



1. A PROFILE OF LAKE COUNTRY

The RM of Lakeland lives up to its name. The only rural municipality in Saskatchewan with no farmland, the RM of Lakeland is a land of pristine lakes nestled in a boreal forest and located 30 minutes north of Prince Albert. A

tour of the area typically begins in the Village of Christopher Lake with its restaurants, gift shops and its old-fashioned country grocery store.

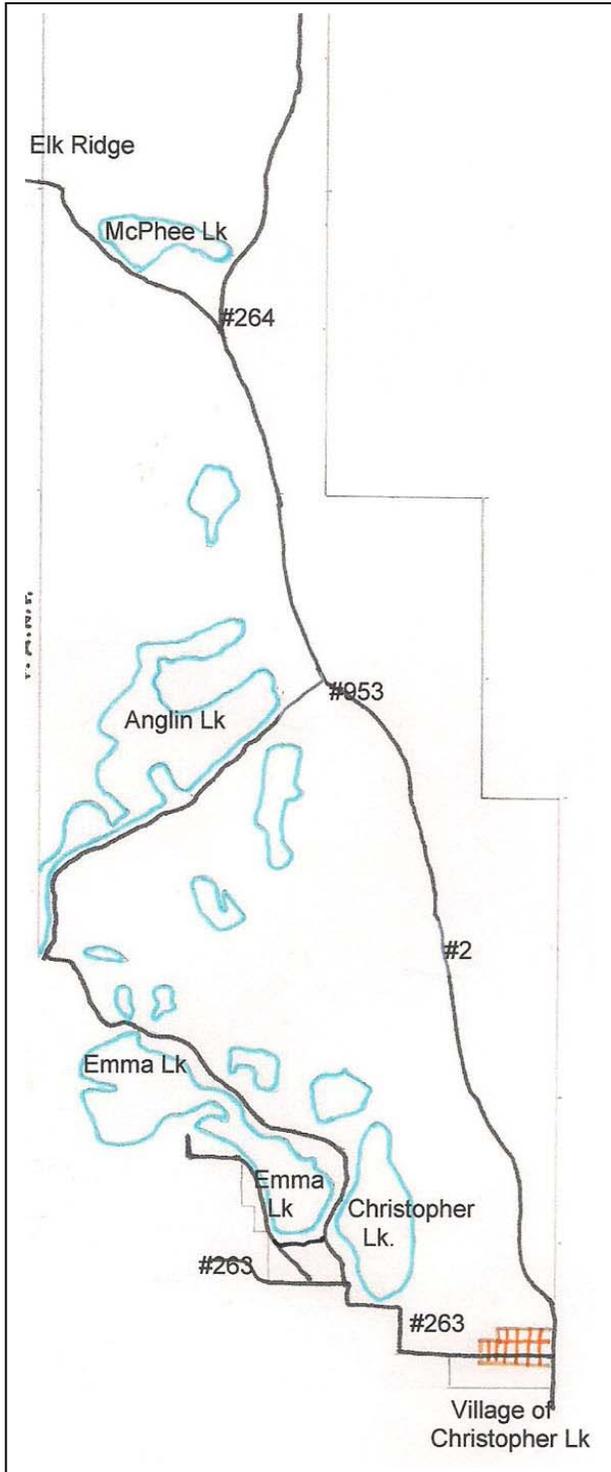
Travelling north on #263, the visitor finds that every road leads to a new view of a lovely lake with sandy beaches, boating activities and visitor services. The tour typically includes the beaches on Christopher Lake and at Sunny Side on Emma Lake and continues with the Marina at Sunset Bay or, further along, the Murray Point Campground. The area includes several private trailer parks and campgrounds as well as another provincial park at Anglin Lake.

Anglin Lake gets its name from its reputation for great fishing. Like many of the smaller lakes in this municipality, the lake teems with fish and offers many opportunities for the boater to discover remote corners of wilderness where the only company are the nesting loons.

While miles of lakeshore and wilderness trails through the forests appeal to many Lakeland visitors, so do its two major golf courses. In the winter, spring and fall, visitors seek out the outfitters for hunting or take to the miles of groomed cross country ski trails. Winter also offers many opportunities for photographing wild life and for ice fishing.

A long-time member of PARCS, the RM of Lakeland represents a family of northern resort communities and truly deserves to claim the title of 'lake country'.

In this edition:	
RM of Lakeland	p.1
New grant program	p.2
A sneak preview of the 2010 convention	p.3
"Help Wanted" from PARCS members	p.4
Flooding at Burgis Beach	P.5



2. ANNOUNCING THE NEW COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND

CIF FUNDING

The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) has recently launched a three-year program offering community grants that support Small Capital Projects and Community Pride projects and events. Designed to build sustainable communities and support Saskatchewan's quality of life, the program offers grants to enhance accessibility and use of community facilities, encourage volunteerism and community involvement, and engage Aboriginal and young people as Saskatchewan's community leaders.

Community Initiatives Fund

The CIF was created by the provincial government to ensure that Saskatchewan communities received tangible benefits from casino profits. The CIF receives a portion of profits from the Regina and Moose Jaw casinos. The Fund is managed by an arms-length government-appointed Board. Board members all have extensive experience as community volunteers.

Volunteer organizations may be interested in CIF's new Community Vitality Program. There may be need of small construction projects or physical improvements for community sports facilities, perhaps improvements to a ball diamond or playground, a bicycle trail or even construction of a wheelchair ramp. The Small Capital Projects component of this new program may address those needs.

Projects involving youth leadership, Aboriginal inclusion, volunteerism or even activities that reduce financial or other barriers to participation may be eligible under the Community Pride Projects and Events part of this program. Also to be considered are projects and community events that commemorate the history and achievements of Saskatchewan communities. Conceptual projects that will increase community leadership capacity in smaller, rural and Northern communities are also encouraged. The first application deadline for the Community Vitality Program is **October 1, 2010**.

PARCS MEMBERS TO RECEIVE INFORMATION DIRECTLY

Parcs is providing CIF with contact information for PARCS members. Parcs members will soon be receiving regular updates directly from CIF. Communities that have not yet renewed their 2010 membership fees are encouraged to mail their fees to the address below:

The fee structure for Parcs is based on the number of cottages in your community:

- ___ \$50 for 1-30 cottages (2 voting delegates)
- ___ \$125 for 31-49 cottages (3 voting delegates)
- ___ \$195 for 50-149 cottages (4 voting delegates)
- ___ \$265 for 150-249 cottages (5 voting delegates)
- ___ \$385 for 250-499 cottages (6 voting delegates)
- ___ \$550 for 500 or more cottages (7 voting delegates)
- ___ \$100 – Associate Member (no voting delegate)

PARCS contact information:

Lynne Saas
Coordinator of Member Services

- Box 52, Elbow, SK
- Phone – 854-4658
- Fax – 854-4412
- Email – saas@sasktel.net

3. A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE 2010 CONVENTION

SHARING OUR GOOD IDEAS

A new session being considered for the 2010 convention is an ***Members' Share Fair*** at which representatives from volunteer resort communities will sit at tables set up around the convention room and be prepared to answer questions from other roving delegates about new initiatives or different projects that have been undertaken in their respective resort communities. Your Member Services Coordinator will soon be undertaking a phone survey to invite presentations to this session.

<p>Convention 2010: October 14, 15, 16 At the Saskatoon Inn</p>
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LESLIE TUCHEK TO RETURN FOR THE 2010 CONVENTION



Delegates at the 2009 convention are shown here clustering around Environmental Advocate Leslie Tuckek after her keynote address that was given top marks by her audience and described by one delegate as "*by far the most informative, eye opening and disturbing session of the Convention*".

Delegates to the 2010 convention will be pleased to learn that Leslie has agreed to a return engagement, speaking about "***Recreation or Environmental Destruction? What your RV dealer didn't tell you***".

PARCS MEMBERS TO CATCH A BREAK ON CONVENTION FEES

At their August 4th meeting, Parcs Board of Directors passed a motion to set convention fees such that PARCS members pay only marginally more than their meal costs for convention. Fees for non-members and fees for associate non-voting members will increase, however. Board members rationale for the increase in the differential between fees for members and non-members was that members are already paying substantial fees and, as such, should enjoy a greater savings at convention time.

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONVENTION

We are planning a series of newsletters during August and September with information about more interesting workshops at convention. Watch for your upcoming newsletters unveiling more convention information.

4. SHARING GOOD ADVICE

PARCS MEMBER SEEKS ADVICE ABOUT BOAT LAUNCHES

The Resort Village of Melville Beach writes: "Our Resort Village has an issue that we need help with; maybe another village has crossed the same issue. I'll start at the beginning, 7-8 yrs ago, when the commercial property in Melville Beach was sold to a developer. First they tore down the store, rental cabins, boat launch and then they discovered that they have to follow the rules set out by Community Planning. The developer has had the property rezoned from Commercial to Residential. The old council and developer agreed to an area at the end of the beach for a boat launch, using some of the undeveloped beach and the developer giving up part of a lot for an area big enough for a boat launch. Because the developer had to haul in clay to get the grade above a certain elevation as set by Community Planning, this has taken a few years to complete. Now the lots have been surveyed and are for sale, with only one sold to date and with another sale pending the boat launch. The developer is now putting pressure on the current Council and threatening legal action so they can sell the lot originally allocated for the boat launch. The developer commissioned a biased survey that proposed ugly scenarios about the boat launch (from boat trailers backing over a child, to people dumping gas into the lake when filling their boat tanks).

We are asking other villages for information about the size of their beach and boat launch, how close these two are located apart and how many boats are launched per day.

We also have had a few suggestions of having a locked gate so that only village ratepayers have a key. The problem is that the boat launch is on Public Reserve. Do members have any suggestions?"

Email your experience or expertise about boat launches to Dave at:

sheila.dave@sasktel.net

Please cc Parcs at saas@sasktel.net We hope to include your insights and suggestions in our next edition of PARCS UPDATE.

ADVICE FROM SASKATCHEWAN'S FIRE COMMISSIONER

Saskatchewan's Fire Commissioner Duane McKay is again warning people about a family firework that poses a significant fire hazard. Sold as "The Flying Lantern" this product is also known as a "sky lantern". The device resembles a small hot-air balloon, fuelled by a candle flame. When released the lanterns can fly to great heights and drift with the wind. The product is supposed to stay airborne until the heat source burns out. But the lanterns cannot be controlled once released and may drift into trees, building rooftops, stubble fields and other combustible materials while the heat source is still burning - creating a significant fire hazard. The lanterns are often released in large numbers for visual effect, increasing the risk. Sky lanterns were responsible for three fires in North Central Saskatchewan last summer. Fortunately the fires were small and did little damage. However, the potential for larger forest or field fires remains a very real threat - even after the unusually wet weather this year. It takes only a few days of sun and warm temperatures for the risk of wild fires to return.

5. FLOODING AT BURGIS BEACH

These aerial views of Burgis Beach on Good Spirit Lake near Yorkton were taken on July 11th. The photos are courtesy of Les Gullason of Burgis Beach via Larry Schneider. We understand that the Gullason cottage was located on an island.

