

Spirit of Mamawetan



Annual Report

The 2008-09 Annual Report for the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region has been submitted to the Minister of Health and was tabled in the Legislature on July 29, 2009.

This report provides an overview of the health region, including the services we provide and the health status of the residents of the region. In addition to the audited financial statements, the report outlines the accomplishments of the past fiscal year and looks forward to emerging issues for the future.

The report is posted on the health region website www.mcrrha.sk.ca

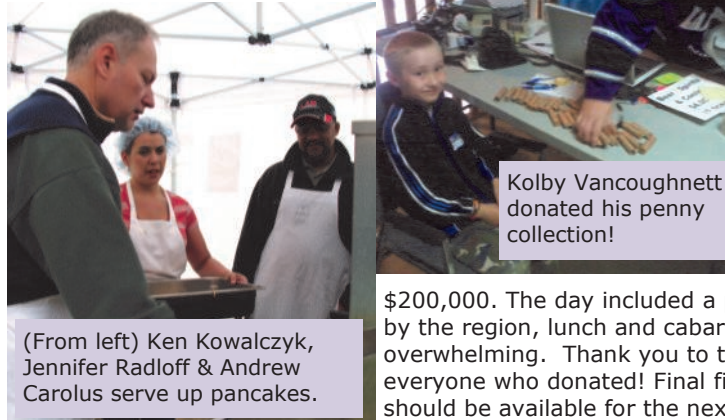
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Ultrasoundoff - every penny counts!



Dorla Watt, MCRHR Medical Diagnostic Sonographer, interviewed by MBC Radio personality, Brett Arnott.

(From left) Radiothon Chair Mike Layton, and Elks members & region staff Bart Beckman & Curtis Skalicky wait for a fundraising update.



(From left) Ken Kowalczyk, Jennifer Radloff & Andrew Carolus serve up pancakes.

Kolby Vancoughnett donated his penny collection!

When the La Ronge Elks Club realized the health region was raising funds to purchase new ultrasound equipment, they took up the cause. They enlisted the support of Rawlco (CKBI) and MBC Radio to host a Radiothon on June 5, and set a goal of \$200,000. The day included a pancake breakfast hosted by the region, lunch and cabaret. The response was overwhelming. Thank you to the Elks, CKBI, MBC and everyone who donated! Final figures on the amount raised should be available for the next newsletter.

Champion of Change

At the June conference of the Provincial Aboriginal Representative Workforce Council, the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region was among those recognized as a "Pioneer Champion of Change" for its longstanding commitment to the Aboriginal Employment Development Partnership Agreement.

Pictured at the award presentation are: (From left) Victoria Gubbels, Director, Aboriginal Employment Development, First Nations & Métis Relations; Millie Goulet, MCRHR Representative Workforce Coordinator; Josie Searson, Board Member; and The Honourable Bill Hutchinson, Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations.



Employment milestones

Summer students

Thank you to the summer students who have contribute so much to the organization over the past few months. Working as Client Attendants were: **Robert Pammett**, Population Health Unit; **Joanne Natomagan** and **Jamie Iron**, Pinehouse; and **Jenna Charles** and **Therese Dzeylion**, La Ronge Community Services. **Jasmene Lizee** worked as a summer student Special Care/Home Health Aide in Acute and Long Term Care in La Ronge, while **Brittany Gabrush** provided assistance in the Physiotherapy department. Best wishes as you continue with your studies!

New employees

Welcome to new employees who have joined the health region between March and the end of July, 2009. We look forward to working with you.

Creighton

Debora Burman, Pauline McDermott & Vanessa Watson, Special Care Aides /Home Health Aides

Pinehouse

Kimberly Smith, Addictions Counsellor

Sandy Bay

Deborah Anderson & Todd Brown, Primary Care Nurses C

Population Health Unit—La Ronge

Robin Bates & Monica Geier, Public Health Inspector Trainees

La Ronge

Shirley Ray, Jacobi Herringer & Dana Hudson, Environmental Services Workers; **Leonard Walker**, Food Services Worker; **Jennifer Halkett, Sherry Lavallee, Susan Nielsen & Kelly Parada**, Special Care Aides/Home Health Aides; **Theresa Seidler**, Detox Attendant; **Gloria Smith**, Recreation Worker; **Lorna McKenzie & Freda Sayazie**, Unit Clerks; **Sherry Roberts**, Licensed Practical Nurse; **Jody Watt**, Grad Nurse; **Mary Carlson, Phyllis Stephens & Michelle Tuchscherer**, Acute Care Nurses A; **Kim Ann Bell**, EMT, Acute Care.

Long service recognition



Left to right: Tanya Nateweyes, Sandy Bay Community Health Manager; Brenda Mishak Beckman, Director of Primary Health Care; Joe Hordyski, Board Chair; and Ramona Ray, Home Care Services Coordinator.



(Left) Joe Hordyski, Board Chair and (right) Rosalie Morin, Special Care Aide/Home Health Aide.

The celebration was a little late, but heartfelt, nonetheless.

Two Sandy Bay employees achieved long service milestones in 2008, but they finally received their certificates and gifts in May, 2009. Thanks for their patience and congratulations to **Ramona Ray** (ten years) and **Rosalie Morin** (five years). We look forward to your ongoing contributions!

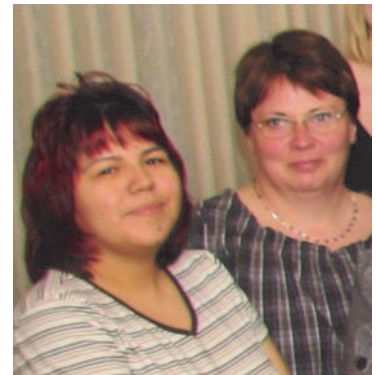
Employees who are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2009 have been notified, and can select their gifts online. Stay tuned for more details on this year's recognition events in the region.

Educational milestones



Congratulations to **Jeannie Coe**, Primary Care Nurse at the La Ronge Medical Clinic, on achieving her Masters of Nursing, Advanced Nursing Practice, from Athabasca University (via distance education). She also passed a national exam to obtain her Registered Nurse (Nurse Practitioner) status.

Jackie Natomagan, Public Health Nurse in Pinehouse, convocated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Saskatchewan. **Raegen Moorhead & Sandra Horne**, formerly Special Care Aides at the La Ronge Health Centre, have now completed their Licenced Practical Nurse certification. Congratulations, all!



Congratulations to **Larene Bratberg** (above) on graduating from the Medical Laboratory Technology program, SIAST, Kelsey Campus in Saskatoon. Larene was formerly a Combined Laboratory & X-Ray Technician with the region. She attended SIAST from September 2007 to June 2009, and she now holds dual CLXT & MLT credentials. Way to go and welcome back!

Tanya Nateweyes (above, left), Sandy Bay Community Health Manager, and **Laurie Zarazun**, Client Care Supervisor, La Ronge, recently completed the 18-month Management Development Stream of the Leadership Development Program conducted by the Saskatoon Health Region. Congratulations!

Family milestones

June was a good month for babies...



Kevin, born June 2, to Asha Sabu and Jim George.



Charlotte, born June 5, to Dr. David Stoll and Dr. Lisa Friesen.



Cohen Andrew, born June 10, to Justin and Rebecca Galloway.

...and graduations...

Best Wishes to all the sons and daughters of health region employees who have completed their high school or post-secondary education!

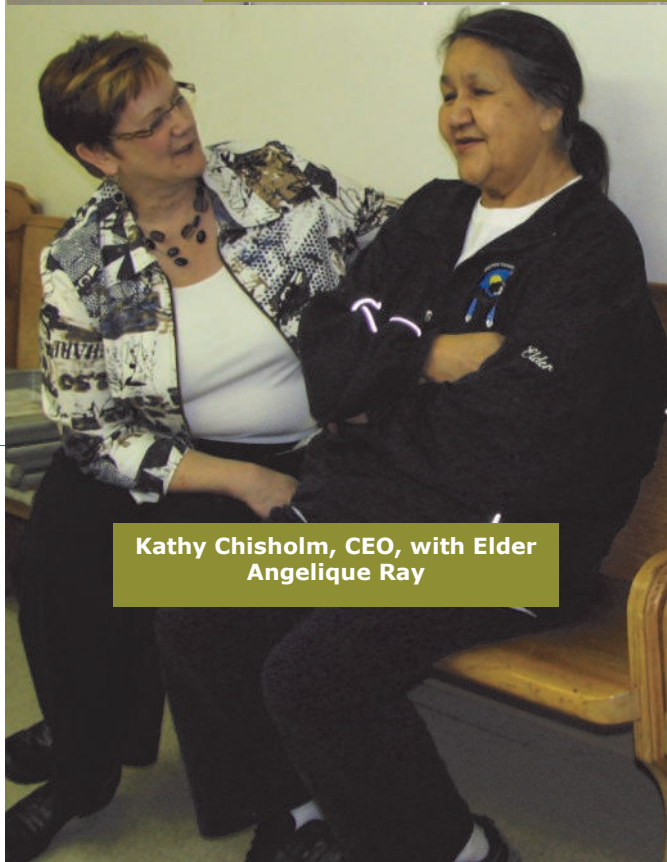
Special congratulations to Janelle Watt, daughter of Medical Diagnostic Sonographer, Dorla Watt, on receiving the Governor-General's Award for 2008 for Churchill Community High School in La Ronge. The award was presented at the graduation ceremonies this June. (Right) Janelle at the microphone saying a few words of thanks.



Photo courtesy Valerie G. Barnes-Connell



**Scenes from the Board Meeting
in Sandy Bay in May**



**Kathy Chisholm, CEO, with Elder
Angelique Ray**



**Gren Smith-Windsor,
Associate Deputy Minister,
Health**



**Donna Brunskill,
Executive Director,
SRNA**



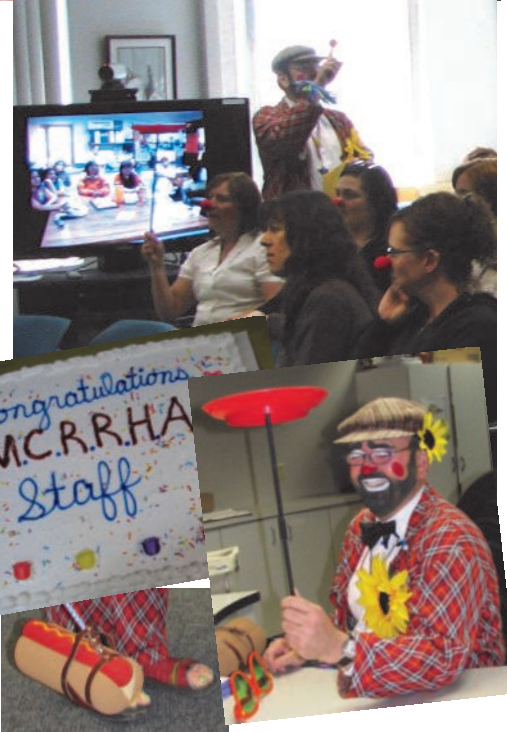
**Ina Fietz Ray,
Board Member**

Accreditation celebration!

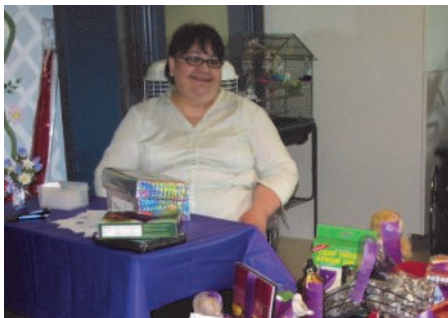


Sometimes being silly can be a great stress reliever! That was the message in a Humour 101 presentation by Darlene Kingwell and Patrick Blais in June. Titled *Nobody "Nose" Like You*, their talk was delivered in person at the La Ronge Health Centre, with connection by Telehealth to Pinehouse, Sandy Bay and Creighton. Darlene and Patrick (pictured in the top left photo) are with the Prairie North Health Region and came to help celebrate our region's achievement of accreditation status.

While the accreditation process required a lot of serious, hard work, we were reminded that we needn't always take ourselves too seriously! Don't be too surprised if you see a few more big glasses, spinning plates, and clown noses around. Relax and smile!



Celebrating our volunteers



Streamers, balloons, prizes, lots of food and cake make for a great party! La Ronge Health Centre Volunteer Coordinator Cheri Wolkosky (left) welcomed all volunteers of all ages to an appreciation luncheon on June 17.

Volunteers like representatives from the Kindergarten class at Gordon Denny Community School (right) make a difference in the lives of our Long Term Care residents and home care clients. Thanks for all you do, volunteers!



Spring...



In May, when signs of spring in nature were slow coming, Creighton Special Care Aide/Home Health Aide, Rosa Spring, suggested that she was the only sign of spring around!



Greg Brakstad and Dan Chegus pose with their catch after a day of canoeing and fishing at Aikenhead Lake, north of La Ronge.

Summer...

This photo of native Saskatchewan orchids was taken by 10-year old La Ronge Health Centre volunteer, Logan Fiske. This species, *cyripedium acaule*, is more commonly known as the Pink Lady's Slipper.



Fall...?

A familiar landmark for Creighton residents is gone. The South Main Shaft was demolished on July 27, 2009.

The series of images below are courtesy Janet Thirnbeck.



Accelerating Excellence

Submitted by the QBS Team

Guided by the Health Quality Council, Health Regions, the Ministry of Health and other health organizations have embarked on a Leadership Development program, Quality as a Business Strategy (QBS). It is one of a number of initiatives that fall under the umbrella of Accelerating Excellence. The Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region QBS Team currently consists of twelve members, including board members, managers and front line staff:

Joe Hordyski, Al Rivard, Josie Searson, Kathy Chisholm, Ken Kowalczyk, Teresa Watt, Brenda Mishak Beckman, Linda Mikolayenko, Jacquie Hakes, Bart Beckman, Cindy Greuel and Donna Stockdale.

HQC's Debra-Jane Wright has been assigned as the coach for our team, and provides this overview of QBS.

QBS is a strategy, approach or philosophy that enables a **"defined" system to produce exceptional service and create a place where people can enjoy and take pride in what they do everyday.** There are five key activities to QBS. These activities need to be led by an organization's most senior leaders, to provide the foundation or structure required for making *quality* the business strategy for the entire organization. The five activities are:

- 1) Identify the purpose of the organization;
- 2) View the organization as a system;
- 3) Obtain the information required to make improvements;
- 4) Plan for Improvement;
- 5) Manage improvement.

Everyone in an organization must know (as well as understand) what the common purpose of the organization is AND how their work helps to achieve that purpose.

Watch for more on QBS in upcoming newsletters.

