policy. Working together with the Ministry, a series of consultations were held across the Province to provide direction on the development of a Provincial Recreation Policy. This information was incorporated into setting priority areas and associated goals that will be the foundation of the new Policy.

SPRA has been actively working to strengthen and forge new connections with communities across the Province and the strong alignment between the local, provincial and national strategies combined with the interconnections being made at the community level will provide a solid foundation for the future.

In 2012-13 SPRA will build on our existing connections and develop new and stronger partnership and collaboration opportunities. We are confident that our links with Health Regions and senior organizations across the Province will be enhanced by our development of the Forever...*in motion* strategy. We are committed to continuing the work of the *in motion* movement and further strengthening the connections that focus on getting Saskatchewan kids more active. We will continue to be the voice for our members, our communities and our sector as we build the future we want for parks and recreation in our Province.

**Darrell Lessmeister - President**  
**Norm Campbell - CEO**



# HIGHLIGHTS

## **After-School Time Period (ASTP): Safe, Active, Fun, Engaged!**

Once thought of as just a period of time, the after-school hours between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. have been recognized globally, as a critical time for children and youth. Strategies developed by SPRA outline the findings from research including local, provincial and national consultations, interviews and a literature review to support the ASTP program in Saskatchewan.

### **Research for ASTP:**

*Saskatchewan After-School 2011:* Highlights the perceptions of existing services, profiles the demand and need for additional or integrative services and suggests how they might be shaped with perceptions of any gaps.

*The After-School Time Period Report 2012:* Identifies the benefits of ASTP for society at large and provides an overview of current literature, policy and discussion papers that support the ASTP. An environmental scan of programs and initiatives locally and internationally and a comprehensive review of programming considerations is discussed. Outlining some of the challenges identified with the development of ASTP, the report highlights opportunities for partners and stakeholders to assist in the advancement of ASTP in Saskatchewan.

*SPRA Priorities for Action Supplement to ASTP Report 2012:* Identified key areas that will support and provide leadership through advocacy, facilitation and education for our members, partners and stakeholders to advance ASTP in Saskatchewan.

# FROM 2011-12

## Field Consultants Connect

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

SPRA Field Consultants are:

- Assisting communities in assessing their needs
- Providing information on SPRA funding, programs and resources
- Identifying linkages to other sources of funding and revenue generation
- Streamlining information relevant to the sector, including but not limited to facilities, education and training
- Assisting with networking, collaborations and partnerships
- Advocating on behalf of parks and recreation
- Strengthening and increasing SPRA membership
- Sharing information and acting as a resource for SPRA 's provincial priorities

Field Consultants have conducted:

**393** community and organizational visits

**99,290** kilometers logged

Our Field Consultants are very excited to be working with you and your communities to advance parks and recreation and are looking forward to assisting communities in any way that they can.

## What Communities Are Saying...

"I have to thank you for the day you decided to come to Unity for a visit. You convinced me to apply for that SPRA Leadership Grant. Found out I'm approved for \$1500 for all my projects I applied for. You need to come and visit me on all the grant deadline days..."

- *Nicole Goldsworthy*

"I really enjoyed having the personal visit with our SPRA Field Consultant. His enthusiasm for recreation has re-energized me and has sparked a renewed interest in looking at programs that could benefit our community!"

- *Debbie Saville*

"[Our Field Consultant] has created and succeeded with the opportunity to unify many of us Recreation Directors. Before he was a Field Consultant, we were not the tight knit group of resources we are today."

- *Cassandra Bendig*





**SPRA provided Northern, Aboriginal and Métis communities with the education and training necessary to offer high quality recreation opportunities.**

# ABORIGINAL SUPPORT

## Engaging the Network

The Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) provided advice and recommendations to increase opportunities for First Nations, Métis and Northern communities to access and provide quality programs and services. The 7 Aboriginal members of AAC share with SPRA their knowledge and unique background experience.

## 45 Active Aboriginal Community Members

SPRA strives to provide every opportunity to improve respect and understanding with the people of Saskatchewan. Throughout the year, we visited 16 First Nations and 3 Métis Communities to share information on SPRA programs and services and to encourage member communities to apply for Aboriginal grants that support culture based recreation programming. SPRA is also working to develop a partnership and working relations with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN).

## Training Facilitators

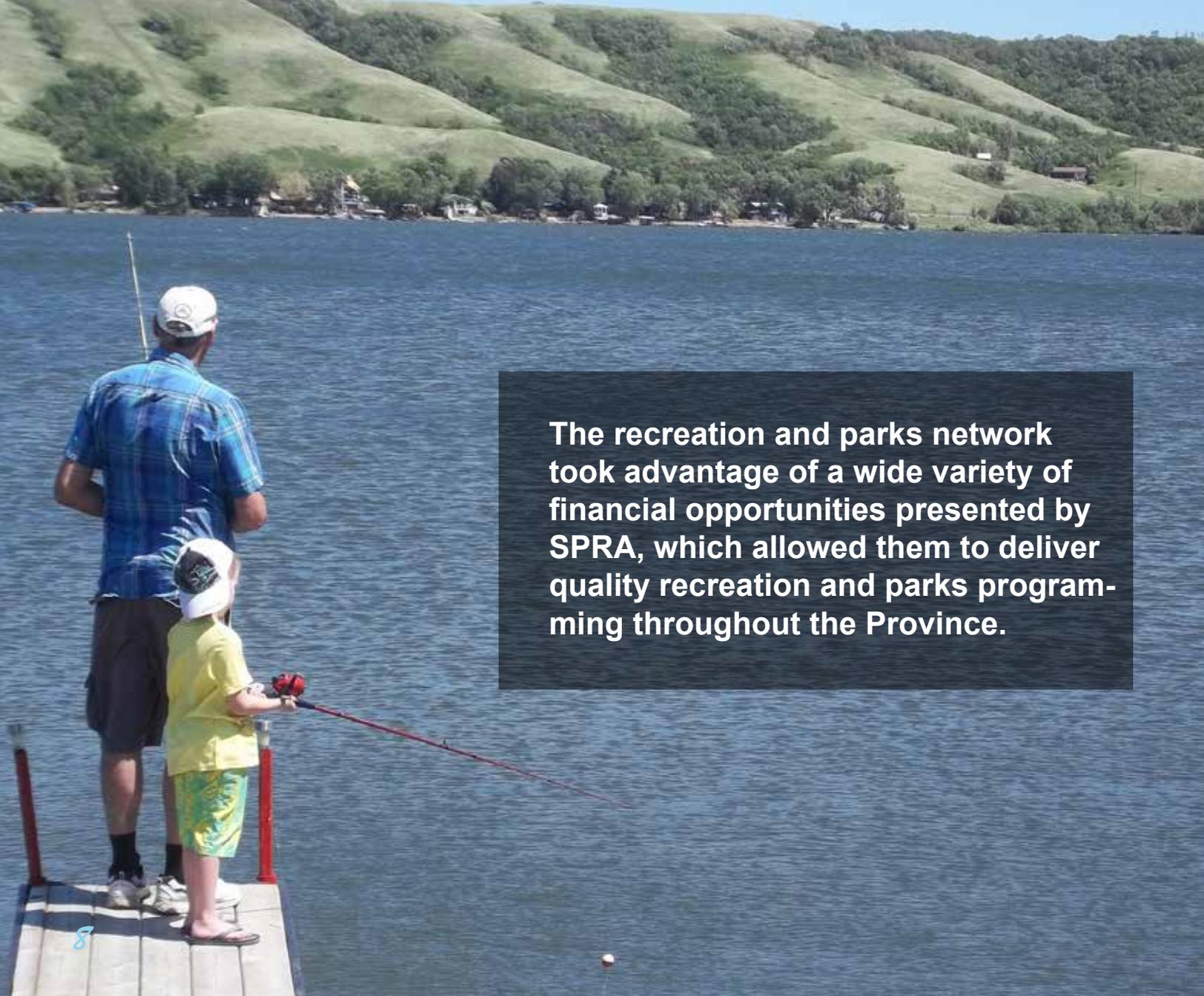
Grant Writing Workshops were hosted in 15 communities across 7 Districts, with over 150 people trained to become Grant Workshop Facilitators. Trained facilitators will be available by fall 2012 to train participants on the elements of a successful proposal/ grant application and provide a brief overview of SPRA, including grants available to communities.

## Training Quality Recreation Programmers

21 youth from across Saskatchewan, travelled to Cypress Hills region to participate in the 2012 Aboriginal Summer Program for Youth in Recreation (ASPYR) Camp, hosted by Nekaneet First Nation. ASPYR trained the youth to become quality recreation programmers for Aboriginal communities. Students received quality instruction from certified trainers in Emergency First Aid, CPR B, HIGH FIVE®, Aboriginal Coaching Modules and Outdoor Survival. ASPYR also encouraged youth to pursue recreation studies as part of their future.

## Training for Everybody Gets to Play™

The First Nation, Inuit and Métis' Everybody gets to play™ Workshop taught communities how to reduce the barriers to recreation participation and increase awareness and understanding of core Aboriginal values and traditional customs. Participants left the workshop with ideas on how recreational activities can be better tied into unique history, circumstances and culture of the First Nation, Inuit and Métis people. In 2011, SPRA trained 15 Ambassadors to be presenters of the program, which was presented in 4 communities.



**The recreation and parks network took advantage of a wide variety of financial opportunities presented by SPRA, which allowed them to deliver quality recreation and parks programming throughout the Province.**

# GRANTS AND FUNDING

## **\$4.5 Million, 600 Communities!**

The Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Initiative Fund continued to assist in the development of sport, culture and recreation programs by providing funds to non-profit community organizations operated by volunteers.

- Urban Aboriginal Community Grant Program: A total of \$195,000 across six communities.
- Seven Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts: \$2,044,700.
- Northern Community and School Recreation Coordinator program will be expanded with five additional sites and will receive \$1,247,100 for the upcoming year.
- Youth Experience Program will provide opportunities to children and youth that face economic barriers. This program will be delivered through the Districts and will receive \$225,000 for the upcoming year.
- The Dream Broker Program will be expanded to involve partnerships with the municipalities and school boards in Prince Albert, North Battleford and Yorkton. Two new school based Dream Brokers in Prince Albert and five Dream Brokers consultants based out of the District office will also be hired. This program will receive \$902,875 in the upcoming year.

## **\$2 Million for Recreation Associations**

As the steward for the Recreation Section of the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, SPRA distributed \$1,996,666 to 32 Provincial Recreation Associations (PRAs). With this annual funding our PRAs were able to deliver quality recreation experiences to the residents of Saskatchewan.

## **\$15,300 for Volunteer Training**

Six member communities were awarded funds to increase the skill level of volunteers and to further develop recreation in their communities through the Member's Initiative - Volunteer Leadership Development Grant.

## **\$95,000 for Leadership Development**

39 projects were approved as part of the Member's Initiative - Leadership Development Grant. Active members were given the opportunity to develop the human resources needed to continue building community capacity that will advance recreational opportunities.

## **\$16,000 to Support Métis Recreation**

Eight Member communities with high Métis populations received funding for the development of Métis recreation programming through the Métis Recreation Development Grant.

## **\$42,000 for First Nation Recreation**

The First Nation Member's Recreation Grant assisted First Nation Active Members in developing recreational opportunities within their communities. 21 projects were approved.

## **51 Communities Celebrate Parks and Recreation**

Through the SPRA Celebration grant, 51 *June is Recreation & Parks Month* Ambassador's received \$500 each to host events and parks and recreation celebrations.

## **Support for our Future Leaders**

SPRA provided support to individuals pursuing careers in recreation by awarding scholarships to students enrolled in recreation and leisure programs across Saskatchewan through the SPRA Scholarship Program. A total of three Scholarships were awarded.



**Recreation is essential to the development of our children and youth. Through play they learn motor skills, social skills, creativity and intellectual capacities and concepts. SPRA trained community leaders to provide our children and youth with safe equipment, proper supervision and age appropriate activities.**

# SAFE PLAY EXPERIENCES

## 151 Play Leaders Trained

In 2011-12, twelve Play Leadership Workshops were held across Saskatchewan. The workshops provided Play Leaders with the skills and knowledge necessary to coordinate safe and quality play opportunities for children and included lessons on incorporating active, creative and free play into safe and enjoyable summer play programs. Some of the organizations that offered Play Leadership courses within the last year include the City of Saskatoon, the Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Centre, the City of Swift Current and the Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District. As a result of the program, communities have access to quality leaders to deliver safe and developmentally appropriate play opportunities to their children.

## Safe Playgrounds

SPRA continued to promote training and resources to members on Playground Safety. SPRA partnered up with the Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association and held a one day course in March at the SRPA Conference in Saskatoon. The one day course taught participants how to keep playground equipment and grounds safe for the users.

## Safe Play Environments

RespectED remained dedicated to ensuring that children and youth have a safe environment in which to participate, free from abuse, harassment and bullying. Through this initiative, SPRA members and the general public have access to a toll free support line for direct assistance when dealing with abuse, harassment, bullying or hazing complaints, and for inquiries regarding Risk Management information, resources or education.

## Improving Program Quality

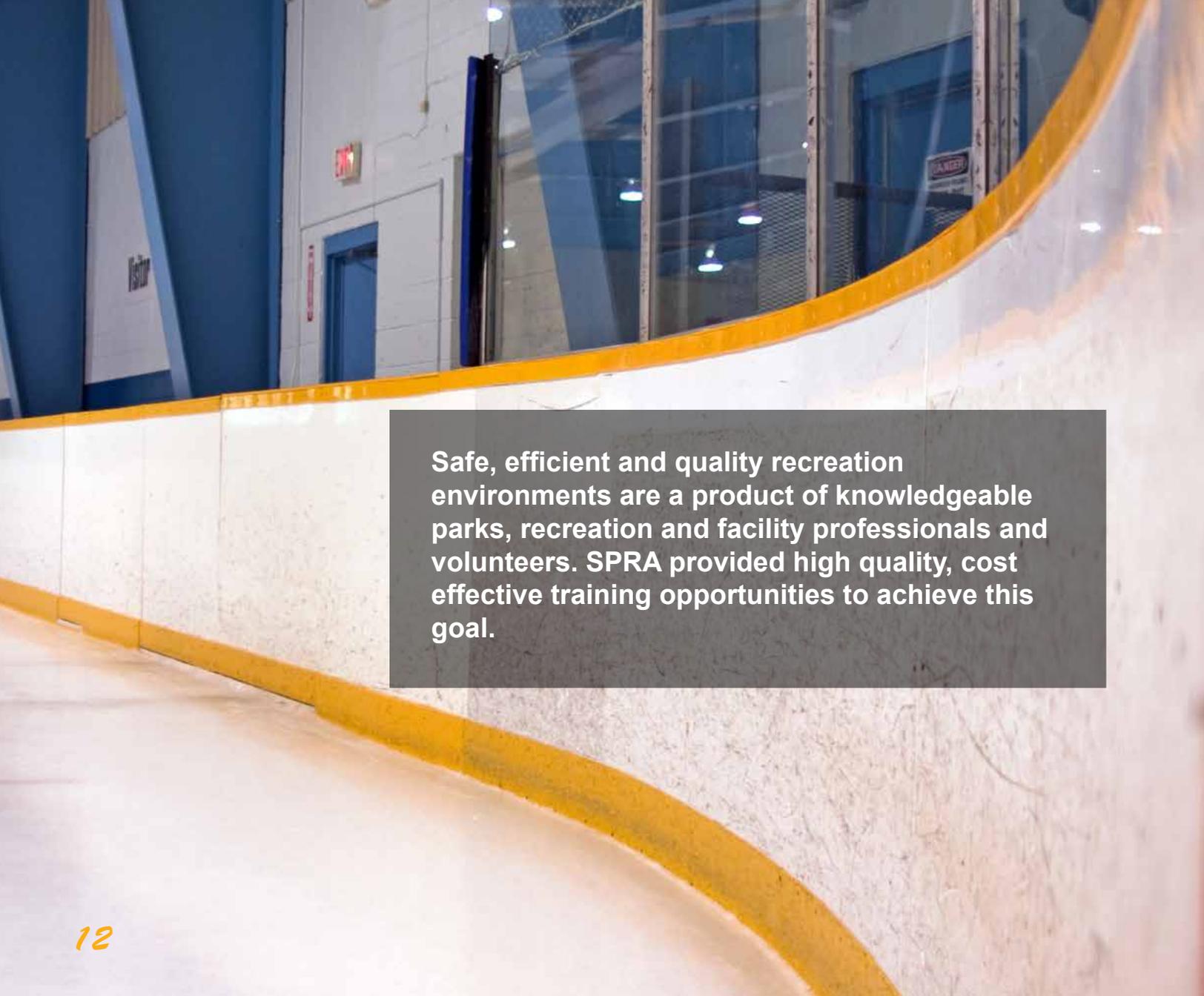
Through the HIGH FIVE® program, SPRA was successful in providing recreation staff with the education and support necessary to provide quality, safe, diverse and developmentally appropriate recreation programs to youth ages 6 to 12.

The primary HIGH FIVE® course, Principles of Healthy Child Development (PHCD) offered training to front-line leaders on how to put the child's needs first and continually provide the highest quality programming. The HIGH FIVE® QUEST 2 training provided an evaluation tool to program supervisors so they can assess the overall quality of their youth programs. HIGH FIVE® Sport courses teach coaches how to incorporate the HIGH FIVE® principles into their lessons and game day situations. Courses included:

**300** individuals were trained through 25 PHCD Courses  
**40** individuals were trained through 7 QUEST 2 Courses  
**54** individuals were trained through through HIGH FIVE® Sport Courses

## Access to Training Online

HIGH FIVE® National announced two new online courses in 2011 - 2012. The online QUEST 1 training helped organizations evaluate and update their programs policies and procedures. The HIGH FIVE® Healthy Minds for Healthy Children course is an online training made available to all participants of PHCD and HIGH FIVE® Sport. This online course provided program leaders with valuable tools so they could positively influence children's mental health.



**Safe, efficient and quality recreation environments are a product of knowledgeable parks, recreation and facility professionals and volunteers. SPRA provided high quality, cost effective training opportunities to achieve this goal.**

# QUALITY RECREATION ENVIRONMENTS

## Training to Meet Provincial Standards

The 2012 Spring Education and Training Symposium successfully provided 92 participants with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary to provide quality parks and open spaces and safe, efficient recreation facilities. To respond to the changing needs of the field, two new courses were incorporated into the 2012 Spring Education and Training Symposium - the Pesticide Applicators Course and the Urban Parks Worker Course. Through this training, workers, operators, volunteers and directors were certified and licensed to perform their jobs in accordance with provincial standards.

## Certification for Safe and Efficient Facilities

SPRA held a number of facility courses across the Province which provided 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.

**36** certified Arena Level 1 Operators  
**32** certified Refrigeration Operators  
**7** certified Provincial Pool Operators

## Energy Efficiency

The Municipal Ice Rink Program, delivered by SaskPower, set up new initiatives and parameters to assist communities in reducing utility consumption by ice rinks in the Province. SPRA provided training and education to operators by offering Arena Operator Level 1 and 2 courses. SPRA is committed to supporting Saskatchewan recreation facilities and operators, and ensuring access to the resources and skills required to provide safe and efficient facilities and services.

## Quality Parks and Open Spaces

SPRA continued to support the Parks and Recreation sector through its involvement in the 3rd Annual edition of the Saskatchewan Green Trades Conference. SPRA organized the delivery of nine sessions covering areas that included best landscape practices, trees, parks trends, skate parks, turf, community gardens and more. Participants left the sessions with the latest information and trends in the parks sector.



**SPRA is dedicated to advancing parks and recreation in the Province through the development and implementation of targeted advocacy initiatives.**

# ADVOCATING FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

## Celebrating Parks and Recreation

SPRA coordinated the celebration of *June is Recreation & Parks Month* (JRPM) in Saskatchewan. Recreation service providers and park authorities hosted events throughout the Province. The goal was to celebrate the return of summer programming, to gather their communities together, recognize volunteers, get residents involved in fun outdoor physical activities and gain support for the parks and recreation sectors.

The Saskatchewan Government continued to support the initiative by recognizing *June is Recreation & Parks month* provincially. In 2012, a total of 76 communities, parks and municipalities registered as JRPM Ambassadors and 51 communities accessed the SPRA Celebration Initiative Grant to assist them in hosting events and parks and recreation celebrations!

## Supporting the Future of Recreation Education in Saskatchewan

Concerned with proposed cuts to the SIAST Recreation and Tourism Management Program, SPRA developed and implemented a comprehensive advocacy campaign. A Task Group for the Future of Recreation Education in Saskatchewan was set up with representatives from SPRA, Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals and the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport.

Since 2010, they have been working on a campaign to keep the recreation course at SIAST in operation and at full capacity. The Task Group is currently working on the development of a comprehensive province-wide post-secondary education strategy, involving all post-secondary institutions in Saskatchewan.

## 39 Saskatchewan Communities in Bloom in 2012

*Communities in Bloom* assisted Saskatchewan communities in achieving civic pride, environmental responsibility and community beatification. In 2011, 23 communities participated in the Friends category and 10 communities were Competitive. There were an additional 5 communities competing Nationally. The Village of Denzil, Saskatchewan was selected as a National Winner and was recognized at the National Awards Ceremony in Quebec.

## Research to Support More Physical Activity

SPRA developed these reports to support the need for the recreation sector to play a stronger role in the physical activity movement.

- *Physical Activity Recreation Engagement Strategy (PARES) Framework 2012*: Identifies the benefits of physical activity for our communities and outlines some of the challenges facing the recreation field in Saskatchewan.
- *SPRA Priorities for Action Supplement to PARES Framework 2012*: SPRA identified the key areas where we can provide support and leadership through advocacy, facilitation and education for our members, partners and stakeholders to more actively engage in the physical activity movement.



**SPRA is committed to reducing physical inactivity in the Province and promoting the benefits of recreation and a healthy active lifestyle. Throughout 2011-12 SPRA implemented a number of initiatives working towards achievement of this goal.**

# A PHYSICALLY ACTIVE SASKATCHEWAN

## Saskatchewan *in motion*

Saskatchewan *in motion* works in collaboration with key influencers and leaders to inspire action and raise the grade for Saskatchewan children and youth. 2011 – 2012 has seen many highlights and significant growth in the *in motion* movement;

**539** schools declared themselves as *in motion*

**312** communities declared themselves as *in motion*

This means there are increased physical activity opportunities for Saskatchewan children and youth

**23** communities participated in the 2012 *in motion* Community Pledge Challenge and were inspired to work with community leaders to increase opportunities for kids to be active in their community; 3,200 families pledged to take action

This past spring saw the launch of *re:activity* – a multi-media memo to parents regarding (or re:) their kids' physical activity.

Youth leaders have joined the movement. Generation Action is the youth strategy to engage youth to “Speak Out, Act Out, and Get Out”, and become engaged in actions to increase physical activity opportunities for children and youth in their communities or province.

## Youth Get Sogo Active

Sogo Active, supported nationally by ParticipACTION and Coca-Cola Canada and delivered provincially by SPRA, continued to help get youth off the couch and engaged in physical activity every day! The Sogo Active Event and Challenge grants supported community groups in offering physical activity programs for teens in their community.

**47** Sogo Active Grants were distributed in Saskatchewan, totaling \$27,740

Success stories from groups like the RRRR 4-H Multi Club in Shellbrook and the Kipling Summer Slam Volleyball Camp are accessible on the ParticipACTION Wall of Inspiration – [www.participaction.com](http://www.participaction.com).

## Physical Activity Network of Saskatchewan

The Physical Activity Network of Saskatchewan (PANS) continued to assist SPRA with the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) Physical Activity Grant Program (PAGP), a pilot program that supports strategic projects and initiatives that will advance the physical activity movement in Saskatchewan and increase the level of physical activity of Saskatchewan people.

**Get up, Get out, Get Going, Get Active!**



**SPRA provided individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to become leaders in fitness and physical activity. Today these leaders are helping our communities adopt healthy, active lifestyles.**

# FITNESS LEADERSHIP

## 375 SPRA Fitness Leaders Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk

There are 375 SPRA Fitness Leaders across the Province who are raising awareness, generating interest and creating an environment to support a physically active community! Through the SPRA Fitness Leadership Program, Leaders have been trained in courses such as Fitness Theory, Group Exercise, Aquatic Exercise and Exercise for Older Adults as per National Fitness Leadership Alliance (NFLA) performance standards. Fitness Yoga and Cycling have provided new and more specialized classes and areas of interest. As advocates for physically active lifestyles, SPRA Fitness Leaders are guiding others to new levels of health and physical activity.

## Give 'Em Health

The 2011 SaskFit Conference and 25th Anniversary of the event, held at the University of Regina, attracted over 175 Fitness Leaders. Through this event, Fitness Leaders learned about the latest information and trends in the fitness industry and acquired necessary continuing education credits to maintain certification. The theme, "Give 'Em Health!" emphasized the fact that Fitness Leaders are the cornerstone of healthy, active living in Saskatchewan and play an integral part in empowering their communities, clients, friends and family to become physically active everyday.

## Youth Fitness Leadership

The Youth Fitness Leadership program was delivered in six Saskatchewan High Schools, attracting 153 students, with support from the CIF. This program offered students, many of who may be inactive girls, the chance to try something a little less traditional and more appealing to their interest in physical activity. Benefits to

the students include the opportunity for additional credits outside of PE 20 and 30 and certification as Fitness Leaders within the community. As a result of this pilot project, locally developed courses of study exist for Youth Fitness Leadership in the Province. This module with its key learnings and resources can be utilized by other schools to teach the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle to students.

## Saskatchewan's Youth are Taking the Lead

Take the Lead!, a youth leadership development program, continued to train and mentor young people, ages 11-14, to lead active play opportunities for their peers and increase leadership skill development and physical activity among schools and communities. In 2011, a Youth Manual was developed to further support Take the Lead! The Youth Manual includes games and activities that youth can use year round, many of which are simple and effective to manage with limited to no equipment. SPRA provincially supports schools, communities and Districts that actively provide this initiative, including the Southeast Connection Sport, Culture & Recreation District, the Lakeland District for Sport, Culture & Recreation and the South West District for Culture, Recreation & Sport Inc.



**Communications, Information and Research Division works to keep you informed, connected and current, through print and online information and communication mediums. Through these mediums, we provide resources to support advocacy and ongoing learning. Maintaining current and easy to use technology is key to the delivery of our message to members and the public.**

# INFORMED AND IN THE KNOW

## Communicating the Issues and Trends

SPRA's official magazine, DIRECTION, focuses on issue-based cover stories and feature articles submitted by members and experts in the field. 2011-12 editions provided information updates on Safety First: Creating Safe, Quality Recreation Opportunities; How Grant Funds Support Recreation in Saskatchewan: From Dollars to Sense; National Trends in Recreation and Provincial Trends in Recreation.

## Informed Decision Making

With over 7000 resources available to support the recreation, fitness, sport, parks and volunteer sectors, the online Information Portal and Resource Centre continues to connect the network to information. These resources encourage ongoing learning, innovation and informed decision making. In 2011-2012, the Communications, Information and Research team helped over 650 people find resources, information and funding opportunities.

## Connecting the Network

The Media Monitor featured over 250 local and provincial parks and recreation stories to highlight the latest news, successes and issues in the field. These stories strengthen awareness and advocacy while encouraging opportunities for our community to connect, collaborate and stay informed.

## Supporting the Volunteer Sector

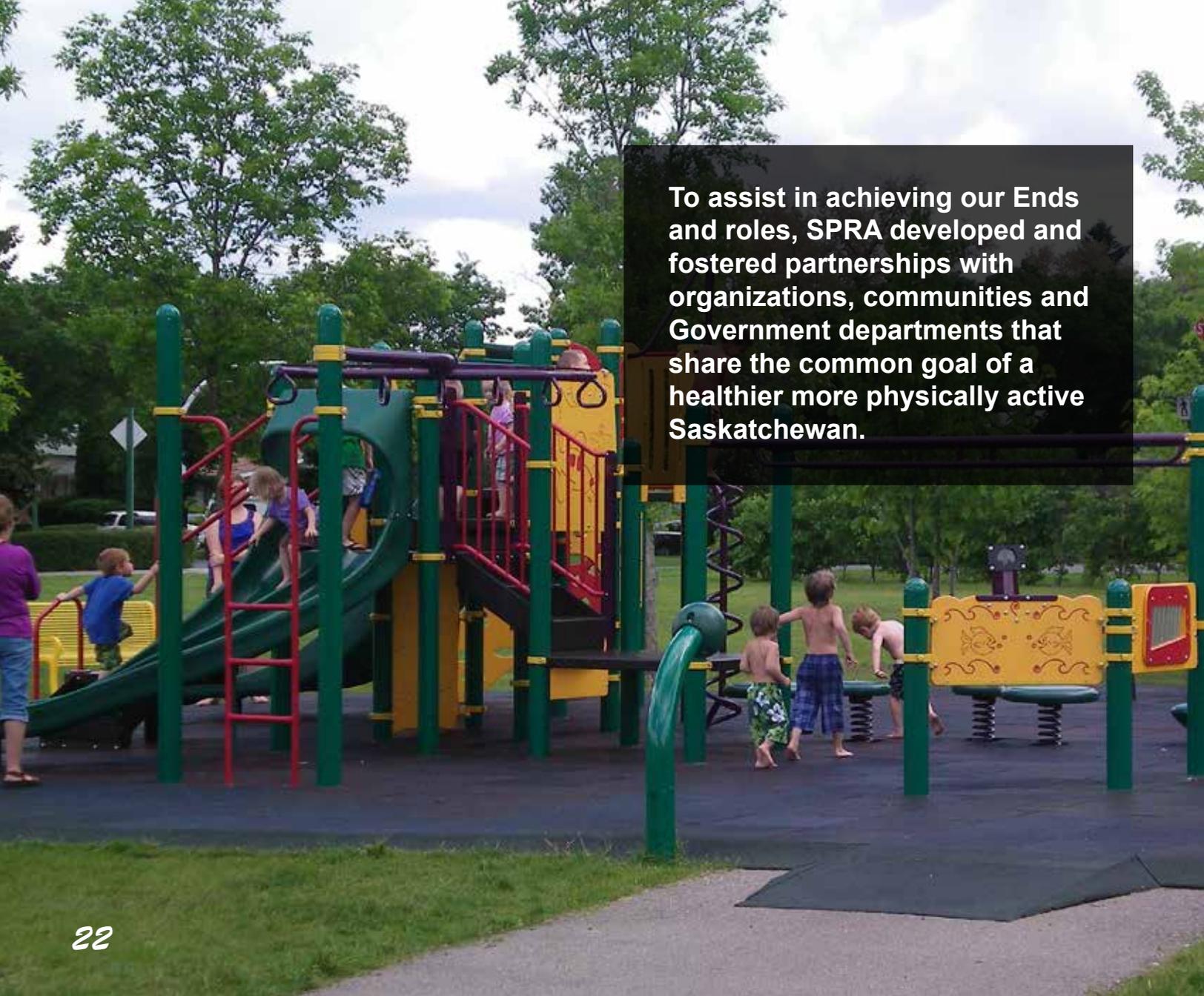
The KnowNet Connection is a bi-weekly e-update that supports the volunteer and nonprofit sectors by sharing grant and educational opportunities, news and resources. The information is valued by the 112 subscribers, who represent various sectors including health, municipal government, culture, parks and sport.

## Building Research Evidence

The Survey Monkey session at the 2011 SPRA Conference was facilitated by the SPRA Recreation Research Committee. Sharing their expertise in research methodology, the committee supports the ongoing education of our membership, the collection of Saskatchewan-based recreation research and encourages evidence/outcome based practice in the sector.

## Resources for Physical Activity

The GPS and Pedometer Lending Kit Program has supported a walking program for new Canadians, various community physical activity challenges and geocaching events in schools across Saskatchewan. By loaning out geocaching and walking program equipment and resources, we have encouraged physical activity and the use of parks, green spaces and trails in over 40 communities.

A photograph of a vibrant, modern playground. The equipment is primarily green with red and yellow accents. On the left, a large green slide with a red ladder is being used by several children. In the center, a yellow and red climbing structure is visible. On the right, there are spring riders with yellow decorative panels. Children are seen playing on various parts of the structure. The ground is covered in dark safety matting. The background shows lush green trees under a cloudy sky.

**To assist in achieving our Ends and roles, SPRA developed and fostered partnerships with organizations, communities and Government departments that share the common goal of a healthier more physically active Saskatchewan.**

# WORKING TOGETHER

## Government and Global Partners

SPRA continued to maintain strong partnerships with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport (PCS) and our two Global Partners, Sask Sport and SaskCulture. Our relationship with Sask Sport and SaskCulture remains strong and we continue to work together on a number of Tri-Global initiatives. Our partnership with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport continues to grow. In addition to the Ministry's continued support through the Lottery License Agreement, we worked together on a projects that included the continued development of the HIGH FIVE® Initiatives, the After-School Time Period and a Provincial Recreation Policy.

## A Partnership for Physical Activity

Through financial support from the Communities Initiatives Fund, Saskatchewan *in motion* continued to promote and encourage increased physical activity for Saskatchewan residents. The Community Initiatives Fund provides grants for community-based projects that benefit young people and encourage leadership at the community level. SPRA and the Physical Activity Network of Saskatchewan, also continued to work with CIF to adjudicate the allocation of funds for the CIF Physical Activity Grant Program proposals.

## A Strong Recreation Delivery System

SPRA and the Districts for Sport, Culture and Recreation strengthened their collaboration with signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOU). The MOUs and associated funding enhanced recreation and parks initiatives that address the unique community and member needs in each District. Some initiatives included:

- **The Rivers West District for Sport, Culture & Recreation** developed a new concept for *Communities in Bloom* workshops. SPRA plans to use this model to encourage involvement in the program. These workshops also serve as networking opportunities to introduce SPRA and District staff to the communities and members in the District.

- **The South West District for Culture, Recreation & Sport** hosted a *Together is Better Symposium* that brought community members together to learn about programs and services offered by SPRA, the District, Sask Sport and SaskCulture. The networking and education opportunities created a better understanding of how we can all work together to progress parks and recreation
- **The Southeast Connection Sport, Culture & Recreation District** provided free workshops on Grant Writing, Board Development and Volunteer Recruitment and Retention, with financial support from SPRA. Communities benefited from increased access to educational tools and resources. SPRA looks forward to continuing to working with and supporting the Districts into the future.

## SUMA

At the 2012 Provincial Recreation Summit, SPRA and the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) signed a partnership agreement. The partnership will forge strong bonds with urban governments and highlight the importance of recreation and parks in Saskatchewan. In 2012, SUMA also featured a new award category dedicated to excellence in parks and recreation as part of the Municipal Awards (*Community Life Enrichment Award*). SPRA looks forward to working with SUMA to advance the promotion, development and facilitation of parks and recreation opportunities in Saskatchewan.

## Active Living For All Abilities

SPRA represented Saskatchewan on the Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability (ALACD), a National organization committed to motivating and assisting Canadians with a disability, to become more physically active. SPRA promotes the All Abilities Welcome, Moving to Inclusion and the Youth Ambassador Programs within the Province. These initiatives have helped members increase their capacity to offer inclusive physical activity programs.



## AUDITORS' REPORT

**To the Board of Directors of Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc.**

The accompanying summarized statement of financial position and statement of operations are derived from the complete financial statements of Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc. as at June 30, 2012 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated September 19, 2012. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financials statements do not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted Canadian accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the Association's financial position, results of operations and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

Regina, Saskatchewan  
September 19, 2012

Mintz & Wallace  
Chartered Accountants LLP

# SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Summarized Statement of Financial Position

### ASSETS

	2012	2011
Cash	\$ 159,262	\$ 110,052
Short-term investments	1,326,000	1,329,511
Accounts receivable	190,615	202,091
Prepaid and other	22,604	96,012
Capital assets	104,143	100,763
Long-term investments	<u>696,009</u>	<u>686,498</u>
	<u>\$ 2,498,633</u>	<u>\$ 2,524,927</u>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities		
Accounts and grants payable	\$ 229,992	\$409,330
Post retirement benefits payable	35,189	27,060
Payable to Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund	35,089	97,175
Deferred contributions/unearned membership revenues	<u>845,777</u>	<u>778,570</u>
	<u>\$1,146,047</u>	<u>\$1,312,135</u>

### Net Assets

Unrestricted	656,577	526,294
Restricted	<u>696,009</u>	<u>686,498</u>
	<u>1,352,586</u>	<u>1,212,792</u>
	<u>\$2,498,633</u>	<u>\$2,524,927</u>

## Summarized Statement of Operations

### REVENUES

	2012	2011
Operations	\$ 3,000,921	\$ 2,099,777
Program initiatives in motion	630,019	953,669
	<u>1,714,223</u>	<u>1,632,010</u>
	<u>\$5,345,163</u>	<u>\$4,685,456</u>

### EXPENSES

Operations	\$2,870,638	1,925,314
Program initiatives in motion	617,773	919,791
	1,716,958	1,555,264
	<u>5,205,369</u>	<u>4,400,369</u>

### NET REVENUES (EXPENSES)

	<u>\$139,794</u>	<u>\$ 285,087</u>
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Detailed financial statements are available to members on request.

# DID YOU KNOW?

Recreation and active living significantly reduces the risk of coronary heart disease and stroke, one of the leading causes of death in Canada, and helps combat osteoporosis, reduce diabetes and prevent site-specific cancers, particularly colon, breast and lung.

Participation in recreational activities can be linked to lower levels of sedentary activity, more positive relationships with peers and friends, a greater likelihood of performing better in school, and increased future educational expectations.

Parks and green space encourage socialization, thereby strengthening community relationships. The sense of belonging resulting from this interaction may help dissipate the feeling of isolation often experienced by marginalized groups and older adults.

Parks, trails and pathways save energy and protect air quality by encouraging active transportation.

Recreation programs serve as a crime prevention strategy, thereby reducing police, justice and incarceration costs.



**The Saskatchewan Parks  
and Recreation Association**  
100 - 1445 Park Street  
Regina, SK S4N 4C5  
Phone: 306.780.9231  
Toll-free: 1.800.563.2555  
Fax: 306.780.9257  
Website: [www.spra.sk.ca](http://www.spra.sk.ca)