ON THE COVER

With nearly 39,000 alumni living in Saskatoon, we had so many stories to tell for our cover story. Take this as a cross section of Saskatoon’s community builders and read more about them on page 12.

There’s something about the aroma of coffee that immediately makes a space inviting.

As I walked into Little Bird Patisserie & Cafe this past March to oversee the cover photo shoot for this issue, I felt an immediate blanket of warmth as the brewing coffee and baked goods hit my nose. It was all so calm, casual and comfortable.

One by one, our subjects started to enter the room. This group of seven people, some of whom have never met before, were instantly connected; shaking hands, nibbling on croissants, laughing.

All these people represent so many unique talents. They are instructors, business owners, restaurateurs, city councilors, board members, and community activists. Our writer for the cover story, a Saskatoon social media entrepreneur, also found time in her busy schedule to stop in and say hello. The fact I managed to get all of these remarkable people in the same room at the same time was not lost on me.

Of course, the common link between all of them is the fact that they’re U of S alumni. The comfortable nature of this photoshoot just proved to me that everyone who graduates from this university is immediately connected as a part of our alumni community. The common bond that ties them is this beautiful campus and its history.

To me, community has many facets. There can be a direct effort to build community or it can happen organically. It can be a premeditated group of people coming together for the greater good or it can be something that builds almost unassumingly. It’s where we live and who we associate with. It provides a way to connect, to learn, to grow and to feel a part of something greater than ourselves.

U of S alumni represent what it means to be community minded, whatever form community may take. In this issue we have been asked to go to great lengths to better their communities. This happens by testing the boundaries of legislature, building channels for community involvement, breaking the barriers of geographical isolation and going the distance to serve across cultures.

As always, I’m honored to tell your stories. You make me proud.

Leslie-Ann Schlosser
Editor
Beyond the rainbow
U of S alumni are planting new flags for LGBTQ advocacy.

Breaking barriers
Providing education and access to services to remote communities is a daunting task, but U of S faculty and alumni are working hard to reduce the inequity between north and south.

A call to connect
A young man’s thirst for adventure brought Don Poon (BE’79) from Hong Kong to Canada. A welcoming community of friends and colleagues soon convinced him to call Saskatoon home.

The Paris of the Prairies
Saskatoon is thriving and it isn’t hard to see why. U of S grads are leading the way in transforming this once small city into the destination it is today.

When I moved to Saskatchewan over 30 years ago, one thing that stood out for me was the heightened sense of community that radiated from every part of this province.

The University of Saskatchewan is no stranger to the community spirit that this province embodies. One could say that this institution was built with the intention of being a unifying link between learning and community. Our first president, Walter Murray, understood the importance a university has in serving its people.

Saskatoon was chosen as the location for the U of S in 1909 with the purpose of having it “in close touch with the life of the province.”

One could say that this province embodies a university has in serving its people.

As such, the U of S became a place to gather, to grow, to learn and to enlighten the next generation of community builders.

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Volunteer highlight
Dr. Charles Simpson (MD’71) devotes his time to volunteering, and he wouldn’t have it any other way.

Olympic fever
Devin Heroux (BA’09) recaps the good, the bad, and the ugly from his time reporting at the Winter Olympics.

Olympics.

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Olympic fever
Devin Heroux (BA’09) recaps the good, the bad, and the ugly from his time reporting at the Winter Olympics.

Keeping social
Social media and its impact on the next generation may be a growing concern for many, but it has also shown it can build businesses, friendships, talents and love.

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A young man’s thirst for adventure brought Don Poon (BE’79) from Hong Kong to Canada. A welcoming community of friends and colleagues soon convinced him to call Saskatoon home.
Volunteering and giving back to the community in a quiet, unassuming way has always been commonplace for U of S students. Shinerama is just one of the historic traditions at the U of S that focuses on raising awareness for those in need.

Since its humble beginnings, Shinerama has grown into Canada’s largest university and college student fundraiser, involving nearly 60 institutions with 25,000 students annually shining shoes, washing cars, polishing windows, co-ordinating raffles, organizing dances and hosting barbecues.

The 1974-75 student handbook and directory (yes, they listed student phone numbers with photos) described Shinerama as a grassroots fundraiser: “We hire no staff, pay for no publicity and supply only the basic shoe shine equipment so that a high percentage of the money goes directly into Cystic Fibrosis (CF) research. Shinerama is an organization of all students, not merely a privileged few. If not a great time, at least a good time is had by all who participate, including, usually, a few surprises afterwards. An office is maintained in the MUB until the end of September and after that information can be obtained from the Kiosk.”

First described in 1938, a child diagnosed with CF in the 1960s was not expected to live long enough to attend kindergarten. The median age of survival for Canadians with CF is now among the highest in the world at 53.3 years of age. Cystic Fibrosis Canada estimates that one in every 3,600 children born in Canada has CF. It is the most common fatal genetic disease affecting Canadian children and young adults. A cure is yet to be found.

The U of S has been involved in CF research for decades. For example, the Canadian Light Source has been used to image the normal lungs of pigs focusing on the liquid layer and how the liquid in the airway reacts when bacteria are introduced. Juan Lanowski, associate professor in the Department of Physiology, explained, “We discovered and showed for the first time ever that the normal airway response to inhalation of pathogens is producing liquid. This is a process that depends on CFTR (cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator) expression. So, if you don’t have normal CFTR, it doesn’t work. In CF pigs, this response is absent.”

The image pictured on page two is from September 1978 and shows several students with the mascot during the kickoff to Shinerama in the bowl. The campaign was held in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Science students. Shoe shiners were posted throughout Saskatoon, and would shine shoes for any donation. The downtown business community was prime target having the greatest concentration of polishable shoes.

To reflect the national nature of Shinerama, the university which raised the most money per participating freshman received a Shinerama challenge trophy, a bronzed baby foot mounted on a teakwood stand, first donated in 1966.

There was no evidence the foot has ever visited the U of S campus.
Where's the beef?

A&W has made a substantial investment in the Canadian beef industry with a $5-million donation toward the University of Saskatchewan’s Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence (LFCE).

The unique centre will foster innovative research, training, and outreach to meet the needs of both livestock producers and consumers in Canada, while also helping to sustainably produce food for a growing world population.

The donation will be used to fund the construction of the Livestock and Food Building at the LFCE site near Clavet, create a community outreach and engagement program, and establish a visiting fellowship in One Health research. The new building will be completed in the spring of 2018.

Better technology for better plants

Two University of Saskatchewan computer scientists are among the first grant recipients of Microsoft’s AI for Earth program.

Valued at $10,000 each, the grants enable the research teams to use new Microsoft technology to improve plant breeding by creating new ways to analyze plants and automatically identify traits related to plant growth, health, resilience, and yield. The investment will help researchers better analyze plant genomics associated with crop traits, such as flowering time yield, and resistance to stress from drought.

Ian Stavness, associate professor in the U of S Department of Computer Science, will use Microsoft Azure cloud computing resources to create new ways to analyze images and videos of plants and crops to automatically identify traits related to plant growth, health, resilience and yield.

Using the Microsoft technology, computer science professor Tony Kusalik aims to uncover the relationship between plant genes and desirable traits.

“We hope the new Azure AI cloud computing platform will help us to enhance deep learning to recognize complex patterns in plant genes so that we can find desirable ones,” said Kusalik.

“Finding the links between plant genes and favourable crop traits will help breeders speed up their breeding programs.”

Donor-funded dentistry clinic open for business

The campus community has a new reason to smile, as Clinic 120—the College of Dentistry’s new general practice residency clinic—is officially open.

Spanning three treatment rooms and loaded with some of the newest and most modern dental technology available, the clinic began taking patients in September.

The clinic—which is separate from the Dental Education Clinic (DEC) and the College of Dentistry’s general practice residency program—is open to the public and is part of the College’s commitment to providing care to patients in the region.

The clinic allows students to become familiar with new technology before they enter private practice.

Dr. Steve Arcand, who is currently in the residency program, was one of the first dentists to practice in the new clinic.

“The investment in social sciences and humanities research affirms the valuable contribution our researchers make in influencing public policies and helping Canadians to understand each other and our communities,” Chad added.

U of S institutes, researchers awarded $5.5 million in federal funds

In November, the University of Saskatchewan was awarded $2.7 million in funding from Western Economic Diversification Canada for water security and food security research, and a similar amount from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for 45 U of S faculty and students.

A $1.37-million grant for the Global Institute for Water Security (GIWS) to establish the Smart Water Systems Laboratory (SWSL) and a $1.35-million grant to the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) to create an Omics and Precision Agriculture Laboratory (OPAL) are part of what will be a $15.5-million investment in these signature areas of U of S.

“With the impact of climate change becoming starkly clear, food security and water security have emerged as key imperatives. The crucial federal investment toward these new state-of-the-art facilities will support cutting-edge research that will build a sustainable water future for Canada and help feed a hungry world,” said U of S vice-president research Karen Chad.

The 15 Insight and Insight Development Grants awarded by SSHRC cover the gamut of research, including the impact of socio-economic, geographical and cultural factors on household food insecurity of Syrian refugees in Canada; political involvement and activism of Indigenous women in Canada’s West; and creating consumer-oriented value in genetically modified foods and exploring consumer attitudes and willingness to pay.

“The investment in social sciences and humanities research affirms the valuable contribution our researchers make in influencing public policies and helping Canadians to understand each other and our communities,” Chad added.
WCVM professor Lynn Weber has been conducting research with the dogs since 2009, initially, her team—which included graduate student Jennifer Adolphe (MSc’08, PhD’13), now an animal nutritionist working in Ontario—examined whether dried field peas were a healthier option in dog food than rice.

“We got to learn how to formulate pet food and the role that nutrition plays in dogs,” Adolphe told Maclean’s.

Weber’s research group is currently working with a second team of beagles to further explore the health benefits of a grain-free diet by replacing traditional starches with pulse crops (such as lentils or fava beans). The third group of pups is expected to arrive this year.

The multi-sport facility features two full-size ice surfaces and two full-size basketball courts, as well as dressing rooms for Huskie hockey, basketball and soccer teams, in addition to spaces earmarked for alumni, officials, physiotherapy services, Campus Recreation and a dozen dressing rooms for community groups and teams. The main arena will initially feature seating for 2,614, with 3,546 in total following the completion of Phase 2 of the project.

The project kicked off on Oct. 13, 2016, with an historic $12.25-million contribution from Merlis Belsher, an accomplished local accountant, businessman and philanthropist who provided the largest single donation from an alumnus in U of S history.

Fundraising through the Home Ice Campaign—which featured former Huskie and long-time Canadian Olympic hockey coach Dave King (BAPE’71, BEd’72) serving as honourary chairperson—wrapped up in the spring of 2017 after reaching its goal of $29 million.

Meanwhile, long-time U of S supporters and alumni Ron (BE’62, DCL’13) and Jane (BE’62) Graham, who have given close to $20 million to the university, donated $4 million to fund construction of the new basketball facilities at Merlis Belsher Place.

The N. Murray Edwards School of Business has earned accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International. Founded in 1916, AACSB International is the longest-serving global accrediting body for business schools. Synonymous with the highest standards of quality, AACSB accreditation inspires new ways of thinking within business education globally and, as a result, places Edwards among the top five per cent of business schools worldwide. Today, 810 institutions across 53 countries and territories maintain AACSB accreditation in business.

From humble beginnings as the first accounting school in Canada, the Edwards School of Business continuously strives to offer high-calibre business education that alumni and employers value around the world. The distinction is the hallmark of excellence in business education and is also a provincial milestone, explained dean Keith Willoughby. “We are committed to continuing to develop business professionals to build nations through community engagement and providing an outstanding student experience.”

Highly educated pups

One of the cutest research projects on campus was featured in Maclean’s magazine when it profiled research beagles at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) and the important role they play in pet nutrition.

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ON CAMPUS NEWS

One Day for Students

Students, alumni, and the campus community came together on March 14 to answer the question “How do you give” and gave in support of students facing financial crisis, raising $46,436 for the Nasser Family Emergency Student Trust.

Professor Emeritus Kay (PhD’65, DSc’16) and Dora (BEd’69) Nasser, U of S alumni and philanthropists, matched all donations to the Nasser Family Emergency Student Trust, and were so inspired that they also matched the additional $5,345 donated to other U of S priorities on One Day for Students, bringing the total raised to $103,695 from over 500 donors.

The tremendous support of the Nasser Family Emergency Student Trust means more students will have peace of mind, knowing there is a community willing to help them through an unexpected financial hardship so they can focus on their studies. To learn more about the day visit give.usask.ca/oneday.

A lot goes on between issues of the Green & White... stay connected.

Read more U of S news at news.usask.ca

A matter of equity

Sociologist Elizabeth Quinlan has received a national award recognizing her work promoting equality and justice.

Quinlan (BSc’89, MSc’93, PhD’04), an associate professor in the Department of Sociology and an associate member of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, accepted the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) Equity Award at a CAUT meeting in Ottawa last November. In her nomination, Quinlan was cited as a “fearless” researcher who combines academic scholarship with effective work for the betterment of society. She is active in promoting fair hiring practices and combating sexual violence.

Quinlan was a driving force behind the 2016 stage production With Glowing Hearts: How Ordinary Women Worked Together to Change the World (and Did). Based on Quinlan’s research into the historical role of women in Canada’s labour movement, the play received the Best of Fest Award at the PotashCorp Fringe Festival and brought awareness of a little-known chapter in history to a large audience.

Quinlan is a founding member of the Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Among other roles, she has served in the Women’s Reference Group of Saskatchewan’s Labour Force Development Board and been a board member of the Saskatoon Sexual Assault and Information Centre and the Saskatchewan chapter of the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women.

U of S a key partner in supercluster

The University of Saskatchewan will be a pivotal partner in Canada’s agricultural supercluster—Protein Industries Canada—announced in February by Innovation, Science, and Economic Development minister Navdeep Bains.

The industry-led supercluster will create new products that add value to crops such as wheat, canola, and lentils and other pulses, generating over $700 million in new commercial activity over five years and approximately 4,700 jobs over the next decade. The supercluster involves more than 120 corporate, industry, and post-secondary partners, with total cash, in-kind venture capital investment from partners of $400 million.

Protein Industries Canada is a pan-western Canadian cluster, covering Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. The consortium includes small to large-sized enterprises, academic institutions, and other stakeholders involved in crop breeding, agricultural crop production, food and food ingredient processing, and their supporting services companies. Plant-based protein is a $13-billion market of which Canada currently has a minimal share.

With world-leading expertise in plant genetics and breeding, crop production and processing, and molecular imaging and analysis, the U of S is set to help train hundreds of students—across multiple disciplines such as IT, business leadership and plant sciences—as innovative leaders in the plant-based agri-food sector.

Read more U of S news at

news.usask.ca

JULIE SCHAPPERT

DAVID STOBBE
Not everyone is as lucky as Daniel Olver (BA’11). Growing up, a combination of a healthy home life, a strong neighbourhood community, and access to great mentoring through sports, meant he never felt he wasn’t good enough or watched an opportunity pass by without knowing he could jump at it. “I went to Holy Cross (high school) and I would go to Huskie practices, because I performed at a certain level,” said Olver, who now serves as head coach of the University of Saskatchewan’s wrestling team. “I definitely believe that helped me to know that I belonged at that level. I think that’s a mistake that some high school kids make in their development, in that they don’t think that they belong here. But that’s very difficult to know, unless you’re given the opportunity to be in this environment and to really test yourself and get some feedback.”

Those experiences are precisely why Olver is so excited to be a part of the Youth Leadership Through Sports Program, which kicked off through a partnership between the U of S College of Kinesiology, Huskie Athletics and Saskatoon Tribal Council (STC). The initiative brought together close to 50 Indigenous athletes aged 10-14 for its inaugural session at the university’s Physical Activity Complex, to receive firsthand training and mentorship from some of the Huskies’ top athletes and coaches and kinesiology staff.

“Once that seed is planted, I am a huge believer that success will follow.”

The new program will continue over the course of the academic year, inviting more Indigenous youth to experience what it’s like to train, compete and learn like a Huskie—and perhaps someday become themselves.

“The long view for us as well is that these kids see themselves as U of S students some day; that they might take on that goal and strive to enrol here in the future,” said Chad London, dean in the College of Kinesiology. “Graduating more Aboriginal students is one of our goals and this program can lead to those types of long-term successes.” The aim, ultimately, is that the program will not only help Indigenous youth to excel, but also show them that the U of S is a community where they are warmly welcomed, whether they join through athletics, academics or other avenues.

“This opportunity will help develop the young people to feel comfortable with the university and know the university atmosphere by experiencing it at a very young age,” said STC Chief Mark Arcand. “I have seen the lack of opportunities for young people in sports throughout our First Nations communities, by the lack of infrastructure and personal trainers. My passion and vision is to eventually see more First Nation children coming to university and receiving scholarships based on their education and sports ability.”

And in Olver’s experience, planting a foot in the university’s gymnasium at a young age is one of the best ways to start planning for a future in its classrooms. “When you go through those years—especially when you’re trying to figure out where you belong and fit in high school—if they know in their heads that this environment is somewhere they enjoy and are accepted, that’s where they’re going to want to go,” said Olver.
Several times a month I can be found inside one of Saskatoon's coffee shops. I use the spaces to network with other freelancers and entrepreneurs who also call the city's cafes their unofficial workplace. In a career as a travel writer with a nomadic office that can sometimes feel isolating, it's important I actively seek out a community of support and encouragement.

Thankfully, that's easy to find in Saskatoon.

In recent years, Saskatoon's presence on the international stage has blossomed. This small yet mighty prairie city is demanding the world take a closer look at what it has to offer. No longer a small town (yet keeping the charm of one), the buzz started slowly with occasional mentions in articles written for WestJet travel magazine and The Globe and Mail.

With the recent opening of the Remai Modern art museum and a mention in The New York Times, Saskatoon has grown to become more than just a blip on an interactive airplane map; visitors are intentionally choosing to stopover and see what all the hype is about.

On this particular afternoon, I'm seated at a bistro table-for-two inside Little Bird Patisserie & Cafe. I'm catching up with a fellow university alumna whom I met during my first year in the College of Education. Kim Butcher (BA'04) also happens to be my first year in the College of Education.

Kim Butcher (BA'04) also happens to be a fellow university alumna whom I met during my first year in the College of Education.

Butcher muses it's partly because of Saskatoon's connectedness and passionate about. Butcher muses it's partly connectedness and passionate about the city and its people. Saskatoon has maintained the roots of Saskatchewan being settled by farming and other French pastries.

"Saskatoon has maintained the roots of Saskatchewan being settled by farming and other French pastries. Making your life in a place where there isn't a lot around translates into the ability to hold onto relationships. You recognize the struggles people are going through because they are your struggles too," said Butcher.

The opportunities in Saskatoon have allowed both Butcher and I to stretch the boundaries of our university degrees to pursue unexpected professions we are truly passionate about. Butcher muses it's partly because of Saskatoon's connectedness and friendly nature.

As a young graduate, you can play on the connections you've built—it's a small enough city you can do that. It speaks to using your degree in a way that has allowed creativity," said Butcher.

While her cafe focuses on teas and pastries, it also fosters a sense of community by creating a safe space for anyone wanting to enjoy the sweet treats. That inclusion is part of the reason why her and business partner, and current U of S masters student, Tasha Altman (BEd’09) selected Riversdale to open their cafe in December 2013. As one of the oldest neighbourhoods in the city, it is more than just a trendy location with an ecclectic variety of shops. It's a people-oriented community—very tight knit, friendly and supportive. People say hello here. It's very eclectic and I hope it stays that way," said Butcher.

Indeed, there is a similar sense of kinship among the other entrepreneurs in the neighbourhood.

Around the corner from Little Bird on 20th street, owner of Odd Couple, Andy Yuen (BA’05, BE’05), agrees.

"There are new places but we all are doing totally different things," said Yuen.

Originally from Hong Kong, Yuen immigrated to the small town of Wynyard, Saskatchewan in 1996. Although Yuen and I never knew each other then, coincidentally, I grew up less than 20 minutes away on my family's farm near the village of Leslie. In Saskatoon, it's hardly surprising to discover these types of mutual connections.

After working as a civil and transportation planning engineer for nine years, Yuen decided to launch his Asian-inspired restaurant with his father in May 2014. Infrastructure in the neighbourhood was important to him and he chose an area of the city he considered pedestrian friendly.

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"I value places that are walkable. Downtown Saskatoon, Broadway and Riversdale are where people want to hang out on the weekends or when they're not working," said Yuen.

Yuen also appreciated the affordability and potential of Riversdale. The location was ideal next to the Farmer's Market with access from River Landing. The unique space and growing demographic allowed...
Andy Yuen mixes up one of his famous cocktails at Odd Couple.

Yuen to creatively develop a Chinese-Saskatchewan menu that went beyond the burger and fries he grew up eating with friends.

Yuen and his family aim to create stories with their dishes while supporting other local businesses. Located right across the street, they partnered with 9 Mile Legacy Brewing on the creation of an Asian-inspired golden ale beer with lemongrass, ginger and Szechuan pepper. They also brought more success than Yuen expected.

“I think we were blown away by the support we received from customers through local products has been something that resonates with our customers. We are really proud of what we are creating and how we are able to bring the city and the community together,” said Yuen.

Lynden (BScKin’05) wanted to be part of Saskatoon’s agrarian-based past makes it so special. It’s amazing to see how the community has grown and how they have come together to support each other. It’s truly a place where people can feel at home and part of something bigger.”

But she didn’t know how.

An emotional ride in a boutique spin studio in Calgary was the answer she was looking for. The experience led her and business partner Bradie Mustoe to launch their first spin studio on Broadway in February 2016. Their second studio opened January 2018 in the City Park neighbourhood.

Initially, Lynden looked at many locations in the city but believed the energy and positive feelings of their location on Broadway had the qualities she was searching for.

“We looked at so many different spots, even other spots on Broadway. We looked for eight months but it had to feel right and it had to feel magic,” said Lynden.

Lynden wants the community atmosphere of her studios to be a hub that resonates with its customers by building an inclusive arts community, a place where people can feel connected and supported.

Lynden’s mission is twofold; she wants customers to feel better about themselves while also fundraising for different causes.

“Broadway has a huge history and a good reputation. People are very supportive of local here and understand we need to help each other. If we don’t do it, who will?”

Mercier has always been passionate about non-profits and the community working together because she has seen firsthand how the relationships benefit both parties.

Mercier has always been passionate about non-profits and the community working together because she has seen firsthand how the relationships benefit both parties. She noticed how Saskatoon’s agrarian-based past makes it so special. It’s amazing to see how the community has grown and how they have come together to support each other. It’s truly a place where people can feel at home and part of something bigger.”

“The city is focused on diversifying while supporting local businesses. Founding the Odd Couple was the answer she found unique potential to capitalize on Saskatoon’s growing art scene and a way for the public to see the city differently and ask questions about the use of public spaces.

“We need to keep advocating for the arts and the public spaces to be inclusive. We need to be able to speak our truth in a way that resonates with its cyclers by building an inclusive arts community, a place where people can feel connected and supported.”

“Where we see growth is in reaching out beyond the arts community and into the general public.”

“I would have known how to open a printmaking studio in Vancouver but in Saskatoon, there was support and an opportunity to act on it,” said Peterson.

For nearly a decade, Peterson has been building an inclusive arts community, starting with the Saskatoon Printmakers in 2009. The project is a collective granting individuals access to printmaking facilities based on a monthly membership. He continued with the launch of void gallery in 2012. The gallery was originally created for emerging artists to have a space to stream their transition from university to the commercial gallery system.

“Saskatoon people are amazing. They go above and beyond to help. You can always find someone you can trust to show up when you need them,” said Yuen.

There’s little doubt the city’s nearly 39,000 U of S alumni are a big part of Saskatoon’s agrarian-based past makes it so special. It’s amazing to see how the community has grown and how they have come together to support each other. It’s truly a place where people can feel at home and part of something bigger.”
“There are many reasons to be excited about quality of life in Saskatoon. The city thrives because of the people who live it every day.”

MARIN LOEWN (MA’13)

“They get out of school and there is no obvious job available so they do art on the side. I’ve seen a number of good artists move out of art because they couldn’t make that transition,” said Peterson.

Today, Peterson’s initiatives have merged into Creative Commons YYC, a recognized artist centre with the Canada Council for the Arts. His concentration has shifted to community programs and allowing art to be a voice for anyone, including marginalized communities.

During workshops, it’s not uncommon to see Saskatoon residents focused on blocks of linoleum, cutting, rolling and transferring ink designs to create printed linocuts.

“These kinds of opportunities allow for community discussion to come out of art. And it brings more people into the studio so it’s more active,” said Peterson.

The appreciation for art in Saskatoon has been further fostered by the recent opening of the Remai Modern art museum. Its vision and achievement have captured the attention of the world.

The New York Times included it as a reason for selecting Saskatoon as number 18 on their list of top 52 places to go in 2018. Architecture magazines have applauded the design of the building which embraces the South Saskatchewan River and the city. Art magazines are impressed a small city in Western Canada can call home to such a significant gallery of the most comprehensive collection of Picasso linocuts in the world.

Taking advantage of the sponsorship of free entry by Rawlco Radio on Family Day in February, I was one of more than 4,000 people to brave the -30-degree weather in a line-up extending down the street.

“The museum was a bold idea beginning more than half a decade ago,” said Alain Gaucher (BA’79, LLB’98), the chair of the Board of Directors for the museum since 2014 and lawyer at MLT Aikins LLP.

“The support from the community to raise $20 million, as well as the significant support from Ellen Remai and numerous other large contributors, quickly showed there was a powerful interest to come up with a world-class gallery in Saskatoon,” said Gaucher.

In less than six months since opening in October 2017, the Remai Modern has sold more than 6,000 memberships. The variety of programming to reach the public includes state of the art classrooms for students and initiatives to help with adult art education.

Gaucher is no stranger to donating his time and effort to the community. Since 1991, he’s been the chair or director of nearly half a dozen campaigns, including the St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation and the Saskatoon Community Foundation. He is a well-recognized community leader who realizes how impactful the changes in Saskatoon have been.

“Our city is evolving and changing. It’s a ‘Saskatoon 2.0.’ Increasing multiculturalism will enrich us culturally and help create the Saskatoon of the future,” said Gaucher. “(The fact) it’s changing from what would be an agrarian and retirement town to a multi-cultural destination benefits the province and country.”

Saskatoon has seen rapid growth over the last few years and has weathered recent economic hardships more successfully than other Canadian cities. City councillor for Ward 7, Marin Loewen (MA’13), believes Saskatoon can attribute its success to its diverse economy and the related research and development occurring at the University of Saskatchewan.

“Our growing diversity in the community is attracting more people. Developments like the new art gallery offer significant cultural and economic progress. There is lots of infrastructure expansion occurring in terms of new bridges and downtown redevelopment,” said Loewen.

Loewen’s own influence in the city extends beyond her role as councillor. As a member and volunteer with nearly a dozen different boards, including the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and Heart of City Piano Program, Loewen is very involved in the local music community. A passionate musician, she co-founded Girls Rock Saskatoon, a non-profit dedicated to empowering youth through music.

“There are many reasons to be excited about quality of life in Saskatoon. The city thrives because of the people who live it every day,” said Loewen.

Loewen fully expects the city’s momentum to continue. There is a genuine commitment and interest in making Saskatoon better socially while remaining culturally inclusive for all members of the community.

My work as a travel writer has taken me to all seven continents and nearly 60 countries to experience what hundreds of locations and cities have to offer. Yet I have continued to call Saskatoon home for more than a decade now. Although there are several reasons why I return after every trip abroad, simply put, the support and inspiration from the university’s alumni and local residents is something I have not found anywhere else in the world.

It is because of this richly woven tapestry of innovators, builders, creators and entrepreneurs that Saskatoon has become the internationally recognized city it is today, truly making it the Paris of the Prairies.

“Ours is a rapidly changing city, which is attracting a lot of young people. It’s changing in terms of what would be an agrarian and retirement town to a multi-cultural destination. People are flocking here and that’s a big reason why,” said Ward 7, Marin Loewen (MA’13), believes Saskatoon can attribute its success to its diverse economy and the related research and development occurring at the University of Saskatchewan.

“Ours is a rapidly changing city, which is attracting a lot of young people. It’s changing in terms of what would be an agrarian and retirement town to a multi-cultural destination. People are flocking here and that’s a big reason why,” said Ward 7, Marin Loewen (MA’13), believes Saskatoon can attribute its success to its diverse economy and the related research and development occurring at the University of Saskatchewan.
Providing education and access to services for remote communities is a daunting task. Not all communities have the same opportunities, but the University of Saskatchewan has faculty and alumni who work on a daily basis to reduce the inequality between the north and the south. This covers everything from northern health care, access to veterinary services, access to law education and limited health care, access to veterinary services, access to law education and limited health care, access to veterinary services.

This is not grounded, leading to frequent power outages. These frequent power outages are often caused by lightning or winter storms, which can last upwards of 24 hours. In a sustainable future, there would be local generation of energy sources and communities would be on micro-grids that protect them when the northern grid is down.

The vision Poelzer has is not just a pipe dream. He can easily recite a long list of reasons why projects like solar power and biomass—which turns wood waste into power and energy—are not only feasible, but desirable, for all sectors of society. Introducing these methods would help the province move towards its goal of increasing renewable energy use by 50 per cent by 2030; and the federal government would benefit from moving closer to its Paris Climate Agreement goals.

But the needs of northerners are first and foremost in Poelzer’s rationale for renewables, which he sees as a potential way to decrease the disparity in wealth between the provincial north and the rest of Canada.

“You’re sitting with this enormous opportunity for economic development for employment, wealth generation in northern communities,” he said.

Fortunately, no one needs to reinvent the wheel in finding those energy solutions. Instead, they can look to other jurisdictions and adapt them to the unique needs of Saskatchewan’s north.

The Netherlands and northern Sweden are 15 to 20 years ahead of Canada in renewable energy deployment, Poelzer said, and he is particularly interested in using Alaska as a guide for northern Saskatchewan because they have similar climates and remote communities.

“Everyone thinks of two things about Alaska: Sarah Palin and oil. [They] don’t realize that [Alaska is] actually a world leader in micro-grid deployment and renewable energy deployment in severe weather conditions in off-grid communities that are run and led by indigenous people,” Poelzer said.

Just last year, Poelzer and a colleague from the University of Alaska’s Centre of Energy and Power went to Deschambault Lake and Pelican Narrows to scope out the most feasible options for renewable energy deployment for Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation.

However, Poelzer knows that buy-in from the communities themselves is the most important element of any potential project. This is why he and others are creating a network of Alaskan, Norwegian, Swedish and Saskatchewan academics that will connect northern Canadian communities to sister communities in those other countries. He emphasizes the importance of partnerships with communities in Saskatchewan.

“We’re all treaty peoples and if we’re going to be successful as a province, politically, socially, economically, environmentally, we need to walk together and support each other.”

GREG POELZER

“We’re all treaty peoples and if we’re going to be successful as a province, politically, socially, economically, environmentally, we need to walk together and support each other.”

BRINGING LAW EDUCATION NORTH OF 60

On an average day in a Nunavut courtroom, the public is unlikely to see a lawyer or judge who is originally from the territory. The lawyers and judges generally don’t speak the territory’s official language of Inuktitut, either. This is because most legal professionals currently working in Nunavut were educated somewhere else far away, and most have moved to the territory for work without having grown up in Nunavut.

“Right now the Nunavut bar is primarily made up of lawyers that are originally from the south,” said Stephen Mansell (JD’07).

It’s a concern for Mansell, who went to elementary and high school in Iqaluit. While there are a few Inuit lawyers and lawyers originally from Nunavut practicing in the region, Mansell said financial concerns and issues of being isolated from home and family have long been barriers for the Inuit and the people of Nunavut, called Nunavummiut.

“They have families and children here... so it’s very difficult to just
and to prevent overpopulation, and others simply can’t afford her into the volunteer work. Many in the region had previously seen her.

Mansell said these lawyers can ease the intimidating nature of the law and court process for the Nunavummiut.

“Your community is and where your support system is,” Mansell said.

Bringing vet care north

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine’s (WCVM) twice-annual La Ronge spay, neuter and deworming clinics take place in a hockey rink, and over the years, they have fittingly become a bit of a spectator sport for local residents. The most recent marathon weekend clinic saw a record 98 surgeries and 88 wellness exams performed by the veterinary college and its students.

“We’ll have people who just like literally stop by and stand up in the bleachers because we’re on the rink, the ice surface essentially, doing the spay and neuter [surgeries] so people just come and watch,” said Dr. Karen Sheehan, one of the veterinarians who first piloted the clinic four years ago. She is also a clinical associate at the WCVM’s Veterinary Medical Centre.

The year before the formal university partnership was formed with La Ronge in 2014, Sheehan was among a handful of veterinarians who held a Northern Animal Rescue-sponsored vaccination clinic. Her passion for animals, and her upbringing in rural Prince Edward Island where “I didn’t come from much,” drew her into the volunteer work. Many in the region had previously never learned about the treatments needed to keep pets healthy and to prevent overpopulation, and others simply can’t afford trips to the nearest veterinary clinic 240 kilometres away.

“I guess for me personally, I am an extremely empathetic person,” she said.

The captive audience at the Jonas Roberts Memorial Community Centre each year, the vet student trips over to the community’s schools to talk about animal welfare, and the community outreach work that Sheehan spends up to half of her day setting up, are paying off.

“A couple of years ago I had a 14-year-old girl who lived with her grandparents and she had her grandparents [bring] her puppy to be spayed because the granddaughter felt that that was important. And those are the things that we can provide,” she said.

Another example is that she sees dogs on leash in La Ronge more often now, rather than seeing them roaming free.

There is demand for more of these clinics in communities across the north, and Dr. Sheehan is pulled in all directions throughout the year with requests for veterinary help from people she’s worked with in La Ronge, but she acknowledges there isn’t enough manpower to hit them all. She sees the potential benefit of telemedicine, a tool delivered through mobile phones and a device of the future that the university is starting to explore with veterinary medicine.

Tackling women’s health in remote communities

The origins of Dr. Annette Epp’s (MD’88) four trips per year to host gynecological clinics in La Loche are easily traced back to a “serendipitous” suggestion made by her father Irnie Epp decades ago.

Ernie had retired from teaching only to get drawn back into the profession by the high demand for teachers in the north. So he packed up and moved to La Loche. In conversations with Annette about the needs of the community he started pushing her to come up.

“He kind of honestly put it out as, not a dare, but a challenge for me that I should take my skills and put them to use somewhere where it was really needed,” Annette said.

And so, even though Annette was - and still is - terrified of flying, she did.

“I’ve never looked back ever since then,” she said, after more than 15 years of hosting the clinics.

These days she sees about 20 to 25 consults on each trip, doing everything from pap smears for patients who are too uncomfortable to be treated by local staff, to helping women access contraceptives, to checking in on any abnormalities that a woman has come in with. The services Epp offers save many patients a 600-kilometre trip to Saskatoon. For some who only speak Dene or would never be willing to travel to a doctor, Epp is their only shot to address their gynecologic concerns.

If a procedure is needed, Epp works hard to establish a relationship with them in order to make them more comfortable and more likely to travel for that procedure.

“Saskatoon can be a scary place when it isn’t a place that you’re familiar with and hospitals are scary places no matter what but when I’ve met them in their home community I feel like they’re a lot more comfortable coming to my world,” she said.

She admits that the quick nature of her trips do not leave a lot of time to get to know everyone in La Loche, but said it has been a “privilege” to meet so many women who are among the kindest people she’s ever met.

She encourages anyone coming into a new community for work to be just as eager to engage with the community as they are to work. What it really takes is commitment, she said.

“I think if you just plop people in and they know better, you know, that doesn’t work. I think you have to take the time to hear the concerns, and hear the stories, and kind of sit back and reflect and listen to what the needs are and that takes time,” she said.

Overall, she acknowledges that remote communities face unique challenges that are not easily solvable.

“I think that people who are in high resource places who have access to the knowledge base and the technologies and the infrastructure need to partner with leaders in the communities that don’t have this and try and come up with solutions,” she said.

Passion enriching university community

Whether alumni and faculty of the U of S are big picture thinkers who focus mainly on policy and community engagement first, or get their hands dirty helping communities first and think deeper about solutions to their issues over time, they are working hard to build relationships with northern communities in Saskatchewan - and Canada.

There is a passion and inherent love for their field that contributes to the “respect and reciprocity” Ottmann said is needed to build meaningful relationships with the north.
Legal eagles
Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City (CLASSIC) provides free, professional and confidential legal services for those who otherwise cannot afford legal advice or representation. The student-run clinic has operated since 2007 and works with similar organizations through mutual referrals so that clients’ legal and non-legal issues are appropriately addressed.

Science for everyone
The Science Ambassador program pairs senior undergraduate and graduate students with northern community schools for four-six week placements each spring. Science Ambassadors work with local educators to provide engaging, culturally-responsive, hands-on science education activities in the classrooms.

Community learning
The Aboriginal Student Achievement Program (ASAP) is a learning community in which students, guided by student peer mentors, explore the potential of their local and global communities. ASAP brings together Aboriginal first-year students who take a common set of courses, meet weekly with upper-year peer mentors and connect with Aboriginal role models.

Healthy communities
Student Wellness Initiative Towards Community Health (SWITCH) was created by students to enrich educational experiences and to provide much needed services for Saskatoon’s core neighbourhoods. Teamed by volunteers, SWITCH augments the training of future professionals while improving the health, education, and skills of people from Saskatoon’s core communities.

The greater good
Enactus is a global organization comprised of student, academic and entrepreneurial leaders who see business as a means to address social change. The U of S chapter impacts the community through educational economic opportunity programs ranging from financial literacy to food security.

Global gathering
The International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) is a resource and campus partner for all students, staff and faculty. ISSAC is dedicated to fostering a welcoming, globally-aware and engaged campus community through programming, events and exchange opportunities.

Things that matter
DoSomething is a global non-profit organization linking change-minded individuals in over 130 countries with projects that transform their communities. Since 2013, the U of S branch has worked tirelessly on causes related to homelessness and poverty, education and literacy, mental health, human rights, and much more.

All smiles
At the College of Dentistry’s Student Treatment Clinic, students work under the supervision of licensed dentist mentors to treat those with limited financial means. Saskatoon West Dental clinic is an off-campus clinic that provides services to underserved, inner-city neighbourhoods, and underprivileged citizens of Saskatoon and acts as a transitional clinic for senior dental students.

To learn more about each community initiative visit greenandwhite.usask.ca
A call to mobilize

It all started with then-Minister of Justice Frank Quennell, his voice buzzing over CBC radio airwaves, declaring in 2004 that Saskatchewan had no plans to proactively pursue legalizing same-sex marriage.

The province would instead await the federal government’s ruling on the matter, he reported, but would not contest anyone who might challenge the law.

And for Kelley Moore (MA’13) and Lenore Swystun (MA’96), that statement may as well have come with a court summons.

“Lenore and I, being who we are, took that as a bit of a rally call to mobilize, to help them to change the law by giving them a reason to,” said Moore. “We had been together almost five years, and for us it was about equality and having the same rights as anyone else in a committed relationship.”

The resulting denial of a marriage license was the first step toward a courtroom, where Moore and Swystun would join four other couples in a landmark case that won same-sex partners across Saskatchewan their legal right to wed in November of that year.

It was hardly the first time either of them had stepped into the spotlight, forthcoming as they’d been in their relationship throughout their personal lives and even into Swystun’s time as Saskatoon’s first openly gay city council member, but the sheer magnitude of the decision to take action wouldn’t hit home until later.

“It was incredibly overwhelming to be in all these newspapers,” Moore said. “It’s one thing to be out within your own community and social circle, and then it’s another to be out across the entire country. It was probably the first time when I realized the importance of what we had done.”

The exposure proved good and bad, with friends and family coming forward in the days and months following. Sometimes they’d show support, sometimes they’d question their decisions. But the fallout was more than worth it to know Swystun and Moore had done something real to help others and to set the stage for those who would one day follow their tracks.

“We came on the shoulders and the backs of so many other couples before us,” Swystun said. “You’re always thankful that others had come before and opened a lot of gates and doors, and now we’re taking the next gate and door and hopefully opening it, too.”

Holding the gate

It’s people like Joe Wickenhauser (BA’09) that the duo see when they glance backward at the generation sprinting behind them, gaining on their achievements with every passing day.

Wickenhauser, executive director of Moose Jaw Pride and the Saskatchewan Pride Network, is breaking new ground in the province’s rural regions doing whatever he can to help the people in towns that have little or no LGBTQ supports in place.

“I drive by a lot of these small communities thinking, ‘Oh, jeez, I wonder what it’s like for that one gay person who lives in this..."
Noticing a gap between the campus LGBTQ community and others who aren’t out or who don’t know that there’s maybe another community who isn’t out or who doesn’t know that there’s maybe some others,” Wickenhauser said. “That must be so difficult.”

The path to Wickenhauser’s current role began with his York University master’s project, which saw him exploring Moose Jaw, sitting down with older gay men and listening, intently, as they shared their lives with him. The goal was to better understand the city’s LGBTQ history from the accounts of some of those who lived it firsthand.

The process inspired a fascination in Wickenhauser, who began enthusiastically spreading the word on what his research had unveiled.

Soon he was leading walking tours at the University of Saskatchewan and around Saskatoon, highlighting prominent spaces in LGBTQ history and recounting tales of a more than 100-year-old photo of two women kissing on campus, complete with costumes for participants. He even curated an exhibit on gender and sexual diversity at the Moose Jaw Museum and Art Gallery, the first of its kind in Saskatchewan.

“There’s tons of LGBTQ history in this province and many people don’t know about it,” he said. “Often I think it’s because those histories in the past weren’t the sort of content that you’d find in a history book, but there is quite a bit and there’s documentation and archival evidence.”

Now Wickenhauser is trying to stitch a connecting tissue between the pockets of LGBTQ groups peppered across the province, not just in medium-sized cities like Swift Current, Weyburn or Estevan but also smaller centres like Melville, Maple Creek or Beaverton’s and Okmasins First Nation — the pass-through towns where there may not be the necessary population to justify permanent support.

“Some of these smaller communities really surprise you in their support,” he said, recalling the first rainbow flag raised helping in Weyburn, which had expected to pull in as few as 20 people and instead inspired more than 100 attendees to take a stand for themselves or in solidarity.

“The number of people who want to be a part of creating changes that are progressive, welcoming, forward-thinking — it’s neighbourly, really — can totally surprise you,” said Wickenhauser.

It’s these moments that encourage the hope that, with work and patience, these communities might one day be able to prop up educational programs, community assistance centres, and pride events with roots as deep as those found in more populous regions.

Building bridges

OUTSaskatoon is structured around community-building for LGBTQ people of all ages, providing peer-support and counselling, outreach, year-round events and the Pride Home, a long-term youth home for LGBTQ youth aged 16-21.

The organization has carved out a place for itself as a community pillar of the city, with people of all stripes walking through its doors seeking aid or simply offering up their own time to help others.

And for at least one staff member, the group’s help (then known as the Avenue Community Centre) proved critical in his own experience coming out at the tender age of 13.

“I walked through those doors and I grabbed a pamphlet — and I still actually have one of those old pamphlets — and I took it to my family and said, ‘Well, I’m gay. Here are some resources to help you, if you need help,’” said Jack Saddleback, who now works with the group as its culture and project co-ordinator.

“It’s full circle now, how many years later. I’m working in the organization, helping to create this educational change, this systemic change, this societal change.”

Saddleback has built his career around the unique, potent cocktail that is his perspective as a Cree, transgender, gay man, beginning as he settled into the University of Saskatchewan in 2011.

Throughout his life, Richards was involved with many provincial and national LGBTQ organizations. In April 2018, Richards received a Saskatchewan Order of Merit posthumously for his work as an LGBTQ activist and activist.
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Reality TV star and entrepreneur Ricky Forbes (BComm’10) became a social media influencer “before we even knew what that was.” He owes it all to storm chasing, a career he kind of fell into.

Pursuing his taste for travel and adventure, he wound up crossing paths with storm chaser Greg Johnson. Johnson was building a name intercepting and documenting extreme weather events —prairie lightning storms, tornadoes, hurricanes and blizzards.

In the spring of 2012, Forbes saw his first tornado. “I was hooked. It’s still my favourite thing to do,” said Forbes.

But Forbes and the team were barely breaking even selling video footage. So they hopped on social media to market themselves as storm chasers and public speakers.

“You build a big enough audience, you get enough eyeballs on you, it just helps increase your value,” Forbes said.

They chose Twitter, then Facebook and finally Instagram as the best medium to connect with potential fans.

For what we were after with our imagery, we needed virality. We needed something that would move fast and Twitter offers retweets, Facebook allows you to share it,” he explained.

The team’s big TV break came shortly after May 31, 2013 in Oklahoma. The El Reno tornado is the largest tornado in recorded history—over four kilometres wide—and Johnson, Forbes and their teammate Chris Chittick were right on the edge of it. The whole world got to see and experience what they did, from the comfort of their digital devices.

“People were in awe. It was incredible,” Forbes said.

Soon after, they got a phone call from TV producers in Toronto wanting to make a show about storm chasing. They “loved our content, they loved our social media channels, and of course our following helped leverage that deal as well,” Forbes said.

More work came Forbes’ way. A guest appearance on the CMT show Ice Racer...
Showdown, racing rally cars on ice in Alberta, hosting the online show Canada’s Greatest Explorer, and MuchMusic’s For & Wide.

Returning to Saskatoon after his projects wrapped up, Forbes connected with his school pal and fellow adventurer Travis Low (BComm’10). While Forbes’ forte was social media and reality TV, Low had spent four years as executive director of Parkinson Society Saskatchewan. Low has also used social media to promote his fundraiser Lows in Motion, now entering its 10th year. Low’s father has Parkinson’s, and running this event was a way for Low to give back. It’s Canada’s most attended Parkinson fundraiser, and has brought in more than $550,000 so far.

Paddleboarding on the river one day, Forbes and Low brainstormed business ideas.

The result was a digital marketing company, Blue Moose Media, launched in November 2016. Its mission is two-fold. One is account management for clients, handling all aspects of social media marketing for them. The other is training other businesses in social media marketing tools and strategies so they can be successful online.

“Social media is by far the most cost-effective and measurable advertising tool out there,” Forbes said, adding this proviso: “It takes time to make it work.

Asked to name the most important things about effective use, Forbes mentions three: posting great content that is engaging, having a clear and well thought out content strategy, and something he calls community management.

“No other advertising medium allows two-way conversation with consumers;” he explained. Imagine drawing in 50 or 100 comments on your site; now you have a community, “you become woven into their lives.

But it’s important to answer those comments, reviews and messages. As is offering “a great brand story” that includes not only your product or service, but other content pillars that add value—things your company is doing in the community, the people who work for you and expertise in your industry. A company that sells barbecues, for example, might post the top five recipes.

“You’re not trying to sell me anything, you’re just being a friend,” Forbes explained.

Forbes’ advice to anyone launching a career or business: emulate the successful social media marketers. Look at how often they post, what they post about, which posts get the most engagement and why. (Is it the close-up? Is the person’s photo a close-up or shot from 20 feet away?)

**Direct connection, musician to audience**

Aspiring entertainers would do well to emulate Nathan Thoen (BComm’15) social media path.

Lead singer in the Saskatoon band Bombargo, Thoen remembers the “surreal moment” when the group returned from a January song-writing trip to Bali. Their song Mr. No Good made Taylor Swift’s list of favourite songs she posted on Spotify, the online music service.

“The best people with the biggest的成功 scores are on your site. You were like ‘what the heck?’” said Thoen.

Yep, there they were, 37th on a list of 43 that includes the likes of Ed Sheeren, Kendrick Lamar, Camila Cabello and the Canadian pop-punk band Marianas Trench. Thoen is unsure how Bombargo made the list, but he thinks it’s probably because of the song’s spike in popularity on Spotify— with uploads in such far flung places as Australia, New Zealand and Sweden.

The attention has generated phone calls and emails from people in the music industry, and now Bombargo is trying to capitalize on the attention, creating new music and recording the music they wrote in Bali.

Not bad for a song written in 15 minutes and recorded the following day. The day after that, they shot the music video at the club Village Guitar & Amp, just down the street from Thoen’s Riverside-area home. One day later Thoen did the editing and released the song on Spotify and YouTube.

In all, a four-day turnaround, “which is kind of unheard of to be able to move that quickly,” Thoen said.

Before the digital revolution, a band couldn’t hope to get radio airplay without first signing with a record label, which put out a recording and covered the huge cost of burning out a music video. Then the band had to hope a producer liked the video enough to play it. Otherwise, it would land on a pile of old dusty tapes.

“You’re not trying to sell me anything, you’re just being a friend,” Forbes said.

“Now, your iPhone can shoot an amazing music video,” Thoen noted, and outlets such as Spotify “can get you out there faster than the radio can.”

As such, this digital revolution is forcing musicians to be their own marketers. With CD sales taking a dive, record labels are no longer willing to take risks on promising but unproven performers, Thoen observed.

The shift from labels to social platforms may limit record producers nurturing band talent and taking them to the next level. But with no producers around to squelch that talent in the name of massive popularity and sales, musicians can follow their own creative path, finding a niche audience in the virtual world—if they can be heard above the explosion of competition out there.

How does Thoen cut through that competition? By playing live as much as possible, and making the show as lively as possible—“climbing the railings at the bar” —whatever it takes to make the audience come back for the next show, just because they want to see what happens next.

**Single no more**

Social media can definitely help you sell products or a piece of music but when it comes to matters of the heart, people of all ages are also benefiting from online communities such as Sarah Knudson, associate professor and department head of sociology at St. Thomas More College.

But the usage patterns in younger and older generations are not necessarily what we might expect, she found.

Citing surveys by the Pew Research Center in the U.S., Knudson says 30 to 40 percent of adults are looking for love online.

People in their mid-20s and younger feel no stigma with online dating but they generally don’t approach it with “serious intent,” Knudson said. They may post their profiles on apps like Tinder or Grinder, but for them it’s a way to pass some “mindless time,” checking to see who else is out there looking. They believe they’re most likely to find a long-term partner in person in class, at work, out on the town.

But once people reach their late-20s the romance market begins to thin, Knudson said. They may post t

Internet becomes the method of choice to find someone at work, out on the town.

But once people reach their late-20s the romance market begins to thin, Knudson said. They may post to try to find someone, and how many people they met in the process.

But getting your heart broken transcends beyond the limits of finding someone at the bar versus online: there’s still a world of disappointment for online daters. People— including married folks—looking for casual hook-ups. People who misrepresent themselves, perhaps posting a younger photo of themselves. Discrimination on the basis of age or ethnicity. And there are safety concerns.

On the one hand, an online search can take a time-saver in an age when everyone is so busy. But it can feel like a time-sucker, wading through hundreds or even thousands of profiles.

And yet, for older people Internet dating still “expands the universe of possibilities,” Knudson said, especially in small towns and rural areas. Another positive: niche sites have sprung up, serving diverse groups as people with disabilities, particular faith communities, or certain age groups.

“It’s a way of realizing that there might be other singles seriously hunting singles out there not too far from them whereas 30, 40 years ago you’d just say, ‘There’s nobody around, there are no prospects.’”

**From dating to data mining**

Computer science professor Julita Vassileva has spent the past couple of decades peering at the Internet from all angles: working on systems and infrastructures, studying the ethics of digital technology, and encouraging participation in online communities.

As she sees it, virtual connectedness has broadened community but perhaps also made it shallower.

Everything on the Internet happens at lightning speed and Vassileva has witnessed how the interaction between users and their
platforms continues to evolve. Vassileva has seen some infrastructures appear then fade away (such as online discussion forums)—to be replaced by such dominant players as Facebook.

“Defining what kind of functions the site has, what people are able to do with it, to a big extent defines whether people will storm to use it, or they will just hang on and start checking it less and less frequently and then finally fade off,” she explained.

She agrees that how people use Facebook is as individual as the people themselves. She uses her account to share interesting articles on the future of technology with her colleagues near and far, and to keep in touch with friends in her native Bulgaria. After 20 years of living in Saskatoon, when she goes home to visit, “I don’t feel like a stranger. I jump right in to the middle of the action. I’m current to my friends’ lives.”

And yet, what some Facebook users may not know is that each of our friends may be seeing a quite different portrait of us through the social media platform.

It’s both the upside and the downside of the site’s capacity to personalize content, Vassileva explained. Facebook filters away the things each user finds uninteresting. Your one friend’s continual posting of cat videos might not be even in your news feed because you have never liked any of them. Facebook’s algorithms learn from your behaviour and reorder the stream of events on your feed.

“If you didn’t engage with her posts for some time you stop seeing them,” Vassileva explained. “That’s what Facebook does.”

So, if you and someone else have the same friend, “you and this other person will see completely different things in their stream, because it’s based on what you like, on what you read, what you forward” it saves you time, but also takes away your ability to do your own filtering.

Nearly eight years ago, one of Vassileva’s students designed an application that allowed users to see their Facebook streams unfiltered. “And people were amazed to see how much they don’t see in their normal stream because it’s hidden away from them on Facebook,” she recalled.

It’s how Facebook can lead to radicalization, Vassileva explained.

“If you hear only confirmation of your views, you’re confident that your views are correct. You believe the whole world agrees with you, but it’s not the case.”

Lately there have been reports of the link between social media and depression. Vassileva believes an unrealistic impression that other people’s lives are so much better than one’s own is only part of the explanation.

“(Social media) is still a surrogate, it’s not a real interaction. A real interaction has a lot of unselected noise, and this noise is healthy,” she explained.

Much has been made of Internet “trolls,” the people who make hateful comments under the cover of anonymity. But Vassileva sees another side to anonymity: the ability to express minority views without fear of backlash or reprisal. Some governments aim to outlaw anonymity because they want to stifle dissent, she notes.

Similarly, the participative web’s persuasiveness and addictiveness can be used for ill or for good. On the positive side, the reward features of games (such as progress bars or levels) can be used to encourage healthier habits. So can competitive features such as leader boards.

Where Vassileva sees enormous danger is in data collection (so necessary for personalizing social media streams), shifting the balance of power hugely in the favour of the companies that amass it.

Now, Vassileva and one of her students are developing a platform where users can decide with whom they want to share their data. Using blockchain technology, they can say what data will be stored, who can access it, for what purpose, and how long it can be kept. Users can then make money from their own data, charging for the use of it, with payment in cryptocurrency.

The project is expected to be completed in two years’ time. “The challenge then is in persuading digital powerhouses such as Google and Facebook to adopt the platform. Perhaps it can be promoted as a good business practice, taken on by corporations that want to be seen as ethical, Vassileva says.”

Although examples abound of digital technologies being put to malevolent uses, “they have always been developed with good intentions, to improve things,” she stressed.

“It will be an ongoing effort to counteract corrupt uses, Vassileva acknowledges, all the more difficult in a world where the speed of innovation is ‘neck-breaking’.”
Long days, long nights, deadlines, events, interviews. For some it sounds exhilarating. As a go-to reporter for CBC, Heroux spent his days running from venue to venue, bringing Canadians the stories of our Olympic victories and defeats.

Heroux was able to squeeze in a quick interview with the Green & White in-between covering the Olympics and the Paralympic games.
A CALL TO CONNECT

A young man’s thirst for adventure brought Don Poon from Hong Kong to Canada in the 1970s. A welcoming community of friends and colleagues soon convinced him to call Saskatoon home.

Exploring the world

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Poon is the oldest of five children. His father was a successful contractor who encouraged his son to pursue an engineering degree so he could join the family business.

“There were two universities in Hong Kong, but like many young people in the 1970s, I wanted a foreign experience, I wanted to explore the world,” Poon said.

He set his sights on attending the University of Texas in Austin. His parents worried about him being so far from home, with neither friends nor family for support. Since they did have a friend whose children were attending the University of Saskatchewan, they suggested a compromise.

“That family connection is what brought me to Saskatoon. I came here first to ‘get my feet wet,’ ” Poon said. He attended Grade 12 at Evan Hardy Collegiate to learn the language and acclimatize to a different culture. An upbeat, gregarious personality, he quickly met new people, made new friends and, in his own words, “had a blast.”

“I loved the people, I found them friendly and genuine. They took the time to learn about my culture and treated me well. I was very moved by that, so I decided to stay and take my first year at the University of Saskatchewan.”

Even then, Poon still planned to transfer to the U of Texas. It’s funny how life has a way of redirecting youthful ambitions. Poon worked hard but he also enjoyed a balanced social life. He joined the Chinese Student’s Association (CSA), got involved in sports—and met Judy, a commerce student who happened to be a cheerleader for the CSA. Saskatoon began to feel a little more like home.

When Poon graduated with a degree in civil engineering in 1979, he returned to Hong Kong and began work at an engineering firm. Judy travelled to Hong Kong as well, and spent the summer with his family before returning to the U of S for her final year. She graduated in 1980.

“Judy was born and raised here in Saskatoon, so Hong Kong was very different for her; culture shock, I think. Her family was here as well, so that pulled me back [to Saskatoon],” Poon said.

The couple married and made their life in Saskatoon, with frequent trips overseas to visit with his family. Their daughter Candace was born and raised in Saskatoon, and is also a U of S alumnus, having graduated with a BA in 2016.

Making a professional impact

Poon’s professional career has been shaped by community. He had a number of mentors through the years, his father being the first and most influential.

“I became an engineer because of my father’s influence, and the fact that he was a business owner also influenced me,” Poon said. Several of his engineering professors became mentors. When Poon returned to Saskatoon from Hong Kong in 1980, the Canadian economy was struggling and job opportunities for young engineers were few and far between. His network of contacts helped him land a short-term position as a research engineer on campus. This led to an offer from a former professor, Gordon Sparks (now professor emeritus of civil and geological engineering), to join Sparks, Duffie & Associates, Ltd., a local consulting engineering firm.

“Professor Sparks helped launch my career, and I was very appreciative of the opportunity. I remember seeing all these talented young engineers moving to other provinces, and it made me sad,” Poon remembers.

That sense of loss stayed with him. When the consulting firm evolved into SAL Engineering Ltd. and Poon became the managing director, he made a conscious decision to hire and mentor Saskatchewan talent.

“All our engineers at SAL are University of Saskatchewan graduates, and our senior technologist is a Saskatchewan Polytechnic graduate, we like hiring interns and summer students from the U of S, too,” he said. There’s also a family connection: Poon’s wife is the company administrator.

We define community in so many ways, from a broad concept of people living together in a society, to groups of individuals with common experiences and interests to connect them over time and distance. Whatever your definition, what truly makes a community is a desire to be part of, and contribute to something bigger than ourselves. Based on this, Don Poon (BE’79) has made community a central focus of his personal and professional life.

“I loved the people, I found them friendly and genuine. They took the time to learn about my culture and treated me well. I was very moved by that, so I decided to stay and take my first year at the University of Saskatchewan.”

DON POON (BE’79)
“As a young man, I benefited from the unique experiences and expertise of the people around me. They provided life-long lessons that I treasure. Meeting people from all walks of life has helped me chart my own personal path.”  

DON POON (BE’79)

SAL Engineering has completed more than $400 million in municipal and transportation engineering projects since Poon joined the company. For the past 38 years, his leadership has set the tone for the firm’s commitment to improving health, safety and quality of life for urban, rural and First Nation residents across Saskatchewan.

“Our work is timely and responsible. The quality and value of our work reflect directly on our professional reputations, both as individuals and as a firm.”

Poon is particularly proud of the relationships he and the company have built with First Nations communities, municipalities, and government. In recent years, SAL has provided project management services for schools, health centres, water treatment plants, pumping stations, recreational facilities, fire halls, and road and flood control projects.

The Pelican Narrows high school addition and renovation project earned SAL the first-ever Pinnacle Award from the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies—Saskatchewan (ACEC-SK) for highest achieving project submission, as well as the 2017 ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Award of Excellence for project management. The project was not only delivered under budget and ahead of schedule, it provided over 22,500 hours of training and employment for local workers.

Poon has also been personally recognized for his commitment to the profession with a number of service awards, including the prestigious 2012 Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Meritorious Achievement Award.

He continues to volunteer his time for a variety of professional associations, including the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan, the ACEC-SK, Western Canada Water and Wastewater Association and the American Water Works Association. He is one of a select group of Canadians to become a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and his long-standing memberships in the Institution of Civil Engineers in the United Kingdom and the European Federation of National Engineering Associations keep him in touch with the international engineering scene.

Why does he do all this—mentor, teach, hire local, volunteer, nurture relationships? “I like working with people,” Poon said. “As a young man, I benefited from the unique experiences and expertise of the people around me. They provided life-long lessons that I treasure. Meeting people from all walks of life has helped me chart my own personal path, and I think that’s been good for me and also good for those who know me.

“I think it’s important for senior people to mentor younger people—that’s why I’m involved in so many communities.”

CONNECTING AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

In 2014, over 100 alumni attended the Chinese Students’ Association (CSA) 35th Reunion in Saskatoon. Don Poon helped organize the event, which was billed as the first (and to date, only) time the CSA’s reunion was held at the University of Saskatchewan.

“We planned the event for over two years, and we had great support from the alumni, the university and the College of Engineering,” Poon said. “We organized a campus tour, a gala banquet, karaoke in the Upper MUB, a soccer game at Griffith Stadium—it was a fun program. Some alumni brought their sons and daughters to see the U of S, see where they went to school.”

Approximately 41 per cent of attendees came all the way from Hong Kong to attend, another 36 per cent travelled from Alberta, B.C. and Ontario, and the rest were from Saskatchewan. They came for a chance to step back in time and reconnect with friends and former classmates, to visit old haunts and to see how the campus has changed over the years.

The reunion was so successful, there was a little money left over. The CSA decided to establish a one-time scholarship to reward the academic achievement of an international student who had completed a first year of study at the U of S. It’s another example of the collateral benefits of staying connected to community.

Honorary degree nominations

An honorary degree is the highest honour the university can bestow. Honorary degrees are awarded to outstanding individuals who have made a worthy and unique contribution.

Nominations for honorary degree recipients are accepted year-round and are reviewed annually in the Spring by the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees.

The guidelines and form for nominations can be found on the Office of the University Secretary’s website at usask.ca/secretariat/governing-bodies/senate/honorary-degrees.php
AMANDA WORONIUK

Dr. Charles Simpson (MD’71) is a Saskatoon-based obstetrician and gynecologist. Retired from clinical practice, he continues to teach as a clinical professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the College of Medicine.

Simpson has served as a member of the college’s Alumni Association and as a volunteer consultant for the annual Highlights in Medicine alumni reunion conference.

He’s also served as a mock interview facilitator to prepare medical students for their Canadian Residency Matching Service interviews. Additionally, he devotes his time to volunteering with the U of S Library and Persephone Theatre.

What specifically attracted you to volunteering?

DS: Now that I’ve stopped doing clinical practice, I’m mostly retired. Volunteering is another way of both filling in my time and contributing back to the college. As I grow older—and in my phase of life—we start to think about how valuable it was that we got through our careers. I think it’s the general idea of giving back when I have the time to do so.

What keeps you motivated to continue to volunteer?

DS: Mostly the satisfaction of meeting people, and especially younger people—when I’m dealing with students—to feel like I’ve added something to my own life.

What types of relationships and learning experiences have you taken away from volunteering?

DS: Meeting and interacting with people, especially younger people, rather than just dealing with the seniors, was one of the reasons for volunteering.

How do you aim to inspire others to get involved?

DS: I try to be an example of what to do. In the community, I sometimes mention it to people that volunteering is something I’ve done and enjoyed. I don’t go around and try strongly to get people to do things—only if it comes up in casual conversation.

The U of S celebrates the value of volunteering. Visit alumni.usask.ca/volunteer to check out volunteer opportunities.

Visit usask.ca/communityreport for more information

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U OF S COMMUNITY REPORT

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Charles Simpson (MD’71)
Kelly Strueby (BComm’84)
President, Alumni Association

“Community” is the theme of this issue and I encourage you to renew and strengthen your connection to the U of S community. There are many ways to stay connected. Volunteer at a U of S event, make a gift, attend our events, sign up for your free alumni cards, send us your story—whatever way you can, we are here to keep you connected.

Many of you connected with us in 2017 during the Alumni Association centennial celebrations. I cannot reinforce enough how great it was to see so many alumni coming to events celebrating our 100 years—be it the Alumni Weekend, Huskie football games or at the events throughout the country. Several events were held over the winter to help unite our alumni family. This year’s inaugural Alumni and Friends skate saw nearly 200 alumni and community members visit campus and enjoy a skate around the U of S bowl. The fourth-annual Bunny Brunch was a huge success, with many future alumni on campus finding eggs in the snow. And finally, our annual day of giving, One Day for Students, raised over $100,000 for students in need.

Hot on the heels of these events, we are planning another Alumni Weekend for the week of September 20, 2018. Mark this date on your calendar as we connect, learn and celebrate together.

As you flip through these pages of the Green & White and read about your fellow alumni, I hope you will feel connected to your alma mater and take pride in being part of this wonderful alumni community. Remember, the U of S is always home.

Kelly Strueby (BComm’84)
President, Alumni Association
Alumni events

The Alumni Relations office puts on many events throughout the year to reunite our alumni and remind you that U of S is always home.

In Saskatoon, you channelled your flannel in December, enjoyed the new rink in the Bowl in February, and hunted for eggs in March.

We also travelled to our alumni abroad, visiting and reuniting with alumni in Winnipeg, Ottawa and California.

For more information on how you can get involved with our events visit alumni.usask.ca

Alumni Patrick Hayes (BA'80, MA'90) and Bill Waiser (MA'76, PhD'83) explain how they plan to honour those who served during WWI.

G&W: What is the role and purpose of the university Great War Commemoration Committee?

BW: The committee was formed in the spring of 2014 to consider ways in which the Great War could be commemorated on campus. The membership includes student, staff, faculty, retirees, and general public representation. All members are alumni of the university.

Since August 2014, the committee has hosted a series of events and activities examining the impact of the war on the university and the wider Saskatchewan community and the contribution of the university and the province to the war effort.

These include the addition of missing names to Peter MacKinnon Building ribbon memorials and a talk by The Globe and Mail editorial cartoonist Brian Gable on Great War cartooning, among many other things.

PH: One of our ongoing projects has been a web page of archival documents—greatwar.usask.ca. The web page was conceived at the committee’s first meeting. The site contains material scanned exclusively from the University Archives and Special Collections. The subjects covered are driven by the archival and printed sources in the collection. It is hoped that the presentation of one of a kind and rare material will aid in the research into and knowledge of the Great War. The site will continue to expand through the addition of scanned material, with a search feature currently in the works.

G&W: The newest project of the Great War Commemoration Committee is to build a commemorative bench on campus. Can you explain this project?

BW: We wanted to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of First World War with a permanent monument—simple, graceful and respectful—dedicated to the men and women of the campus who served their country from 1914 to 1918.

PH: The bench was designed by local artisan Ryan Watson of Rocco Masons of Saskatoon.

G&W: Where will the bench be located?

PH: The bench location was an important consideration. We wanted it to be in the heart of the original campus—a place that would have been familiar to the volunteers of the time. It will sit at the south end of the plaza between the original campus residences.

G&W: How was the university affected by the Great War?

BW: The Great War exacted a heavy human toll on the University of Saskatchewan. Of the 345 students, faculty and staff who enlisted, 69 were killed, about 100 were wounded. 35 were awarded medals of valour. Compare the enlistment number of 345 with the total number of grads by the end of 1918 at just over 300.

G&W: How can the alumni help with the project?

PH: The university Great War Commemoration Committee is soliciting donations for the creation and installation of the memorial bench. Our goal is $20,000 and donors will receive a charitable donation receipt.

To donate to the Great War Memorial Bench Fund visit greatwar.usask.ca
Take advantage of your alumni privileges.

Get preferred rates and coverage that fits your needs.

For a personalized quotation or to apply online, please visit us at:

Call 1-888-589-5656 or go to tdinsurance.com/usaskalumni

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Supporting you…

and University of Saskatchewan.

As an alumnus of the University of Saskatchewan, you have access to the TD Insurance Meloche Monnex program. This means you can get preferred insurance rates on a wide range of home and car coverage that can be customized for your needs.

For over 65 years, TD Insurance has been helping Canadians find quality home and car insurance solutions.

Feel confident your home and car coverage fits your needs. Get a quote now.

CLASS NOTES

Share your story. Tell us the recent highlights of your career, achievements and personal updates.

Your story will be shared online in class notes and may be published in the next Green & White or in college publications. Visit alumni.usask.ca/classnotes.

We’re better, together.

Comprehensive coverage. Superior value.

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For more information, please visit tdinsurance.com/usaskalumni

We’ve been named as a College of Arts and Sciences Alumni of Influence honouree for 2018.

Professor Emeritus Ron G. Britton, BSc ’65, MSc ’66, PhD ’70, of Waterloo, ON, published On Design: A Philosophy of Design and Engineering in 2017. He was appointed as a member of the University of Saskatchewan’s Board of Governors on July 27, 2017.

Mr. Brian B. Fosler, BSc ’64, MLS ’65, of Saskatchewan, SK, was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame on April 21, 2017.

Professor Emeritus Del G. Fredlund, BSc ’62, of Saskatchewan, SK, was recently awarded the K.L. Lo Medal from the Engineering Institute of Canada for significant engineering contributions at the international level. He received a new honorary title, Dr. Eng Dr. D. Fredlund, at a conference presented in Vietnam and other countries.

Mr. Alexander E. Douglas, BA ’39, PhD ’71, of Montreal, QC, has been posthumously named as a College of Arts and Sciences Alumni of Influence honouree for 2018.

Professor Emeritus Donald C. Kern, BSc ’63, of Saskatchewan, SK, has been named a Great Innovation Convocation Award recipient for 2017.

Mr. Edward P. Neufeld, BA ’57, ARTS ’73, of Missoula, MT, has been named a College of Arts and Sciences Alumni of Influence honouree for 2018.

Mr. Bryan K. Anderson, BS ’64, of Edmonton, AB, retired from the Edmonton Public School System in 1998 after 34 years. He was elected to the Edmonton City Council on October 19, 1998 and served on October 23, 2017 after six successful terms and 19 years as an Edmonton councillor. He is the longest tenured alderman in Edmonton history. Bryan was inducted into the Alberta School Athletic Association’s Coaching Hall of Fame in 2015.

Mr. Leo L. King, BSc ’66, MSc ’70, of Charlottetown, PEI, was appointed as a member of the advisory board to Benz Mining Company’s Board of Directors on August 14, 2017.

Mr. John K. Lovering, BA ’64, BE ’70, of Wilco, SK, was posthumously inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame on July 1, 2018.

Dr. Roberta M. McKay, NURS ’64, of Victoria, BC, was inducted into the University of Saskatchewan’s Order of Fame on July 7, 2018.

Mr. Gary D. Young, BA ’68, LLB ’71, of Saskatoon, SK, was awarded the Saskatchewan Distinguished Service Award of Canada to serve in this role. During his previous term as president, he created the CCPC Forum on Venture Capital and Private Equity, and chaired the Comité directeur of the Fédération des chambres de commerce et d’industries française de l’Ontario (CCIFE). Mr. Hart, a partner at Langlois lawyers, practices corporate law and commercial law and has actively worked with French businesses for many years. He is head of the firm’s French-Quebec Practice Group, which
of Saskatoon, SK, received the
to the premier of Saskatchewan
James, on September 30, 2017. Displays
Pharmacy Museum Society’s display
years of which he occupied the role of
the 2017 Saskatchewan Chamber
Mr. Bruce B. Johnstone, BA’74,
Mr. Trevor N. Herriot, BA’79,
Mr. Trevor N. Herriot, BA’79,
Mr. Trevor N. Herriot, BA’79,

Mr. Calvin C. Redlick, LLB’81, BA’83,
Mr. Felix A. Thomas, BSPE’88, BA’90,
Ms. Leanne M. Bellegarde, LLB’91,
Dr. Susan A. Shaw, MD’95,
Ms. Serese A. Selanders, BA’95,
Ms. Norely Abd Rahman, MEd’17,

Dr. Scott Moe on February 2, 2018.

Dr. John A. Radtke, MD’92, PhD’98,
Mr. Carey J. Simonson, BE’91,
Mr. George A. Lewko, BSA’92,
Mr. Patrick G. Novecosky, BA’89,
Mr. Chad W. Magus, BComm’98,
Dr. Brady A. Crow, MD’93, PhD’98,
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Mr. Patrick G. Novecosky, BA’89,
Mr. Chad W. Magus, BComm’98,
Mr. Abraham A. Ali, PhD'15, of Ethiopia, returned to his home country, Ethiopia, after graduation and was appointed vice-president for projects focused on Latin American education, including health, and low-lying dementia care.

Dr. Kyle E. Kirnstein, BSc'MD'04, of Saskatoon, SK, has been named one of CBC Saskatchewan Future 40 for 2017. He was one of the first of his kind in the province.

Mr. Joseph R. Pantazopoulos, MD'04, of Yorkton, SK, was awarded the Fighter of the Year award for 2015, as well as the recipient of the Chamberlain Award Recipient. He was just recently appointed as the new CEO of the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation for 2018 - 2022.

Ms. Karen A. Robson, BComm'13, of Saskatoon, SK, has been named one of CBC Saskatchewan Future 40 for 2017.

Ms. Zoey M. Rep, BEd'17, of Saskatchewan, SK, is a full-time teacher with the Saskatchewan Public Service Commission. She has also completed her Master's Degree in Education as an assistant professor at the University of Lethbridge. She was appointed as the new CEO of the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation effective November 1, 2017.

Mr. Malcolm S. Radia, BComm'13, of Saskatoon, SK, has been named as the new CEO of the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation effective November 1, 2017.

Mr. John R. Pantazopoulos, MD’04, of Yorkton, SK, was awarded the Fighter of the Year award for 2015, as well as the recipient of the Chamberlain Award Recipient. He was just recently appointed as the new CEO of the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation for 2018 - 2022.

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Ms. Zoey M. Rep, BEd’17, of Saskatchewan, SK, is a full-time teacher with the Saskatchewan Public Service Commission. She has also completed her Master’s Degree in Education as an assistant professor at the University of Lethbridge. She was appointed as the new CEO of the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation effective November 1, 2017.

Mr. Malcolm S. Radia, BComm’13, of Saskatoon, SK, has been named as the new CEO of the Lloydminster Regional Health Foundation effective November 1, 2017.

Mrs. Benjamin J. Kormos, JD’08, of Medicine Hat and District Chamber of Commerce, has been named one of CBC Saskatchewan Future 40 for 2017. He was one of the first of his kind in the province.

Ms. Blair E. Voth Miller, BComm’03, of Saskatoon, SK, has been named as a CBC Saskatchewan Future 40 for 2017.

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