

The Cosmo Communicator

Volume 32 Issue 7

 www.cosmoindustries.com 

July 2012

Transportation and Current Heat Wave

To live in Saskatchewan.....if we are not dealing with extreme cold we are dealing with extreme heat. Both amount to just a few days each year, but nonetheless we do need to discuss the implications.

What we have done to ensure safety of our travellers:

Cosmo in conjunction with First Bus will continue as usual with pick up and drop off's. Drivers have been advised to operate with at least every second window open to ensure air circulation throughout the bus. At home time, we are striving to shorten load times to decrease the length of time someone sits idle on the bus. Our Combo buses, which take a little longer to load, load on the shaded side of the building.

What you can do:

If the person you support has a health condition that makes him/her sensitive to the heat, have them stay home for the day. As participants leave in the morning, please ensure they are wearing appropriate clothing for the weather. Send water bottles, if this is appropriate to the participant in your home. Offer a cool drink upon arriving home. Thank you for your support.

Transportation – Cosmopolitan Industries Ltd.

40,000 Books Saved from Fire by Cosmo and Len's Hauling

When Cosmo heard that plans were being made to burn up to 300,000 books from the Raycraft Book Collection in Pike Lake, we contacted Ms. Raycraft with an offer to recycle the books that she was not able to relocate through other organizations. Books with mould or other organics were still destined for a good bonfire but the majority of books found new homes thanks to the concerted efforts of volunteers who were mostly recruited through an appeal on facebook. They spent over a week sorting through the extensive book inventory.

Thanks to the generosity of Len's Hauling, a roll-off bin was available during the sorting process to facilitate the recycling of the remnants of the collection at Cosmo. Cosmo has a long history of recycling large quantities of phone books but the 40,000 books delivered from the Raycraft collection may be the largest private donation of books we've ever had.

CTV and Global covered the delivery of the books to Cosmo for their evening news casts and the StarPhoenix published a picture and story the next day.

-Ken Gryschuk

Manager of Business Development and Community Relations

Canada World Youth is Coming to Town

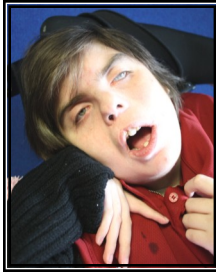
Canada World Youth (CWY) will be coming to Saskatoon in December with 9 Nicaraguan and 9 Canadian Youth. These youth will be volunteering at Cosmo as well as other organizations such as: Saskatoon Community Youth Arts Programming Inc., Sherbrooke Community Centre, Saskatoon Friendship Inn, White Buffalo Youth Lodge, and Chep Good Food Inc. CWY is currently looking for additional volunteer work placements that will provide an opportunity for youth to gain hands on experience, develop their leadership skills, enhance their resume and become a part of the active global community.

As well, host families are needed December 6, 2012 to March 4, 2013. One Canadian youth and one Nicaraguan youth will be in the home to experience the multicultural family Canada offers. "Family" is defined in the CWY context and can include singles, retired couples, single parents, anyone with a genuine curiosity about the world. Back-up host families for short stays are also required. Hosts receive an allowance of \$180 per week for 2 participants, and CWY covers all medical and program related expenses. Whether you call it: Acting locally, thinking globally; Investing in Tomorrow's Leaders or 3 months you won't forget - All it takes is one spare room to be part of something worthwhile. If you are interested contact Jacqueline Thompson, Canada World Youth Project Supervisor at 306-715-7797.

Amanda Pushkewich

July 17, 1989—May 1, 2012

Our dear friend and co-worker was not with us long, but she still was able to leave a lasting memory at Cosmo. We will not forget her morning wave, her friendly smile, and bright eyed expressions of happiness.



Amanda began attending Cosmo as a student from John Dolan school and officially started Cosmo September 2011. Amanda loved colors, relaxing in the Snoezelen Room, listening to music and audio stories. Amanda took an interest in art, she would take a hold of the paint brush, with support, and each time, a happy sigh would come from her, when you brought to attention the color that was added to the picture. Some of Amanda's most enjoyable activities, were foot spa baths, and massages. She would pull your hand back to her head to say, thank you, I would like some more!

Amanda embraced each day and we who knew her, will dearly miss her.

LSTD BBQ

On June 15, we had our annual area BBQ. Lunch consisted of BBQ burgers, homemade potato salad (made by the cafeteria crew) iced tea and an afternoon treat of popcorn and popcorn twists. After lunch we were treated to music and sing-along's from Sam and his choir. The participants enjoyed participating by singing along and keeping time to the music with shakers. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the performance and the enthusiasm displayed by the performers. A big thank you to Centennial Foods for donating the burgers and to Sam and his choir for taking time out of their busy schedules to spend the afternoon with us. Some of the participants are already asking when next year's BBQ will be held.

-Tracey Pederson
Life Skills Training Division Manager

Top of the Rock Trip to Cypress Hills

We had an awesome trip to Cypress Hills June 20 -23, 2012. On our first day out, we toured around Saskatchewan. This includes seeing the Great Wall of Saskatchewan near Smiley. Due to the rain in the previous days, the dirt roads in Cypress Hills were very muddy. We ran into a problem of trying to drive up a muddy road with cows in the middle of it. Thanks to Sam's great driving we made it up the hill and found our Ranch in about two hours. The barn we rented had walls that dated back to 1904. It had 14 bedrooms, a kitchen, and a couple of sitting rooms, so each person got their own room.

On day 2 we walked up Baldy Bute which is the highest point in Canada between Banff and the Northern tip of Labrador, at 1275 meters (4,183 feet). We also did a nature walk in the forest. We saw lots of cows, horses, deer and pronghorn antelope on our trip.

On Day 3 we had a tour of Great Sand Hills Museum in Sceptre. Linda (who is Marilyn Knorr's sister) gave us a great tour of the museum. We still had time to walk on the Great Sand Hills and see the Wild Life Museum in Leader.

We spent the night at Super 8 in North Battleford. On our last day we toured Fort Battleford and the Western Development Museum before heading home.

Jason Auchstaetter, John Charles. Darren Hastings, Rodney Ortny, Richard Donnan and Sam Bueckert would like to thank Top of the Rock for helping with cost to go on the our trip.

Auto Clearing Speedway

Thanks to the generosity of the Top of the Rock Fund, we had a evening of great food and car racing. Blake Mooney and Cal Carter organized an outing for 6 participants that started with dinner and dessert at Fuddrucker's followed by an evening of stock car racing at Auto Clearing Speedway. The lucky participants were: Darrell Thompson, David Thibodeau, Kyle Danylyshen, Lyle Brash, Terry Boulding and Jonathon Magensen. Everyone enjoyed their Fudd burgers, fries and ice cream; throw in a few litres of fizzy pop and nobody walked away hungry. We saw lots of great racing from three different classes of cars. A handful of spinouts and some pretty wild crashes added to the fun. An untimely shower put an early end to the racing and everyone was home by 9:30. Many thanks to the Top of the Rock for sponsoring our outing, it was certainly and evening to remember.

-Cal Carter, *Community and Enriched Support Supervisor*

New Staff

Renee Zeabin- fulltime Life Skills
Jordan Doepker-term Life Skills
Dana Cameron-term Pathways

Staff Changes

Maegen Urdal- term Recreation & Leisure
Sean Wilson – Summer Maintenance

Welcome Back

Blair Turner – Casual Pathways

Goodbye

Nancy Cann
Sarah Scherman
Roseann Kohne

Upcoming Events

Cosmo Closed Monday Aug 6th, 2012

Cosmo Closed Monday Sept 3rd, 2012

Summer Wind Up for Participants:
Friday Sept 7th, 2012