

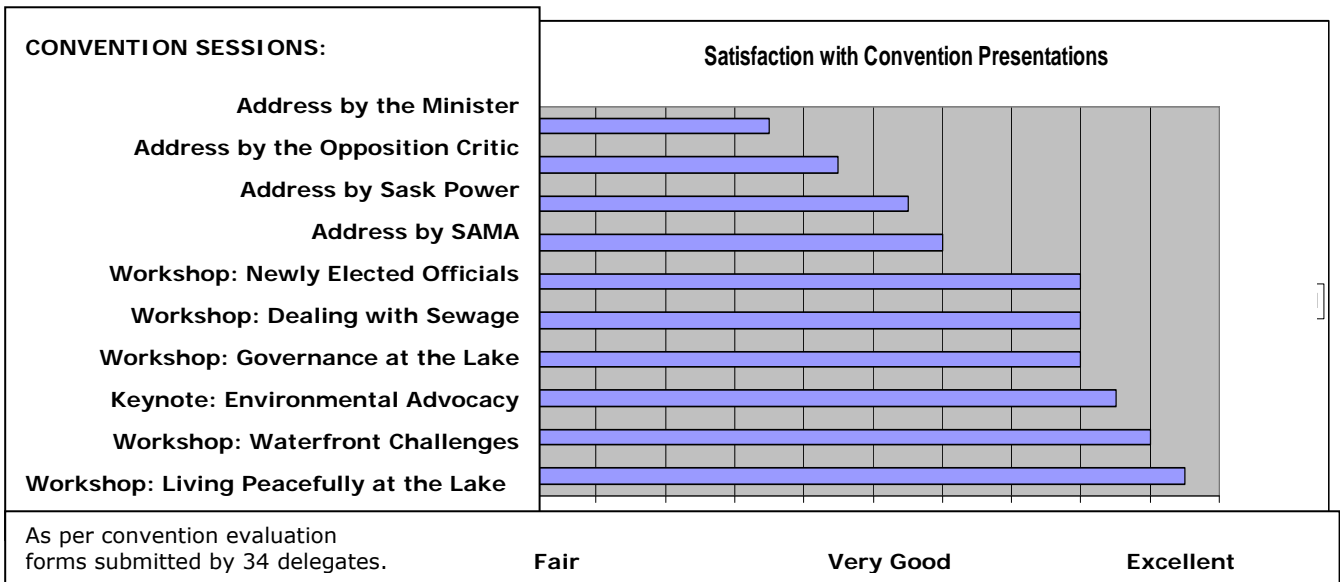


PARCS UPDATE #6 – NOVEMBER, 09

1. DELEGATES GIVE TOP MARKS TO KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND WORKSHOPS

Delegates to the 23rd Annual PARCS Convention, held October 15th to 17th in Saskatoon, showed their strong approval for sessions that addressed the day to day issues and challenges faced by leaders of resort communities (see graph below). One delegate stated that his board had attended several past conventions [but] quit coming as they felt that [the program] *"was not worth the time commitment. However, all of the issues and information presented at this convention were of relevance. Good job."*

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KEYNOTE ADDRESS SETS THE TONE FOR THE CONVENTION

Environmental advocate, Leslie Tuchek, began her address by defining the carrying capacity of the environment: the maximum pressure that can be sustained without causing permanent environmental damage. She challenged delegates to reflect on the pressures caused by house size, parking, docks, the size of boats and motors, ATVs, power line construction, chemical control of weeds, raw sewage, and invasive species. She spoke about the effects of climate change on resort areas and challenged us to set up Environmental Assessment Committees to monitor our "ecological footprint".



Interested delegates cluster around Leslie Tuchek with their comments and questions following her keynote address. One delegate described Tuchek's address as *"by far the most informative, eye opening and disturbing session of the Convention"*.

LIVING PEACEFULLY AT THE LAKE – HOW CAN WE MAKE IT HAPPEN?

Lloyd Weyland, President of the Saskatchewan Association of Bylaw Enforcement Officers, talked about his experience enforcing bylaws such as parking violations, abandoned vehicles, dog complaints, permits and licenses. The bylaw enforcement officer does not enforce speeding laws or the criminal code. Al Christensen and Jerry Aspvik described how the RM of Lakeland uses their bylaw enforcement officer to check out septic tanks, take complaints from cottage owners and hand out “door knocker: first-offense warnings”. Many delegates have asked for a follow-up workshop on this topic.

“If you make a law, then be prepared to enforce that law.”

“The camera is a great weapon for enforcing bylaws.”

WATERFRONT CHALLENGES

Gill Happ from the Ministry of Environment talked about the crown foreshore (the beach) and the reserve land between the beach and lakefront property (from 1 meter to 30 meters wide). He spoke to common myths such as:

MYTH - You can own property up to the lake.

FACT - Beach and reserve lands belong to the crown.

MYTH - You are entitled to a view of the lake.

FACT - You need a permit to remove trees and shrubs.

MYTH - You can keep people off the beach or your dock.

FACT - You don't own the beach; any dock must be available to the public during emergencies.

Inga Thorsteinson described Transportation Canada's mandate to regulate marinas, docks, boatlifts, swimming platforms – with regard to the safety of the boater. She reminded us about the 10-30 law (boaters cannot exceed 10 km/hr within 30 metres of the shoreline) and referred delegates www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety to learn more about the Navigable Waters Protection Act and to access development permit applications.

DEALING WITH SEWAGE AT THE LAKE

Tom Kehoe, former chair of the Lac Pelletier Cottage Owners Association, described how their lakeshore communities wanted to move away from field spraying and how they went about soliciting the support of their rural municipality and working co-operatively to build a regional sewage lagoon. Ben Lichtenwald, Ministry of Environment, admitted that although many resort communities continue to field spray, the field spraying regulations are currently under review. He spoke to current guidelines stating that field spray:

- Should not be done on sandy soil or on snow,
- Should not be done on food crops,
- Must be at least 1 km from occupied dwelling, and
- Should be tilled within 4 days.



Shirley Gange refers delegate questions to Gill and Inga – including the frustration of the delegate who described how “we at the municipal level are continually frustrated by the gutless and toothless support from government administration.”

Thanks for your Participation

Thanks to the 72 delegates from these 41 communities:

- The RMs of Grayson, Hoodoo, Lakeland, Leask and Mervin.
- The Emma and Christopher Lake Cottage Owners Asstn.
- The Organized Hamlets of Bayview Heights, Blayone Beach, Cudsakwa, Day's Beach, Evergreen Brightsand, Kopp's Kove, Lakeview Beach, Nesslin Lake, North Colesdale, Powm Beach, Turtlelake South Bay, and West Chatfield.
- The Resort Villages of Alice Beach, Aquadeo, Bird's Point, Big Shell, B-Say-Tah, Candle Lake, Cochin, Coteau Beach, Echo Bay, Greig Lake, Island View, Katepwa, Leslie Beach, Lumsden Beach, Manitou Beach, Melville Beach, Mistusinne, North Grove, Shield, Thode, Tobin Lake, and Wakaw Lake.

2. YOUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<p>NORTH WEST</p> <p>Ralph Banda RV of Big Shell 427-4618 clarkeliillian@sasktel.net</p> <p>2nd Director Vacant</p>	<p>PRESIDENT</p> <p>George Watson RV of Alice Beach 488-4494 watsong@xplornet.ca</p> <p>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT</p> <p>Shirley Gange RM of Lakeland 982-3311 hgange@sasktel.net</p>	<p>NORTH EAST</p> <p>John Quinn RV of Candle Lake 929-3365 oldhabits@sasktel.net</p> <p>2nd Director Vacant</p>	<p>Thank you to our convention sponsors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Affairs (2,500) • Sask Power (1,000) • Sask Water (500) • Sask Watershed Authority (500) • SAMA (500) • Sask Energy (500) • Mainstream Water Solutions (500) • Sask Tel (350) • Anderson Pump House (265) <p>GEMS sponsors - Wow!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elk Ridge Resort • Candle Lake Golf Course • Willow Creek Guest Ranch <p>Also a special thanks to our fund raiser donors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Envirosafe for the raffle prize and the many prizes at the social evening • Merv Hey, Used Oil Recycling, for gifts
<p>SOUTH WEST</p> <p>Larry Zemlak RV of Manitou Beach 752-9045 lzemlak@sasktel.net</p> <p>Chris Laudinsky RV of Alice Beach 488-4639 chris.pat@sasktel.net</p>	<p>2ND VICE PRESIDENT</p> <p>Jim Davey OH of West Chatfield 386-2634 jamesdavey@hotmail.com</p> <p>PAST PRESIDENT</p> <p>Bob Taylor Tobin Lake 862-4808 robtay@sasktel.net</p>	<p>SOUTH EAST</p> <p>Ross Wilson RV of Lumsden Beach 222-0087 ross.wilson@usask.ca</p> <p>Kim Sastaunik RV of B-Say-Tah 332-4855 k.sastaunik@sasktel.net</p>	

3. APPLICATIONS INVITED

The Board of Directors of the Provincial Association of Resort Communities invites applications for the contractual position of **Coordinator of Board and Member Services** to commence January of 2010. This position involves:

Board Services

- Minutes, correspondence and reports to the Board
- Financial records and accounts payable

Support to the Convention Committee

- Soliciting sponsorship and supporting fund-raising initiatives
- Confirming speakers
- Arranging for facilities and support services
- Coordinating the registration process
- Preparing convention packages, name tags, and advertising

Member Services

- Researching, editing and distributing PARCS UPDATE newsletters to members
- Answering members' phone calls and emails on an ongoing basis

This contractual position will be of interest to someone with a background and training in board services, accounting and/or municipal leadership. The contract pays \$500 per month plus expenses. The successful candidate will be expected to provide an at-home office.

Mail applications no later than Dec. 20th, 2009 to George Watson, President, Box 151, Dilke, S0G 1C0 or email to [watsong@xplornet.ca](mailto:watsonq@xplornet.ca). Please pass this advertisement along to qualified persons who may be interested in this part-time contractual position.

4. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a new year of PARCS. Now that summer (what we had of it) is behind us and all the autumn cleanup and work is behind us we are now moving into our late fall and winter activities. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer at their resort communities.

For those of you who travel to warmer climates during the winter months, I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable time at your points of destination. For those who remain in Saskatchewan for the winter, I hope the winter months treat you kindly with not too extremely cold temperatures and the right amount of snow for you to pursue your outdoor activities of choice. To all, wherever you are, I wish you an enjoyable holiday season.

At this time I would like thank all who attended the PARCS convention. It was very informative to all who attended. We were very pleased with the way that the attendees participated in the workshops. The questions which were put forward were very well thought out and very thought provoking. It is that kind of participation which makes workshops successful.

I would like to welcome the new Board of Directors elected at the AGM on the Saturday of the Convention. I thank each of them for putting their names forward. As can be seen we are short a Director in the North West and North East Regions. I would encourage anyone who may be interested in filling one of these positions to please contact one of the Board members.

As for the issues for the coming year, we will be assessing the convention evaluations and using the results from them to set a good portion of our direction. We will also be monitoring the progress and issues that have been there for a number of years regarding property tax for education.

One particular area that we want to put some effort into is the membership in PARCS. We would like to see the membership numbers increase substantially. To that end the current member resort communities can be helpful by spreading the word about PARCS and encouraging non member communities to become members.

There are a few people that I would like to thank for their service to PARCS. First to the Board of Directors who took on extra responsibilities in getting the convention prepared. Those efforts were the main reason for the success of the convention. It was great to see what could be accomplished when people put their minds to it.

Special thanks to Bob Taylor for his three years of leadership to the association in his role as President and his previous years as First Vice President. His devotion to PARCS is outstanding and much appreciated. Of course Bob will be a member of the Board of Directors for the coming year and his expertise and knowledge of the Association will be relied on heavily by the Board of Directors.

I am looking forward to the year as the President. I hope that you will contact me or a member of the Board if you have any questions with which PARCS may be of assistance.

Have a great year and we'll see you at next year's convention.

George Watson

P.S. – Mark your calendars for next year's convention: October 14, 15, 16, 2010

