



**MINING, ENERGY
AND MANUFACTURING
FALL 2024**





Mining, Energy and Manufacturing

Page B1 • Monday, November 25, 2024

Grand opening held for Bekevar Yôtin Wind Project

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Members of the Cowessess First Nation, project developers, dignitaries, and landowners were on-hand at the Bekevar Substation southeast of Kipling on November 14 for the grand opening of the Bekevar Yôtin wind farm.

"Thank you all for joining us to celebrate the completion of Bekevar Yôtin," began Rebecca Ácikahtë, Business Development Manager of Renewables for Cowessess Ventures. "It was a big accomplishment with many people involved for many years."

Cowessess owns 17 per cent of the \$380 million project, the largest Indigenous renewable-owned project in Saskatchewan. Around 20,000 acres of land stretching across the RMs of Kingsley and Hazelwood, plus 500 acres on the Cowessess First Nation, are home to 36 turbines.

"The 205 MW project is comprised of 36 Nordex turbines, and they'll aid in powering up to 100,000 homes in Saskatchewan," Ácikahtë explained. "This contributes to the province's strategy to expand green energy sources with a goal of 50 per cent renewables in 2030."

The wind project has a 25-year power purchase agreement with SaskPower to sell the electricity it generates—not only signifying a major step forward in renewable energy for the province, but also setting a precedent for Indigenous leadership in sustainable development.

"To me personally, Bekevar represents a significant step for energy sovereignty, economic development and environmental stewardship, for both Cowessess First Nation and our partner owner Innagreen Investments, as well as many of the landowners and people who live nearby," Ácikahtë said.

The event began with Elders and Knowledge Keepers offering tobacco and sharing in prayer, then key contributors to the project were also invited to share in the pipe ceremony. Bridging into the formal agenda portion of the program, Mike Dejarlais sang a few honour songs, joined by Cowessess Senior Warrior Kestin Delorme and Senior Princess, Mimikwas Ácikahtë.

Appearing on behalf of Chief Erica Beaudin was Councillor Curtis Delorme for Cowessess First Nation. He spoke of the accumulation of hard work, collaboration and vision, recognizing the significant impact this project will have on the community and beyond.

"The Bekevar project represents a critical step towards energy sovereignty for Cowessess First Nation," he said. "With a 17 per cent ownership stake, Cowessess plays



Mike Dejarlais (right) sang a few honour songs during the grand opening of the Bekevar Yôtin Wind Energy Project on Nov. 14 He's joined by (from left) Cowessess Senior Princess, Mimikwas Ácikahtë and Senior Warrior Kestin Delorme.

a meaningful role in managing and benefiting from the project's 200 MW of clean energy products. This initiative aligns with our values and our commitment to preserve the land for future generations, integrated traditional stewardship and modern technologies to create sustainable energy. In doing so, we contribute to the broader goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and a responsibility to share with communities across Canada."

Delorme also touched on the lasting benefits to the Cowessess First Nation, describing how it has provided local jobs support, skills development, and revenue streams, in turn strengthening the community's financial resilience.

"The wind project has created an infrastructure for long-term economic sustainability and energy economy serving as a powerful example for Indigenous communities across Canada," he said. "As partners in the Bekevar Yôtin Wind Project, we affirm our commitment to environmental responsibility and growth where economic empowerment does not come at the expense of our lands and resources."

"Moreover, this project exemplifies what we can achieve through collaboration," Delorme continued. "Our partnership with Innagreen Investments and our support from Saskatchewan Renewable Energy Initiatives will have shown the power of working together towards a common goal."

Delorme explained how by blending traditional knowledge and advanced technology, a pathway for inclusive sustainable development is demonstrated.

"The Bekevar Yôtin Project is more than a source of energy, it is a beacon of progress and resilience and unity,"

he said. "As we look forward, we carry with us the pride of knowing we are a part of the transition to clean energy and that we have paved the way for future generations to thrive. Cowessess First Nation is committed to continuing this journey to strengthen our community and to foster partnerships that align with our values and visions and for the future."

Morrison & Co. executive director Will McIndoe pointed out how significant the Bekevar Yôtin project is for the New Zealand-based infrastructure asset manager.

"This Bekevar project is a significant milestone for us, representing our second project in Canada, and further expands our global operating renewables portfolio, which now stands at over 4,500 megawatts across our various platforms around the world," he said. "It's fantastic to have a project like this."

Morrison & Co. is Innagreen Investments' majority investor, and McIndoe stressed the importance of strong ties when working on such a dynamic project.

"At the core of what we do is really around partnerships," he said. "Our long-term success has really been driven on the back of partnerships. The ability to be able to deliver what is the largest project here in the province is no easy feat."

As with any project, McIndoe acknowledged there were speed bumps along the way, with some challenges providing a somewhat ironic twist.

"Luckily for us, one of those changes has been high winds throughout construction, and let's hope that continues now during the operation phase, and we can all see the benefits of that as we move forward," he said.

Continued on page B4



Councillor Curtis Delorme with Cowessess First Nation

Saskpro is proud to serve the Mining, Energy and Manufacturing Sectors.

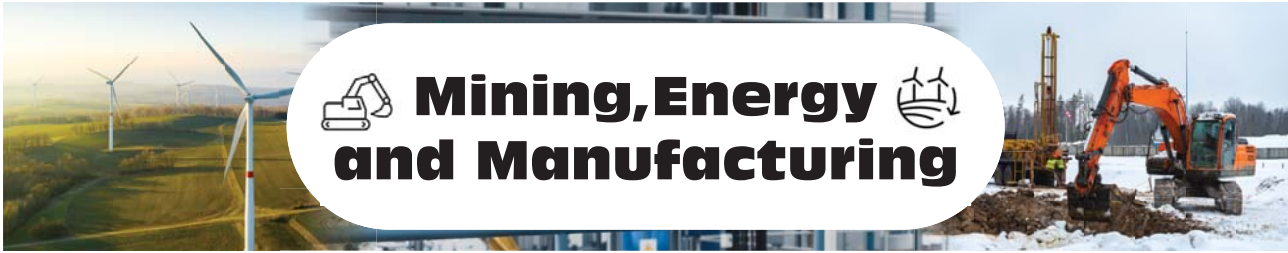
@SaskproMachine
ESTERHAZY, SK
306-745-6440
WWW.SASKPRO.COM



Investing in Community

Mosaic invests \$7 million annually through local partnerships that support food, water and sustainability, healthcare and education in Saskatchewan.





Bekevar Wind project comes online

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

After years of planning and construction, the Bekevar Wind and Power Line Project southeast of Kipling is at the energize stage, officially going online Nov. 14.

"There are 36 turbines up, and they should all be fully operational shortly after the event," said Rebecca Acikahte, Business Development Manager for Cowessess Ventures. The Cowessess First Nation (through their Awasis Nehiyawewini Energy Development Limited Partnership) partnered with Innagreen Investments back in 2019 to develop a facility in the RMs of Hazelwood and Kingsley, just north of Moose Mountain Provincial Park.

Five years later, the 202 MW project will be adding enough electricity to the Saskatchewan grid to power an average of 100,000 Saskatchewan homes. In order to make the connection from those three dozen turbines to the grid, a new 230kV single circuit power line was constructed, nine kilometers in length to connect the Kennedy Switching Station.

The Bekevar project is the largest of its kind in the province, part of an ongoing green commitment for Cowessess as Acikahte explained.

"We have the Awasis Solar Project in Regina, just 10 megawatts, and then originally on that same site, we have a wind/solar battery storage project, which is the first commercial scale project of its kind in the world," she said. "That started in 2013 and finished in 2018 with the addition of the solar. That brings in some revenue every month, and my office is out of the cabin there. It's run off of the project, so it's net-zero—it doesn't use up any energy off the grid."

That project is just outside city limits, between the scissors shape created by the TransCanada to the north and Highway 33 running southeast and consists of an 800kW wind turbine, a 500kW solar array, and 400kWh battery system.

The Bekevar project received \$173 mil-



Cowessess youth signing a turbine blade.

lion in investments from the Canadian Infrastructure Bank, \$50 million from Natural Resources Canada via the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program, and \$98 million in debt financing from German-based Norddeutsche Landesbank. The wind energy project spans 20,000 acres of land through the RMs of Hazelwood and Kingsley, and over 500 acres (three quarter-sections) on the Cowessess First Nation.

Continued on Page B11

PRIMEC CONTROLS
CANADA

Dr. Robert Kitchen MP
Souris-Moose Mountain

1-306-435-2831 • www.drrobertkitchen.ca

Sales & Service for
PUMPS / METERS / VALVES
CONTROLS / SWITCHES

Instrumentation Service	Combustion Services
PLC/RTU Programming	SCADA Services
Treater Parts	PSV Service
Shop & Field Calibrations	Shop & Field Repairs



Virden, Manitoba 124 Anson Street Tel: 204-748-3704	Estevan, Saskatchewan 321 Imperial Avenue Tel: 306-634-5304
---	---

www.Primeccontrols.ca



Mining, Energy and Manufacturing

Grand opening held for Bekevar Yôtin Wind Project

ESP *Continued from front*

"The complexity in the scale of a project like this, and the ability to deliver it successfully today is really a testament to the strong relationships we've been able to establish across the project, and importantly, the sort of high caliber of things on the ground to deliver a project like this."

Sashen Guneratna, Managing Director of Investments with the Canada Infrastructure Bank was also on hand. The federal Crown also placed significant dollars into the wind project when in March of 2023, the CIB invested \$173 million into Bekevar Yôtin.

"On a project like this—which I'm proud to say is our first investment in a renewal project—we're looking to achieve a number of key important outcomes," Guneratna said. "First and foremost, it's to partner with communities, so that communities have the opportunity to own equity in these projects and to have a stream of income to benefit their community. And also, it's to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in this country. So by investing in more renewable projects, we're enabling provinces and territories to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels."

He went on to describe how attitudes toward funding such projects have changed, giving communities a much larger say.

"Very early in my career, I was working on a project in another province, and one of the elders took me aside and said, 'look Sashen, you know what we as a community want to achieve is ownership of these projects,'" he explained. "We are no longer interested in just having the low value jobs. We want ownership so that we can benefit from the economics that are generated by projects. And that also gives us a say in how the projects get built, because we really care about the land, the air and the water, and we also want that ownership to translate into more of the value added jobs, so that we can own this project, generate income and also leave something for our children and grandchildren that we have made some sacrifices and given them ownership of assets that will benefit them."

Over the past few years, the CIB has invested \$13 billion in almost 75 projects across the country.

"Looking at the example of Bekevar, we're really proud to say we are investing in many more renewable projects across the country, and I'm really proud to say that all of them feature Indigenous partners and indigenous owners," Guneratna said, calling Bekevar the example of how to partner and effectively invest equity.

"Without projects like this, the path to a net zero and renewable future is not very bright," he continued. "But luckily, there's lots of activity and great examples like this one that we can all rely on as we move forward to hitting 2030 targets."

Province in midst of energy transition

SaskPower has a plan to increase wind and solar over the next decade.

"Right now, SaskPower is in the midst of an energy transition, one that's happened across the globe, with a shift toward low carbon and renewable energy production," said Troy King, Executive Vice-President, Chief Strategy, Technology and Financial Officer with SaskPower. "This transition requires fast power to evolve into a different kind of power company. Right now, we've committed to becoming a net zero greenhouse gas emission power system by 2050 and it goes without say-



Above, Turbine T19 is one of two on Coweess First Nation land. In total, the Bekevar Yôtin Wind Energy Project has 36 wind turbines operating in a vast area south of Kipling. **Right is** Sashen Guneratna, Managing Director of Investments with the Canada Infrastructure Bank.



ing to reach that goal, you're going to need investments in renewables by solar and wind to achieve this."

Right now, wind makes up just over 600 MW of the province's power mix, with combined wind and solar seeing a targeted increase to 3,000 MW by 2035.

"So to put that in perspective, this morning, we were at about 2,700 MW for our entire day, 3,000 is about our average," King said. "Once we get to that point, there will be points in time that we can have 100 per cent renewable power in our system."

There are currently about 1,000 MW of additional wind and solar generation projects in various stages of development throughout the province.

"Work is underway right now on the 100 MW Iyuhána Solar Energy Facility near Estevan and in coming months, we expect to announce the successful proponents that will develop an additional 400 MW of wind generation and 200 MW of solar generation in the south central region of Saskatchewan to be operational by 2028," King said.

Continued on page B5 **ESP**

SAPARA'S DRUG MART
PharmaChoice **Esterhazy, SK**
 306-745-6662

Monday-Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

To Mosaic, Nutrien, our local manufacturing businesses and their employees:

Thank you for your hard work and contributions to our community and for your continued support.

MANTL
 ARTIFICIAL LIFT

SE Saskatchewan Field Store

1952 Park Avenue
 Moosomin, SK, S0G 3N0
 On-Call: 306.802.4212
 Troy Smith: 306.608.9184

'CAUSE WE GIVE A SHIT



TAGS
 PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

Thank you to Mosaic & Nutrien for your continued support!

ISN
 COR
 SaskEnergy Network Member

Commercial • Industrial • Residential

306-745-3908
 tags@sasktel.net | Esterhazy, SK

HIGHLINER HOLDINGS
 PLUMBING • HEATING
 AIR CONDITIONING

Licensed Commercial & Domestic Gas Fitters with inter-provincial Journeyman plumbing tickets.

Malcolm Kendall
 COR CERTIFIED
 Box 179 • Carievale, SK • SOC OPO
306-928-2237
 Cell: 306-483-8988
 mac.ken@sasktel.net

Brady Kendall
306-482-8779

24-HOUR SERVICE
 Residential, Commercial & Light Industrial Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning



Peter Clibbon, Senior Vice President Development with Renewable Energy Systems.



Rebecca Âcikahtê, Business Development Manager of Renewables for Cowessess Ventures.



Troy King, Executive Vice-President, Chief Strategy, Technology and Financial Officer with SaskPower.

Grand opening held for Bekevar Yôtin Wind Project

Continued from page B4

"We're also working with First Nations Power Authority to find a proponent to develop, own, and operate another 100 MW of solar again in the south central region of the province, and a further 200 MW of wind generation is likely to be developed by Enbridge and partners the Seven Stars Energy Project."

Beginning last year, SaskPower committed to spend \$1 billion with Indigenous suppliers over the next decade. Last year, Indigenous procurement made up 10.8 per cent of all SaskPower's Saskatchewan-based procurement, which equates to nearly \$95 billion. For all future and current wind and solar competitions, there's a requirement that proposals must have at least 10 per cent Indigenous ownership.

There was one 'full circle' moment King shared, a recent fact he learned about the concrete foundations at the Bekevar Yôtin project.

"I just discovered this morning, I read the concrete foundations used at this facility for the 36 turbines include SaskPower fly ash sourced from our Boundary Dam power station—that's more than 3,100 tons of fly ash, to be exact," he said.

Another curious discovery was noted at the nearby Kennedy Switching Station, where a SaskPower line built in February is connected. While impossible to tell for certain where electricity goes once collected from the spinning turbines, one source postulated that it is supplying energy to the potash facilities in Esterhazy

From the ground up

Wind turbines are big. Those foundations King mentioned include between 600 and 800 cubic metres of concrete poured at the base of each turbine. Also in those bases are around 200,000 pounds of rebar, which is upwards of two inches thick in diameter. The turbines themselves—including base—weigh in at 600,000 kg.

What do the experts say the main ingredient is in constructing such massive creations?

"They say that if it takes a village to raise a child, what does it take to build a wind farm?" was the question Peter Clibbon, Senior Vice President Development with Renewable Energy Systems posed. "It takes an incredible local and global group of committed and passionate people cooperating and working in good faith with each other. If you think about it, the entire world came here—experts from around the province, the country and the planet, bringing their experience, expertise and technology to Saskatchewan."

For RES, Bekevar Yôtin has been a very successful project, according to Clibbon.

"We've had a fantastic team, partners, subcontractors," he said. "We've seen collaboration on the construction site every step of the way, and we've completed the project safely. As we heard, the weather was a challenge, but we're proud of how the team navigated these with great courage and patience."

RES is the original developer of the project, starting back in 2017 by initially engaging with Cowessess First Nation in the lead up to the eventual SaskPower competitive tender.

"I've worked in renewable energy for about 20 years," Clibbon said. "It's a long time, and this is exactly why I got into this sector. I got into the sector, and many people got into the sector, to affect some kind of social change and to develop a power generation system that's less dependent on carbon, the burning of fossil fuels, and in this year, which is literally the hottest year that's ever been recorded in humanity, the introduction of a 200 MW wind farm is particularly meaningful and we are very proud to be associated with it."

He also reflected on how relationships and attitudes have improved over the years, describing how relationships particularly with First Nations communities have evolved.

"When we began development back maybe 16, 17 years ago, consultation was a small 'c', and it was an obligation, and seen as a formality," he said. "Things have

changed, and for the better. Now we have involvement of First Nations actively in the design of projects and the ownership of projects. I can proudly say that there isn't a project that RES is involved in right now that doesn't have a First Nation either as an equity partner or as a main consultee, or as potentially the long-term owner and operator of the project."

36 powerful turbines

At first glance, blades on a turbine seem to lazily lumber along, almost at a reluctant rate. In fact, the maximum speed of those big blades is about 10.5 RPM. However, due to the length of the blade tips, those blades are actually cruising along at more than 300 km/hr.

Of course, windspeed is a major factor in operation, and turbines operate when the gusts are blowing between 10 and 90 km/hr. Anything more or less, and they shut themselves off.

John McComas Rodriguez knows a lot about turbines. He's the North American COO with Nordex USA, excited and humbled by the official grand opening at Bekevar Yôtin.

"Today, we're standing in the midst of 36 powerful N-155 turbines, and these are meant to navigate the challenges in fact, that we'll experience in the harsh Canadian wind and they represent a brighter future for us all,"

he said. "This wind farm is not just a symbol of clean energy, it's a testament to the strength and dedication of every person that contributed to its creation. It's a testament, as we heard earlier today, to our relationships with the completion of the state of the art turbine designed to operate efficiently. We are setting a new standard for clean energy generation in this region, and in fact, all of Canada."

McComas Rodriguez also underlined the value in working together, and how the values of his company align in that regard.

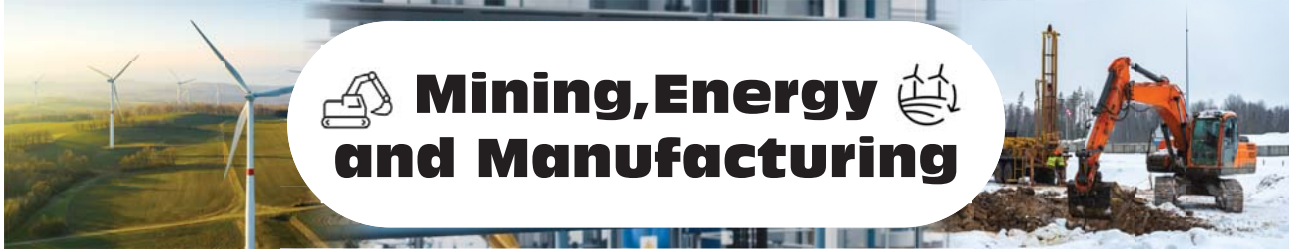
"At Nordex, we're deeply committed to the electrical transformation of Canada," he said. "The transformation, however, is about more than just energy. It's about creating new opportunities benefiting local communities and building a sustainable future for generations to come. With each project, we're reminded that every step forward we take in renewable energy is a step towards a more resilient and prosperous candidate. As we look ahead, we hope that this project will only provide renewable energy, not only to inspire future developments, foster even greater collaboration, and of course, be a model for future partnerships. In closing, thanks to each and every one of you, your hard work, your trust, your vision and for including Nordex as a dedicated long term partner."

WE PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY, FIT-FOR-PURPOSE SOLUTIONS.

SAFETY · PEOPLE · INTEGRITY · EXPERIENCE · QUALITY · INNOVATION



www.HDEngineeringDesign.com



SIMSA meets with Esterhazy members

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A severe snowstorm altered many plans last week, and a scheduled town hall type meeting in Esterhazy was one of those events that fell victim to the change of weather. Instead of shaking hands and having a coffee with folks over at the S.N. Boreen Centre as first planned, members of the Saskatchewan Industrial & Mining Suppliers Association Inc. met via virtual conference.

"Welcome to the virtual SIMSA town hall event," said SIMSA executive director Eric Anderson as the session began. "We didn't plan on it being this way, but nature had a different idea in mind, and here we are."

Typically, SIMSA events are held close to their base in Saskatoon and the trip to Esterhazy would have been the first time the organization visited the town. However, as Anderson later told the World-Spectator, SIMSA does plan to come to Esterhazy in the future—perhaps in a month where snow is not such an issue.

"We help our members sell stuff. That's what we try to do," he said of SIMSA's main objective. "We're not a social club, we're a business association."

Currently, SIMSA is the only organization of its kind in the province that not only supports, but also promotes and represents the interests of local suppliers that serve industrial, mining, and energy sectors. There are 363 members across the province and membership sales are more than \$17 billion with over 34,000 employees.

Insights on potash

In speaking to an audience based in a potash town, Anderson was quizzed on the overall health of the industry and the local impact.

"We're going to do well," he summarized. "We're going to do real well, and it's going to continue."

To explain his point, Anderson fleshed out the global importance of fertilizer and how Saskatchewan is the prime source of this particular product.

"There's a couple of simple truths out there," he began. "People seem to like making more people; that seems to happen a lot. There seems to be more people born every day, and there seems to be a trend."

More people means more food, which requires greater amounts of farmland to feed humans and livestock.

"You've got this inefficient processing

Mosaic K3 at Esterhazy



system degrading the amount of food that's available because people want to eat beef and changing diets," Anderson said. "So along comes fertilizer. Half of the world's food supply is due to fertilizer, and potash is one of the three main chunks of it. So unless the world decides that having more babies isn't a good idea, which seems to not be catching on, then we're going to need fertilizer—and potash will be doing well and continue to do well."

As an example, Anderson pointed to BHP, "the largest mining company on Earth."

"One of the most successful mining companies in the history of mining is building the largest project that they've ever done for that company in Saskatchewan, and it's for potash," he said. "They put \$14 billion on the table for the first two stages of the first of four potential mines. So one-eighth of the way in, and they're at \$14 billion. There's somebody who's putting some money on the table."

In terms of market options for potash, Anderson explained that it comes down to Belarus and Russia aside from Canada. Given the political climate, Canada is the preferred option—the current world leader accounting for 38 per cent of the world's total potash, and Saskatchewan houses the largest reserves globally.

The important factor close to home is what the mines contribute to the local economy in terms of jobs and investing here. Anderson noted Nutrien, for example, has an 80 to 85 per cent procurable

spent locally.

"K+S and Mosaic are in the same realm," he said. "BHP isn't spending as much locally on their build, but once they get into operations, most of the spending swings to local again, and that's the nature of any massive build project. They're bringing in large components from other countries that we just don't build here; or we could build them, but we'd have to tool up, build it, and then what do you do? You've made an investment that's kind of frozen. So there's certain places these things are built, brought in, dropped off, and then we do all the maintenance work on it. We make the long-term money."

Uranium and the nuclear future

Anderson is also excited about Saskatchewan's uranium sector and what that means for SIMSA members as nuclear energy is more seriously explored in the province.

"We're one of the richest deposits on Earth by a factor of about 100 now, our deposits aren't as big as some other countries, but it's still massive," he said. "That's going to do well on the nuclear build."

Anderson sees nuclear energy bringing billions of dollars to the province as that power source is developed, decreasing reliance on coal and natural gas sources for heat and power.

Small Modular Reactors are the current focus, with SaskPower eyeing a couple lo-

cations in the Estevan and Elbow areas. A round of community meetings was held in the Estevan/Weyburn area over the summer with site selection anticipated to occur in 2025. While the province's nuclear commitment still has a lot of 'maybes' at this point, SaskPower has confirmed that they are interested in the GE Hitachi BWRX-300 SMR, which is a 300MW reactor, to eventually supply power to the grid.

While Anderson did say SIMSA rarely hosts events, the group did host a three-day supplier symposium with Westinghouse, which yielded many interesting points in the world of nuclear reactor construction. During the event that began Nov. 8 in Saskatoon, Westinghouse gathered 20 different top purchasing and executive people to meet with SIMSA members.

"We found out from Westinghouse that in their build of nuclear, there's a couple of key things they talked about," Anderson said. "One was their idea of modular is stuff that fits on semis, it's not stuff that comes in on a barge. So unlike other companies, their stuff can be really shipped around a lot. They also talked about that in addition to being shippable, if you build it here, they could also supply the world from here."

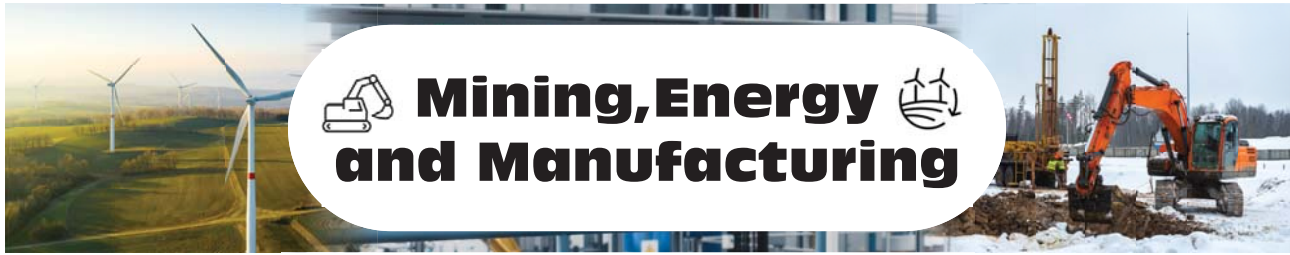
Connecting the dots between a company that favours sending parts via truck from supplier to worksite, having a fledgling nuclear development in the province and an entity that links local suppliers with industry, the nuclear world might just be a sector for shops to consider.

FALL IS HERE!

Before You Hit The Road or The Field . . .
Come and See Us For All Your Tire Needs.

"Let Our Family Help Your Family"

24 Hour Service • 1004 North Front St. • Moosomin, SK • 306-435-2949



Unlocking clean energy:

IMIIL releases study on small modular reactors for Saskatchewan's minerals sector

The International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMIIL) has unveiled a study on the potential applications of small modular reactors (SMRs) in providing clean heat and power for Saskatchewan's thriving mining and minerals sector. This research, crafted on behalf of participating members BHP, Fission Uranium Corp. and Hatley Engineering, and project partner SaskPower, and March Consulting Associates Inc. (March), highlights the potential to use SMRs as an innovative solution for a more sustainable energy future.

"The decarbonization of industrial sectors is crucial to achieve global net zero emissions targets, and both the province and its minerals industry share in this effort," said Al Shpyth, Executive Director at IMIIL. "Other studies have identified SMRs as a promising technology to support the decarbonization of the mining sector as they offer the potential to provide reliable, low-carbon heat and electricity for minerals operations. This report on SMRs for Saskatchewan's industry confirms the potential while also identifying considerations and future next steps for more fully realizing the clean energy benefits that may come from deploying SMRs in support of the minerals industry."

The study aimed to achieve several goals, including providing an overview of heat and power requirements for mining applications, evaluating small modular reactor (SMR) technologies and their suitability for these applications, and identifying opportunities and strategies for deployment. It also examined economic, environmental, and other factors across three different scenarios. Finally, the study offers a roadmap for those interested in promoting SMRs as a decarbonization technology for Saskatchewan's minerals industry, alongside considerations by SaskPower for the province.

"Decarbonizing industrial operations to mitigate climate change and address corporate ESG performance is an important objective that involves a complex system of challenges and opportunities. We were pleased to partner with IMIIL and other project partners to lead this study which examined the challenges of integrating SMR sourced heat and power with industrial operations for Saskatchewan's mining operations," said Ritu Malhotra,

The potential exists for using small modular reactors to meet clean heat and power requirements in Saskatchewan's mining and minerals industry

President & CEO of March. "While the study considered several factors, further analyses will aid in refining the integration and deployment scenarios of SMR technologies, including understanding and optimizing economic trade-offs. The study concludes that SMRs provide a promising opportunity to decarbonize mining operations in Saskatchewan."

A condensed version of the report that shares highlights from the study can be found on the IMIIL website.

On behalf of its members, IMIIL has been exploring innovative technologies to reduce GHG emissions from as well as the carbon intensity of mining and minerals operations. IMIIL considers SMRs to be among a range of clean energy technologies that could support the industry in achieving its emissions reduction targets. As such, IMIIL hopes that policymakers and other mining sector stakeholders use this report as a resource in understanding the considerations the industry has in determining how best

to meet clean energy demand for heat and electricity. IMIIL also notes that as the demand for clean energy continues to grow, the importance of ensuring reliable and diversified supply chains for such will continue to grow.

About SMRs

SMRs are a category of nuclear reactor designs that are smaller in power output and physical size. As advanced reactor technologies, many SMR designs offer enhanced safety features.

SMRs are designed to be modular with maximum factory-construction, making them scalable to specific energy demands. SMR designs vary in electrical output from as high as 300 MWe per module for grid-connected reactors (and being considered by SaskPower), down to 3 MWe per module, which could be suited for remote or industrial applications such as mining (and being considered by the SRC).

About IMIIL

IMIIL is a non-profit organization jointly funded by industry and government and is committed to developing and implementing innovative education, training, research and development partnerships for supporting a world-class minerals industry.

IMIIL serves as an Innovation Steward to strengthen the Saskatchewan minerals industry's competitiveness and growth through Research, Development & Demonstration and Education & Training to drive the future's Qualified & Representative Workforce.



Proudly and safely representing Saskatchewan potash workers for over 50 years!

SYSTEM 3
SUPPLY LTD.

Ken Ede cell: 306-736-7768
KIPLING, SK • 306-736-7286

Stockholm Agencies Ltd
Dawn Nagy - CAIB

113 Ohlen Street • Box 322 • Stockholm, SK • S0A 3Y0

306-793-2900
306-793-2959
stockholmagencies@sasktel.net

**PREMIUM
PRINTER
PAPER
AVAILABLE
LOCALLY!**

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR GREAT PRINTER COPY PAPER AT A GREAT PRICE?

AS YOUR LOCAL CUSTOM PRINTER, THE WORLD-SPECTATOR IS YOUR SOURCE FOR PRINTER COPY PAPER AND OTHER PAPER PRODUCTS!

8.5" X 11" COPY PAPER

Case of 5000 Sheets	Delivery in Moosomin	Package of 500 Sheets
\$85	\$87	\$10

THE WORLD-Spectator 306-435-2445
714 Main Street, Moosomin, SK

HATCH



We embrace your vision as our own.

Unstable markets. Financial volatility. Excess supply. Social license to operate.

Your challenges are transforming the way you do business. We understand that your needs are changing rapidly and that you need a partner who is proactive in identifying the larger, long-term issues affecting your business.

We embrace our clients' vision as our own to help them adapt to a dynamic world. We bring our best thinking and teams to solve your toughest challenges. To help you transform the world.

Proud to support the mining and energy industry in South East Saskatchewan.

Contact us at [hatch.com](https://www.hatch.com)





IJACK a local company with global reach

Oilfield manufacturer expanding Moosomin operation

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Moosomin-area business IJACK Technologies continues to grow with an expansion to their current manufacturing facility.

"We're adding a second building that's going to be a total of 35,000 square feet," confirmed Olga McCarthy, co-owner of the company with her husband, Dan. She explained that the new building will be constructed with even more expansion in mind should they need more space in the years to come. Both buildings will be the same size with the new shop having the option to allow for an addition to 98,000 square feet in the future.

Olga explained that when they finished construction on their first building around six years ago, the IJACK team thought they'd have room to grow for a lot longer.

"You start using it and you realize you need more space," she said. "We've grown a lot since we started designing the first building."

Right now, IJACK employs 25 people with 15 in Moosomin, as well as staff in Leduc and Calgary, Alberta, and south of the border in Dallas, Texas and Williston, North Dakota. The head office in Moosomin handles all the research and development work, engineering, production, and service. The Calgary and Dallas locations are sales offices, and Leduc and Williston are service centres. While serving the traditional oilfield markets, Olga also spoke to where the company has their sights set.

"The U.S. market is huge, and we've just started expanding there last year," she said. "So we'll definitely continue to grow that as well. We're growing our international business, we're shipping more and more to the U.S. and countries beyond."

Olga noted their products have already been shipped to locations in South America, including Colombia, Ecuador, and Argentina. Markets even further away they plan to reach also include Bahrain and Kazakhstan.

What sets IJACK apart?

With many options of where to set up shop, the McCarthys chose Moosomin not only because it made more economic sense with the ability to acquire land and facilities at a better price, but the lifestyle promised, the one Dan recalled from his youth growing up here.

IJACK offers a range of not only efficient technology, but products that significantly decrease emissions. They've even introduced a powerful web-based app that when utilized in conjunction with their products provides a sense of security, efficiency, and safety.

Items such as gas compressors, multi-phase transfer pumps, and vapour recovery units allow the companies who utilize IJACK technology to bring oil to the surface more safely with reduced emissions.

"In general terms, our designs are very efficient, they're relatively inexpensive, and they're a small footprint," Olga said of IJACK's product lines.

Aside from quality products, small town values factor large in IJACK's environment. Simple actions such as responding to customer feedback is important, and some-



The IJACK expansion underway at their facility north of Moosomin.

thing the company does incredibly well.

"We're always listening to our customers, and if there's something that we can modify on our equipment to solve a problem in the field, that might open a door to new a product line," Olga said. "We're always designing new things, always improving things we have."

That sense of 'leaving things better than you found it' isn't limited to within the corporate walls, as IJACK has been very involved with giving back to Moosomin. A per-

fect example was their donation recently of \$500,000 toward the new Moosomin airport runway project and how air ambulance services will be available to the region due to the project.

"We felt like it was a very worthy cause," Olga said, adding that community donations seem to inspire others to get involved as well, creating a chain reaction where the entire community benefits. "It's great to see these initiatives being accomplished."



Over the past years, Crushrite has been proud to be involved in the economic growth of Southeast Saskatchewan as a concrete provider to the following major projects:

- Mosaic Esterhazy K3 South Headframe
- Nutrien Mill 1 Refurbishment
- Nutrien Brine Pond Expansion
- Nutrien Self-Generation Station Caissons
- Esterhazy Mosaic K-3 Construction
- Esterhazy Mosaic K-2 Expansion
- Spy Hill Generating Station
- Red Lily Wind Farm, Moosomin
- Rocanville Potash Corp Scissors Creek Headframe Structure
- Rocanville Potash Corp Pre-Expansion Project
- Over 89 Slipform Inland Grain Terminals across Saskatchewan, Alberta & Manitoba and 95 Total Slipform projects

Contracting | Slipforming | Mining Applications
Bin Pads | Flatwork | Basement Foundations
Storage Units | Aggregate Sales and Delivery

1-800-300-7776

Esterhazy | Moosomin
306-745-6671 | 306-435-3860

www.crushrite.com



BEN KENDALL
306-482-7049

MALCOLM KENDALL
PH: 306-928-2237
CELL: 306-483-8988

BRADY KENDALL
CELL: 306-482-8779
PO BOX 179
Carievale, SK S0C 0P0
mac.ken@sasktel.net

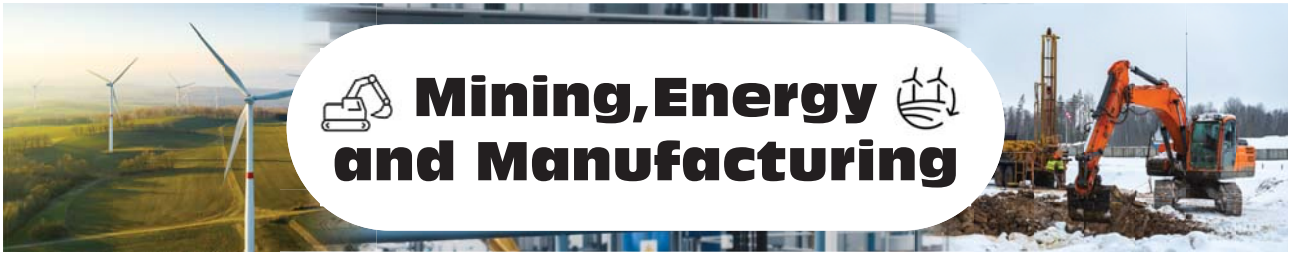
24 HR SERVICES

- Production Work, Turn Arouns & Cleanups
- Service & Drilling Rig Work
- Drilling Mud Spreading with Floaters
- 16 Cube Triaxle Vac Trucks
- 12.5 Cube Tandem & Combo Vac Units
- 19 Cube Vac Wagon & Tractor Unit
- 14 & 22 Cube Water Trucks

Serving Saskatchewan, Manitoba & Alberta



AVETTA & COMPLYWORKS CERTIFIED



**Mining, Energy
and Manufacturing**

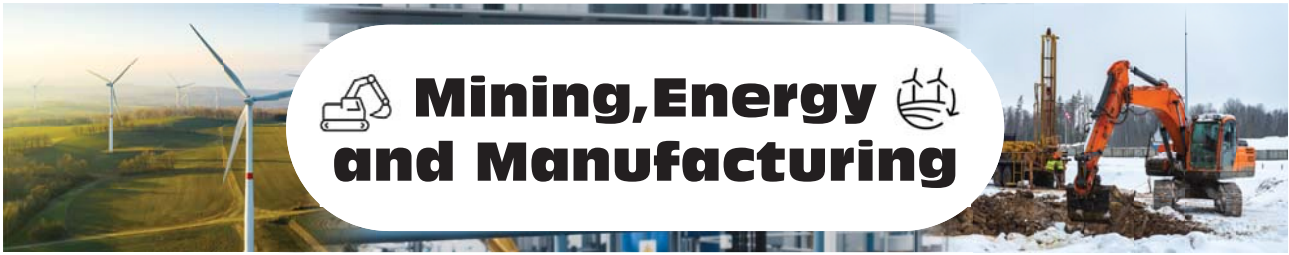
Highways | Interchanges | Roads | Mining | Tailings | Rail | Site Grading | Water Control Structures



**BUILDING
TODAY FOR
TOMORROW**
1-306-634-2166



www.kpcl dirtmovers.com



Mining, Energy and Manufacturing



The wind turbines at sunset.

Bekevar Wind project comes online

Continued from Page B3

Energizing the future

Looking to the future, Acikahte is excited for what projects are yet to come, and what that means for Cowessess.

"We have a partnership newly formed called the Seven Stars Energy Project, and it's with Enbridge and six nations from Treaty Four, including the Métis Nation, which they don't really get Indigenous participation on," she explained. "So that will be 200 more megawatts of wind by Weyburn."

The Seven Stars Energy Project will encompass a 200 square km area southeast of Weyburn with engagement between Enbridge and the Cowessess First Nation, George Gordon First Nation, Kahkewistahaw First Nation, Pasqua First

Nation, the Métis Nations-Saskatchewan, and White Bear First Nation. That project is targeted to be operational in 2027, and Acikahte noted there's yet another 200 MW wind project plus a couple 100 MW solar projects also in very early development stages.

"So we potentially have a lot more coming up in the next year or two," she said.

"I think for Cowessess to participate in that, it's a way that we can continue to be stewards of the land as original people, and help to take care of the province and share resources in a sustainable way, not creating waste," Acikahte concluded. "Something like a wind project still allows us to farm and have the migratory paths of animals and it's not very disruptive if done in the right way."

SALARY DATA

Electricians in Saskatchewan earned up to \$44.00 per hour in 2023.

Source: Job Bank (2024)



Apply for our Electrician program today!

Location: Moosomin Campus

Dates: February 3 - June 5, 2025

TO REGISTER:

1.866.999.7372

www.southeastcollege.org



WESTERN URETHANE (1995) Ltd.

Commercial & Industrial

■ Roofing ■ Insulation ■ Coatings

Serving the mining industry for over 30 years with advanced roofing solutions

306-931-4422

North Corman Industrial Park Box 26304
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 8C1 Fax: 306-931-8885

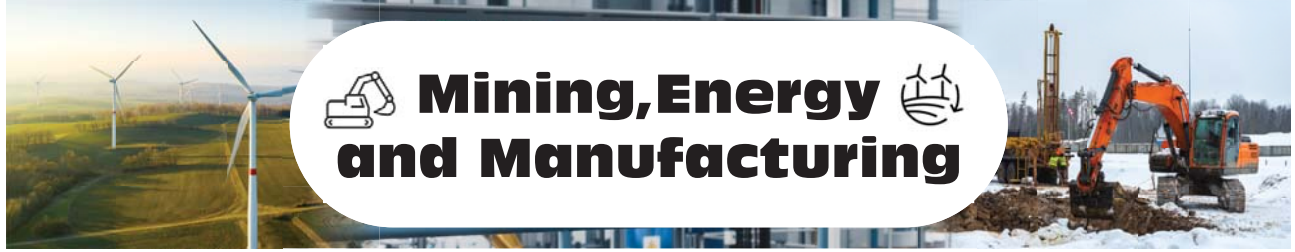
Parkland CPAP Services Inc.

Saluting the Mining, Energy and Manufacturing Industries for the huge role they play in our region!

Find us on Facebook

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

621 Main Street, Moosomin SK • Phone: 306-434-5864
www.parklandcpap.ca • Email: moosomin@parklandcpap.ca



Transforming mining with automation

Nutrien's network of potash mines has reached a significant milestone of 25 million ore tonnes cut using automation

BY MEGAN ADAMS

In the ever-evolving world of mining, the integration of advanced automation technologies has paved the way for remarkable improvements in safety and operational efficiency. During Nutrien's transformative journey of mining automation across their network of mines in Saskatchewan, they have reached a significant milestone of 25 million ore tonnes mined using automation.

"Reaching 25 million ore tonnes cut through our automation program is an outstanding achievement," says Shannon Rhynold, Vice President, Engineering, Technology and Capital & Operations Strategy, Potash. "We are now on a journey of significant growth, having doubled our tele-remote ore produced each of the last three years. We are on pace to achieve this goal again in 2024 and aim for 40-50% automated ore mined by the end of 2026."

Lanigan: The starting point

Nutrien's tele-remote (TR) journey began at Lanigan in 2017, where a simple camera was mounted on a two-rotor mining machine. This early phase was marked by excitement, followed by a steep learning curve which drove the collaborative spirit of the teams involved.

"This project has truly been a collaborative effort. Early on, our technical team greatly benefited from the expertise and insights of our operators. Their feedback was foundational, and it ultimately shaped the development of the tele-remote system," says Owen Gunther, Automation Project Lead, Lanigan. "We also relied on our skilled tradespeople, whose practical experience proved vital in adapting the technology to the mining machines for long-term sustainability."

Cory's replication efforts

The Cory potash mine began its tele-remote replication journey in 2020, following extensive collaboration with the Lanigan team. During this period, Cory focused on upgrading existing mining machines with TR technologies while building new TR-enabled miners to expand our fleet. These ongoing initiatives aim to operationalize the technology to support production needs, ensuring the safe and efficient production of potash.

"Collaboration within the tele-remote project is essential for achieving our shared goals and maximizing the impact of our work. By leveraging the diverse expertise and perspectives within our network, we can tackle complex challenges more effectively and drive innovation," says Tyler Zimmerman, Automation Project Lead, Cory. "Open communication, mutual respect, and a commitment to collective problem-solving are the cornerstones of our approach, ensuring that every voice is heard, and every contribution is valued. Together, we are not just working on a project; we are building a dynamic, synergistic environment that propels us toward success."

After the successful implementation at Lanigan, Cory replicated the technology, further refining and expanding its application. This replication set the stage for broader adoption across other sites.

Scaling to other sites: Vanscoy and Allan

Taking lessons learned from Lanigan and Cory, Vanscoy and Allan embarked on their own journeys to replicate tele-remote technology. This phase involved intricate application processes and adaptation to site-specific conditions.

"Over the past few years, Vanscoy has been able to leverage the lessons learned from other sites, including the development of new technologies and improvements on existing tele-remote technology," says Brian Holonics, Automation Project Lead, Vanscoy. "The sharing of successes between sites has helped Vanscoy expedite replicating their fleet and build additional confidence in operationalizing the equipment. We have clearly seen the benefits of utilizing the technology, including improved safety, additional tonnes, and improved performance on both the borer and continuous haulage system."

"Allan has benefited greatly from the development work that Lanigan and Cory did on the tele-remote system. We were able to quickly begin replicating the system to our mining fleet with only minimal modifications to meet site-specific requirements," says Mike Siourounis, Continuous Improvement Lead, Allan. "The strong collaboration across the network, including temporary trans-

fers of Allan employees to the Lanigan Automation team, was a significant benefit. The collaboration between the sites continues to provide value as we find further improvements to the automation systems and how our workforce uses them."

Continued on Page B15



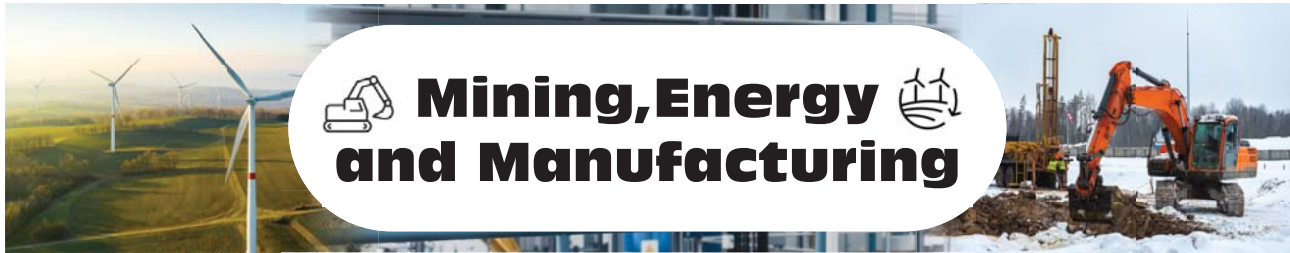
Nutrien

We're proud to be a part of
feeding 10 billion people around
the world by 2050.



But more than anything,
we're proud to be from
Saskatchewan.





Transforming mining with automation

Nutrien's network of potash mines has reached a significant milestone of 25 million ore tonnes cut using automation

Continued from Page B14

Development at Rocanville

At Nutrien's Rocanville site, the focus has been on advancing from side pass Operator Not Present (ONP) technology to fully automating the first pass cutting process. This journey, which began in 2018, aimed to revitalize automation technology that had seen little advancement since the early '90s.

"We embarked on revitalizing our side pass technology before moving on to the challenge of automating the manual aspects of our first pass cutting process," says Clayton Lawless, Automation Lead, Rocanville. "Our efforts have led to significant progress, including the deployment of our prototype Belt Builder and advanced steering systems. These achievements are a collaborative effort between our operations and maintenance teams, aimed at improving flexibility, efficiency, and safety."

Safety and efficiency: A dual focus

The primary objective of Nutrien's automation efforts has always been to enhance safety within their mining operations. By reducing the exposure of operators to hazardous conditions, their automation technology significantly improves workplace safety. Additionally, these systems bring substantial productivity benefits, such as eliminating downtime during shift changes and enabling safer mining in areas with challenging geology.

Nutrien has ambitious plans to further advance tele-remote, Operator Not Present (ONP), and other cutting-edge automation technologies. These future advancements are designed to transform the industry and set new benchmarks for operational excellence.



"I am incredibly proud of our teams for their dedication and hard work in reaching this milestone of 25 million ore tonnes cut using automation," says Trevor Berg, Senior Vice-President, Potash Operations. "By embracing advanced technologies and

fostering a culture of collaboration and innovation, we are not only enhancing the safety and well-being of our employees, but also setting new standards for efficiency in the mining industry. Our journey doesn't stop here; We will continue

to push the boundaries of what's possible by listening to the challenges our employees face and then focusing on thoughtful technological applications that solve those problems from a safety and efficiency perspective."

Fountain Tire
ESTERHAZY, SK
 323 Sumner Street
306-745-2212
 f210@fountaintire.com

Monday - Friday:
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday:
8 a.m. - 12 Noon

- Oil & Filter Change
- Tire Replacement
- Batteries
- Heating/Cooling
- Shocks/Struts
- Brakes
- Balancing & Tire Repair
- Flat Repair
- Tune-Ups
- Wheel Alignments

Thank you for the continued support of Mosaic and Nutrien!

Delivering Premium Value

Committed to our communities, devoted to our employees and responsible stewards of the environment. Today, tomorrow, always.

For over 150 years, Westmoreland has been part of the fabric of the energy industry, navigating significant challenges and continually emerging as an industry leader. We provide jobs for hard working folks, invest in local schools and community enhancements, and provide a valued resource to generate power for homes and businesses. Westmoreland has demonstrated a commitment to sound safety and environmental stewardship practices at our mines, and continues to position itself to be an integral part of the multi-faceted energy future.

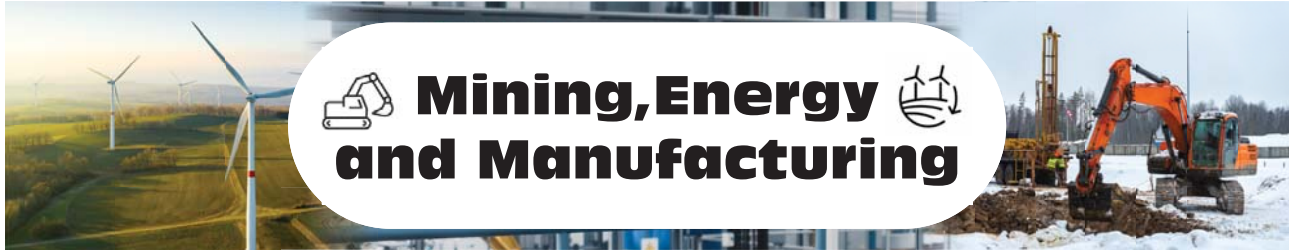
WESTMORELAND MINING LLC
 www.westmoreland.com

Serving Southeast Saskatchewan for 41 Years

- We have cranes ranging from Spyder crane (small enough to fit through a doorway) to 245 Ton Mobile and RT Cranes
- 27 - 45 Ton Pickers
- Tractor trailer units
- Pile Driving
- Telehandler
- Office trailer rentals
- Manlifts

245 Ton Terex-Demag 5800 Explorer
 with a tip height to 350'

Call dispatch for additional specifications and pricing
306.634.5555



MAX Power reveals Canada's largest Natural Hydrogen Target Area

MAX Power Mining Corp., utilizing proprietary methods and data modelling, has identified a prospective naturally occurring hydrogen resource play in southeast Saskatchewan featuring dozens of historical hydrogen showings, including grades up to 96.4%, within a compelling geological context.

As a result, through a series of permit applications, MAX Power initially assembled a 1,244 sq. km land package, which is called the Rider Natural Hydrogen Project, situated within the 200-km-long Torquay-Rocanville Corridor. The company has since added an additional 2,112 square kilometers of mineral rights.

Multiple high-priority target areas exist across five separate large claim blocks and include evidence of potential upward migration of hydrogen to surface, possibly through serpentinization or fracture zones, making the Rider Project the largest known area in Canada for the potential discovery of naturally occurring accumulations of hydrogen gas. MAX Power's staking covers almost all of the available Crown land as well as the premier Natural Hydrogen targets within the Torquay-Rocanville Corridor.

Two blocks at the Rider Natural Hydrogen Project include very high concentrations of hydrogen from the wellhead, supported by historical drill stem tests from old wells, indicating that Natural Hydrogen may have migrated to surface.

Two additional high-grade showings from the wellhead also occur within 800 meters and 200 meters, respectively, of MAX Power land claims.

Continued on Page B23

MAXPOWER
CSE: MAXX | OTC: MAXXF | FRA: 89N

Rider Natural Hydrogen Project
Rider = 1,244 Sq. Km (5 Claim Blocks)





atoskewin industrial



306.745.4830

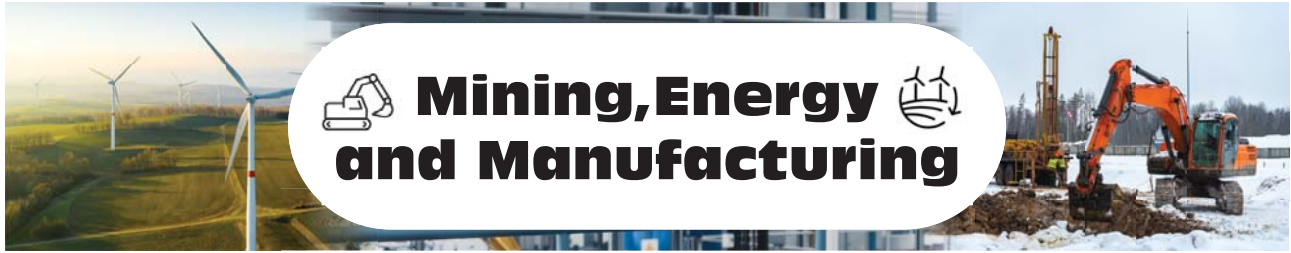
sales@atoskewinindustrial.ca

Atoskewin Industrial is a proud partnership with Ochapowace Nation and SECON Group of Companies




General Contracting & Construction Management

- ✦ Structural Steel
- ✦ Mine Belt & Sclairpipe Sales
- ✦ Electrical
- ✦ Equipment Rentals
- ✦ Mechanical
- ✦ Safety Supplies
- ✦ Earthworks
- ✦ Water Treatment Operations
- ✦ Site Services
- ✦ Water/Vacuum Truck Hauling
- ✦ Underground Services
- ✦ Hydrovac Services
- ✦ Contingent Labour



Sask top province for energy sector competitiveness

Saskatchewan is the most attractive jurisdiction in Canada for oil and gas investment, according to the Fraser Institute's 2023 Canada-U.S. Energy Sector Competitiveness Survey. Overall, Saskatchewan ranked third in the survey out of 17 competing jurisdictions.

"Saskatchewan continues to assert itself as a reliable energy investment jurisdiction," former Energy and Resources Minister Jim Reiter said. "Our government will continue to fight for, and support, the jobs and growth that 26,000 energy workers and their families in Saskatchewan have come to rely on. We look forward to further improving our investment attraction in the years to come."

The province is the highest-ranked province and the only Canadian region to break the top five, with Alberta and British Columbia coming in ninth and

15th, respectively. This continues the province's upward growth among jurisdictions in Canada and the United States (US) after ranking sixth in 2022, and 11th the year prior.

The Fraser Institute annually ranks US and Canadian provinces following a survey of senior executives in the upstream oil and gas sector. Respondents scored Saskatchewan favourably in areas relating to regulations, labour, taxation, infrastructure, and security.

Saskatchewan also ranked first in Canada for mining investment attractiveness, according to the Fraser Institute's Annual Survey of Mining Companies: 2022. The province is home to occurrences of 23 of the 31 critical minerals on Canada's list and the world's largest deposits of potash and high-grade uranium. Total mineral sales for fiscal 2022 surpassed \$19

billion.

Promoting Saskatchewan's quality and sustainable energy products, as well as maintaining an attractive business cli-

mate, will ensure that Saskatchewan remains on track to meet its 2030 Growth Plan goals of increasing oil production by 25 per cent to 600,000 barrels per day.



A proud partner, *driving* the Mining and Energy industries of southern Saskatchewan with our North American footprint.



YOUR LOCAL HAULIER READY TO SERVE YOUR BULK TRANSPORTATION NEEDS.

306.203.4116

WELDING

Location: Estevan Campus
Dates: January 13 - June 6, 2025

REGISTER NOW

1.866.999.7372
www.southeastcollege.org

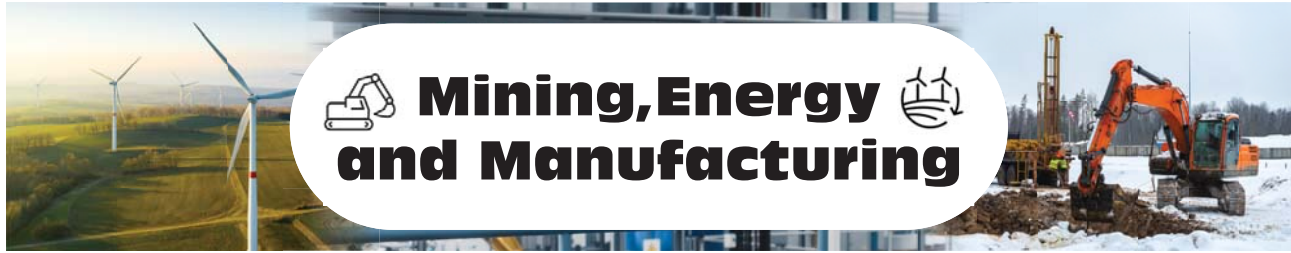


Farming is in my blood. My grandparents farmed, my parents farmed, I farm, and now my kids are farming. **You keep going."**

Dean Laval
Laval Family Farm, Deloraine, MB



Laval Family



Manitoba releases strategy to secure province's mineral future

Mineral powerhouse strategy sets path forward to spur mineral economic growth: Moses, Bushie

The Manitoba government has released its Securing Our Critical Mineral Future strategy to stand up critical minerals projects faster, while respecting the environment and forming strong Indigenous partnerships, Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Minister Jamie Moses and Municipal and Northern Relations and Indigenous Economic Development Minister Ian Bushie announced on Nov. 4.

"This Critical Minerals Strategy will solidify Manitoba as a world leader in responsible mineral development— which in turn brings good jobs to Manitoba," said Moses. "No matter the result of the U.S.

election, our strategy will ensure Manitoba is a secure and responsible trade partner for years to come."

Home to 30 of 34 critical minerals identified by the federal government as critical for promoting green energy and sustainable economic success, Manitoba is positioned to supply the materials needed to power the North American low-carbon economy, noted Moses. The strategy aims to attract investment and create good jobs in Manitoba. Key actions include the creation of a dedicated, single window Critical Mineral Office, investments in high-priority regional infrastructure projects and the development of a provincial revenue-shar-

ing model for mining in partnership with Indigenous nations.

"Indigenous and northern communities can be the backbone to a successful mining sector, setting those communities and the Manitoba economy on the best path forward," said Bushie. "By taking a nation-to-nation approach, this strategy will unlock the benefits of critical minerals for Indigenous nations through healthy resource development. This strategy will ensure Indigenous Peoples' voices are heard and that they receive fairer financial value within the resource sector in order to advance economic reconciliation."

"Manitoba needs to get new mines

brought online faster," said John Morris, co-director, Mining Association of Manitoba Inc. (MAMI). "MAMI agrees that by streamlining policy and regulation, permitting will improve with the new single-desk Critical Minerals Office. MAMI looks forward to working with the Province of Manitoba as we develop many of the action items contained in this strategy."

The Manitoba government will continue to engage with rights holders, communities and business as work on the action items from the strategy begins to be implemented, said Moses.

The Manitoba Critical Minerals Strategy is available at www.manitoba.ca/minerals.

THE WORLD-Spectator

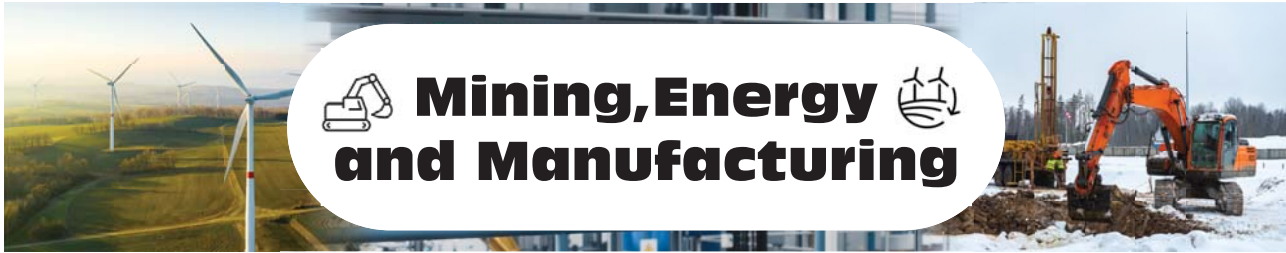
Starting a business or hosting an event?

We can supply you with everything you need in one place!

- logo design
- web design
- advertising
- address mailing
- business cards
- signage
- branded envelopes
- branded merch
- booklets
- invoices
- decals & stickers
- banners
- posters
- raffle tickets
- 50/50 tickets
- custom printing
- photo printing
- calendars
- holiday cards
- gift cards
- lamination
- custom stamps
- copy paper
- promotional items

714 Main Street, Moosomin, SK • 306-435-2445

Local Employment Opportunities
www.world-spectator.com/employment.php



Expanded TMEI funding aims to grow Sask mining industry

By RYAN KIEDROWSKI

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Saskatchewan is growing to become a mineral exploration hot spot, and the government is keen on attracting more new business development. Recently, the Ministry of Energy and Resources' Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive reported an increase in its annual funding cap—up from \$750,000 to \$4 million, also expanding the program's scope in the process to include all hard rock minerals in any region throughout the province.

"We're open for business and proud of it," said Jim Reiter, formerly the Energy and Resource Minister. He credited competitive exploration support programs like the TMEI as being attractive to perspective companies looking to set up shop in Saskatchewan.

The incentive is designed to focus specifically on mineral exploration, and even more specifically on drilling. Companies that have drilled for hard rock minerals over the past year can submit an application to the TMEI and would be eligible for a 25 per cent grant towards drilling costs, up to a maximum of \$50,000 per year for uranium and \$150,000 per year with all other hard rock minerals.

The TMEI program first launched back in 2018 with a goal to diversify the provincial mineral sector. At that time, it was a route to help bolster drilling and exploration, but with last year's Critical Minerals Strategy, one goal was to increase Saskatchewan's share of national mineral exploration spending to 15 per cent by 2030. This target doubles the number of critical minerals produced in the province, in turn growing production of potash, uranium and helium, plus establishing Saskatchewan as a rare earth element hub.

"It is a lofty target, but we think we're going to get there, or at least very close to it," Reiter replied when asked about the 15 per cent by 2030 goal. "The program is pretty new, but it's been working. In 2022, we had eight per cent of all the Canadian exploration spending; last year we were at 10.2 per cent, so we had a big jump there. Our projections are showing that by the end of this year, it's supposed to hit 10.8 per cent.

"It takes these kinds of programs a little bit of time for industry to be aware and to take advantage of them. So we think we're definitely moving in the right direction," he continued. "There's the traditional minerals that have always been important in Saskatchewan—potash and uranium—we're seeing a lot of exploration still in



Nutrien Scissors Creek

those, but we're also seeing it in other areas too. So we think this is going to just keep growing."

Another indication of growth is in the number of companies getting involved in the TMEI program—up from five in 2023 to 28 this year. Those 28 exploration projects made \$62.3 million in overall drill project expenditures, which is a huge gain from \$9.8 million in the year previous.

In terms of production numbers (in volume), the most recent data from 2023 showed potash accounting for 63 per cent, while a variety of other minerals such as gold, copper, zinc, silver and sodium sulphate, bentonite, and coal made up another 32 per cent with salt and uranium comprising the remainder.

So why is mineral exploration so important in Saskatchewan right now?

"That's what the companies look at before they actually develop the mines, which is an important part of the process," Reiter said. "Then that sort of begs the question, 'well, why do you want to enhance the mining industry anyway?' It's simply because it diversifies our economy. It creates revenues for the province, it creates jobs for our citizens, and that's what it's all about—the revenues for the province is used for things that all our citizens want—for healthcare, for education, for our highways, for social services."

Potash and uranium have been impor-

tant to the province for many years, but rare earth elements are also prevalent—often found in uranium deposits. Thanks to continued work by the Saskatchewan

Research Council, extracting REEs from those deposits is becoming more economical, poising the province for a potential boom as other markets decline. China is the world's largest producer of REEs at 95 per cent, meeting around 97 per cent of global demand. But their market has noted decrease in exports over the past decade.

"It's expanding in a lot of areas. It's not just the existing ones we're used to getting larger—that's happening—but we're also seeing development in areas we've never had before," Reiter said of overall development in the province, also pointing to Foran Mining's McIlvenna Bay copper mine in northeast Saskatchewan as an example.

As for the southeast corner of the province—a land traditionally known for oil and gas—Reiter said he saw potential for the area. None of the 28 approved projects this year are based in the southeast, but there is interest nonetheless.

"I think the southeast part of the province, we are going to see expansion there," Reiter said. "We're used to it being an oil and gas area, but we're seeing a lot of interest in that area because of helium and lithium."

Businesses interested in the TMEI can apply through the provincial government website, or by contacting the Ministry of Energy and Resources.

SANDBLASTING & COATING



Prairie Blasting & Coating Ltd.

Virден, MB | 204-748-2864

E-mail: prairieblast@gmail.com

NACE Level III Inspector on Staff

- Oilfield
- Tanking Linings & Exteriors
- External Pipeline Coatings
- Plural Component Spray Units
- Potable Water Supply Coatings
- Structural Steel/ Heavy Equipment



DR. NATHAN KNEZACEK, OD



Direct billing available for Nutrien and Mosaic Employee Safety Glasses

Box 1270 | 519 Main St, Esterhazy, SK S0A 0X0

Welcoming Dr. Tanisha Bomboir
January 2025

Phone: 306-745-2524 | Fax: 306-745-3437

Eye Exams, Glasses, Contact Lenses & Laser Surgery Referrals

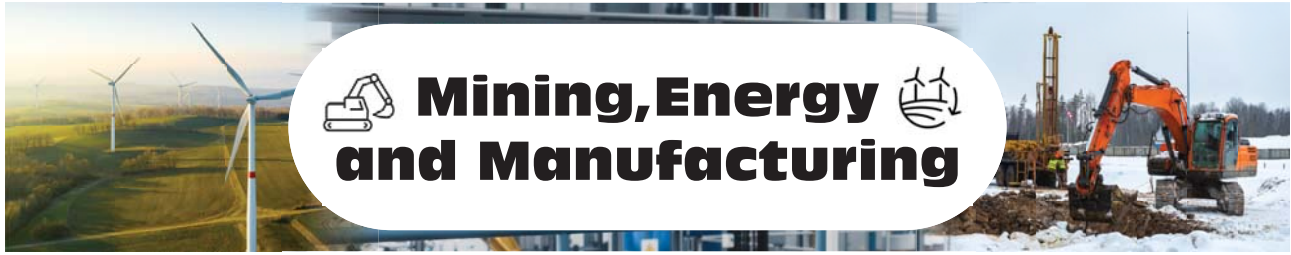


Fast Trucking Service Ltd. has been servicing the oil and gas sector for over 65 years.

We specialize in moving drilling rigs and other oil related equipment. We service the oil patch from Southwestern Manitoba all the way to the foothills of Alberta!

Carnduff, SK • 306-482-3244
Swift Current, SK • 306-773-8611
www.fasttruckingservice.com





Manitoba invests in mineral development future

Manitoba Mineral Development Fund, modernized early mineral exploration guidelines, infrastructure study will help more companies and projects thrive: Moses

The Manitoba government is announcing an additional intake of up to \$2 million in funding through the Manitoba Mineral Development Fund (MMDF) to spur immediate economic growth, Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Minister Jamie Moses announced November 4.

"Our government is growing the critical mineral sector and creating good jobs for Manitobans by enabling the Manitoba Mineral Development Fund to advance projects in Manitoba," said Moses.

Administered through the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce, the MMDF strategically funds economic development and mining projects of up to \$300,000 per project that create Indigenous partnerships, increase local employment and stimulate investment in northern Manitoba. Since 2020, \$14.7 million has been provided to 90 projects. This has leveraged over \$128 million in private sector capital, generated over 660 jobs and 128 community and Indigenous partnerships.

"The MMDF has been an overwhelming success in

providing funding that has resulted in increased opportunities for partnerships and development along with employment opportunities that have strengthened and greatly benefited communities in the north and across the province," said Chuck Davidson, president and CEO, Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, and chair of the MMDF board. "The Manitoba government's ongoing commitment to supporting and investing in projects that contribute to sustainable mineral development will help position Manitoba as a leader in the mineral sector."

The Manitoba government has also partnered with the Mining Association of Manitoba Inc. to revise and modernize the guidelines for early mineral exploration. The guidelines provide clear direction to industry for undertaking early mineral exploration in the province to support and educate companies as they plan early mineral exploration projects to the highest environmental and industry standards. The new guidelines will also serve as a reference tool for Indigenous communities and regulatory bodies evaluating mineral exploration projects in

Manitoba, said Moses.

The federal government has identified 34 minerals as critical for promoting green energy and sustainable economic success. Manitoba, which is sixth on the Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies' Investment Global Attractiveness Index, has 30 of these 34 critical minerals. Critical minerals are crucial for Manitoba's growth as a low-carbon leader and are essential to developing clean technologies, energy storage systems, electric vehicles and other technologies that advance net-zero targets, noted the minister.

For more information on critical minerals in Manitoba, visit www.manitoba.ca/minerals. For more information on the Manitoba Mineral Development Fund and the next intake, visit <https://mmdf.ca/>.

Like what you see?

To advertise in our next Mining, Energy and Manufacturing feature, call 306-435-2455 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

Innovations That Matter
Inspiring Actionable Solutions
DEMOday 2025
www.imii.ca

DJ MILLER & SONS
DJ Animikii

We wish to Thank and Recognize Mosaic and Nutrien and their employees for their continued success & support throughout the province!

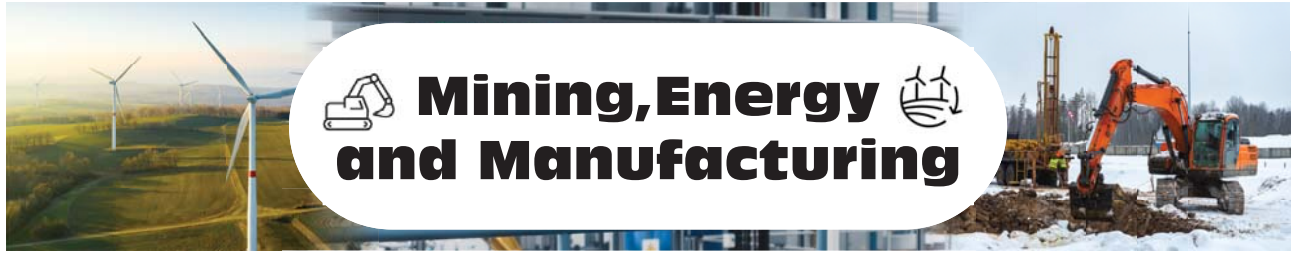
- Site Development
- Mining Industry
- Earth Moving
- **Oilfield Lease Work**

Dwight 306-745-7608
Michael 306-743-7877 • Marc 306-743-7243
Langenburg, SK
www.djmillerandsons.com • www.djanimikii.com

Calcium Chloride
Brooks 32

- Drilling fluids
- Heavy kill fluid
- Dust suppression
- Concrete accelerant
- Naturally clear brine
- Minimal to zero sediment
- High density brine
- Blends well with other brines and additives
- Effective in low temperature environments
- Unique blend due to temperature and pressure

www.nscminerals.com



October oil & gas public offering generates \$7.3 million in revenue

The Government of Saskatchewan's Crown oil and natural gas public offering, held on Tuesday, October 29 raised \$7,304,936.95 for the province, with the Estevan area generating the majority of the revenue.

Of the 112 parcels posted for this offering, 93 received acceptable bids, covering a total 15,347,639 hectares.

The Estevan area generated the most financial interest, bringing in \$5,417,916.25 for 56 leases and one exploration licence for a total of 8,330.517 hectares.

The Kindersley area generated \$1,325,636.53 for 21 leases for a total of 5,063.604 hectares.

Surge Energy Inc. made the highest bonus bid and the highest dollars-per-hectare bid in its offering of \$1,369,276.03, or \$5,284.76 per hectare. This was for a 259.099 hectare lease in the Estevan area,

northeast of Macoun.

Millennium Land (444) Ltd. won the single exploration licence posted in this offering, bidding \$407,670.71 for a 2,318.023 hectare licence in the Estevan area, south of Minton.

After four public offerings this fiscal year, the provincial government has raised \$37,382,523.18 in revenue. The next offering is scheduled for December 3, 2024.

There are six scheduled public offerings of oil and natural gas dispositions held each fiscal year in Saskatchewan. This process uses an open and competitive bidding system to issue oil and natural gas dispositions.

Several factors affect public offering activity, including changes in oil and gas prices, land availability, geological and technological constraints and various market conditions.

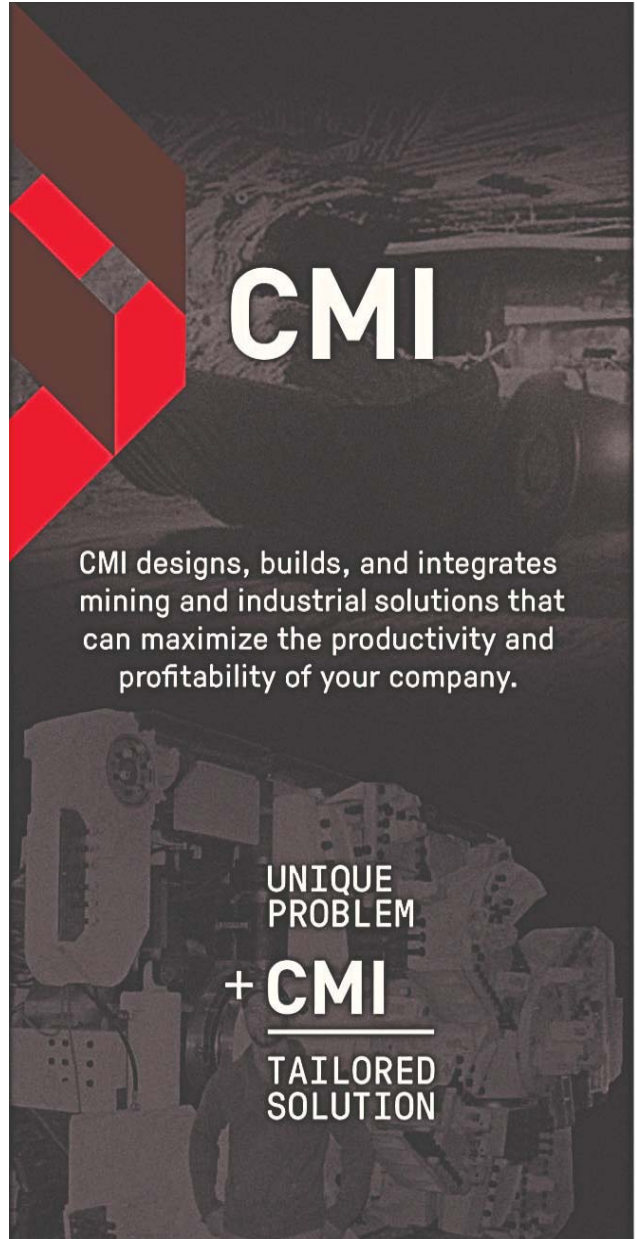


Thank-you to Mosaic and Nutrien for your continued support in purchasing mine-ready underground vehicles!



Universe Satellite Sales

 520 Railway Ave | Rocanville, SK
306.645.2669
www.universesatellite.com



CMI

CMI designs, builds, and integrates mining and industrial solutions that can maximize the productivity and profitability of your company.

UNIQUE PROBLEM
+ CMI
TAILORED SOLUTION

Reach 12,000 readers in 20 local communities when you advertise in the World-Spectator!
 Call 306-435-2455 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

KenCast™

Exceptionally versatile wear protection



BIT SERVICE

Locally manufacturing
radial bits and cutting assemblies
for our potash industry since 1965

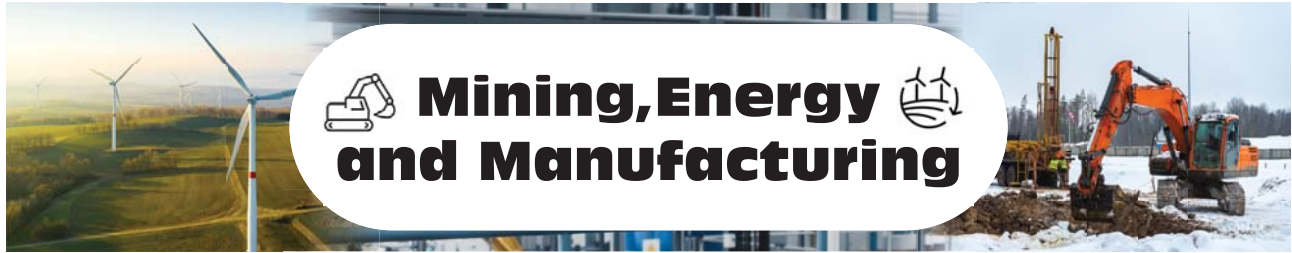


STARCLEAN
SMART CONVEYING SOLUTIONS



bitsservice.ca admin@bitsservice.ca

Contact us to discuss options to eliminate material spillage and carryback on your conveyor systems



Mining, Energy and Manufacturing



MAX Power reveals Canada's largest Natural Hydrogen Target Area

Continued from Page B16

Given the limited number of wells (45) in the data set covering the Rider Natural Hydrogen Project, vs. the number of total wells believed to have been drilled in the region for which data is not available, the fact that seven of these wells showed hydrogen grades >10% at varying depths takes on added significance (the other 38 showed hydrogen grades between 1% and 10%).

MAX Power Special Advisor Denis Brière, VP-Engineering for Chapman Hydrogen and Petroleum Engineering commented: "My involvement in the world's first discovery of a naturally occurring hydrogen gas accumulation in Mali, West Africa, over a decade ago was tremendously gratifying, especially since it quickly powered an entire village with low-cost, emissions-free electricity. This news from Saskatchewan—the scale of the opportunity and the very high historical grades—represents a watershed development for the world in the rapidly emerging Natural Hydrogen sector. Chapman is looking forward to working with MAX Power to take the Rider Natural Hydrogen Project to the next level."

Geologists are designing a near-term program to verify and validate the existence of a naturally occurring hydrogen trend at Rider.

MAX Power continues to review an extensive array of datasets in Saskatchewan and elsewhere with an aggressive plan to further build on its first mover advantage in the Natural Hydrogen sector in Canada and the United States.

"Pro-energy and pro-business Saskatchewan is exceptionally positioned to become the first jurisdiction in North America to produce Natural Hydrogen given a combination of highly favorable geology and a clearly defined policy framework for exploration and development of this important new alternate energy source," the company said.

MAX Power CEO Rav Mlait added: "The acquisition of key permits to form the Rider Natural Hydrogen Project in Southeast Saskatchewan is a major development

for MAX Power as we hit the ground running with the largest target area in the country for Natural Hydrogen in one of the best jurisdictions globally for exploration and resource development.

"The efforts of the MAX Power team are to be com-

mended as we have used proprietary methods and state-of-the-art data modelling to uncover best-in-class targets. I recently met with top government officials in Saskatchewan and we are very enthused to be working in this forward-looking province."



Dykes Water & Ice is located at 122 Ellice Street, Rocanville, SK

DELIVERY AVAILABLE IN SASKATCHEWAN & MANITOBA

WE DELIVER TO NUTRIEN ROCANVILLE MINE SITE

Monday - Friday
3 Gallon or 5 Gallon Jugs Available

306-645-2828
dykeswaterandice@gmail.com

For Saskatchewan, Buy Saskatchewan

SIMSA represents and elevates mining, energy and industrial suppliers in Saskatchewan. Through innovation, collaboration and connection, SIMSA empowers members to thrive internationally and, more importantly, here at home.

Committed to Saskatchewan

Championing Local Industry

Connecting Members to the World

SIMSA

SIMSA.CA

Visit us online at www.world-spectator.com



The communities of the area thank **Nutrien** and **Mosaic** for their contributions to our communities.

Nutrien and **Mosaic** have been good corporate citizens and have contributed greatly to all of our communities.

We're proud to see the major investments that **Nutrien** and **Mosaic** have made in our area, and we look forward to working with you in the future!

Town of Esterhazy

Town of Moosomin

R.M. of Fertile Belt

R.M. of Martin

R.M. of Rocanville

R.M. of Spy Hill

R.M. of Moosomin

