



THE PATHFINDER *for* PATHFINDERS

November 9, 2015

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP CELEBRATED

*Saskatoon* – The Saskatchewan Economic Development Association (SEDA) was pleased to present the 2015 Economic Development Awards of Excellence on November 3, 2015 at the Uniplex in Humboldt.

Attended by over 100 community leaders, government officials and economic development practitioners from across the province, the Awards Banquet provided recognition for the following outstanding contributions to community economic development in Saskatchewan:

#### **2015 OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE**

##### ***Recipient: Town of Kindersley***

This award recognizes the work of communities and organizations who have assumed a lead role in developing their local or regional economy through an initiative that has led to measurable success. This year's recipient is being celebrated for an initiative that falls into the category of *infrastructure enhancement and development*.

The Town of Kindersley's **Backwash Waste Water Project** has provided an alternate source of water for commercial and industrial use in order to alleviate the pressure placed on the town's treated water supply. This has been accomplished through a capture and repurposing of backwash water that would otherwise be wasted.

The ability to offset additional strain to the treated water supply in Kindersley without reducing the community's support to its vital oil and gas industry - provides positive incentive for continued innovation by municipality. The community's collaboration with local oil industry leader Holland's Hot Oiling also makes this initiative unique as a new form of private/public partnership for which they are very proud.

Since the start of operation, the Town of Kindersley has received \$86,000 in new revenue from its portion of water sales generated.

#### **2015 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL**

##### ***Recipient: Katlin Ducherer, Lloydminster Economic Development Corporation(LEDC)***

This recognition is awarded to an individual who has assumed a leadership role and made significant contributions to a community or region. Katlin Ducherer has worked directly with LEDC for eight years and was recently promoted to Manager, Event and Business Development. She is currently nearing completion of the national professional certification program via the Economic Developers Association

of Canada - as well as Destination Marketing International's Certified Destination Marketing Executive program.

Katlin is described as "an employee that raises the level of all her colleagues and the organization as a whole". She has been a key member of the LEDC team on numerous initiatives and is credited by LEDC CEO Ward Read as assisting Lloydminster in being ranked in the top 20 municipalities nationally by Site Selection magazine this year.

### **2015 OUTSTANDING YOUNG PROFESSIONAL**

**Recipient: Josh Welz, City of Warman**

The *Outstanding Young Professional Award* recognizes a SEDA member who has recently entered the profession and has demonstrated leadership skills as well as a commitment to professional development. Josh Welz, Economic Development Officer with the City of Warman joined the municipality in 2014. Assuming an immediate leadership role in the areas of business development and investment attraction, Josh has been commended for adding his "fresh ideas, innovative solutions and unique perspective" to the municipal team.

### **Professional Community and Economic Developer of Saskatchewan™ CERTIFICATION AWARDS**

**Recipients: Carey Baker, Town of Unity; Sonja Dahlman, Dahlman Consulting; Celine Favreau, Mid Sask Municipal Alliance; Brent Lutz, City of Melfort; Dillon Shewchuk, City of Martensville.**

Launched this year, this provincial certification program supports SEDA's mandate to assist communities in building economic capacity. Since 2012, Saskatchewan has experienced an increase in hiring of community and economic developers, particularly within smaller municipalities and in remote regions of the province. Access to a professional designation program ensures that communities are served by professionals with a minimum standard of expertise and knowledge.

Congratulations to our first group of recipients of the **Professional Community and Economic Developer of Saskatchewan™** designation.

*Please join us in acknowledging and celebrating this leadership and community success from across the province.*

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