

true north

cameco in northern saskatchewan



NHL hall-of-famer Bryan Trottier (center) who has Metis heritage, was decorated with the traditional Metis sash by Pinehouse Mayor Mike Natomagan (left) and Glen McCallum, Pinehouse social development officer (right).

Cameco Hockey Day

in Saskatchewan delivers
a record-setting total



Hockey star makes impression in Pinehouse

NHL legend Bryan Trottier and Pinehouse made quite an impression on each other. When Trottier, who has Cree/Metis heritage, visited the northern community Jan. 22 as part of Cameco Hockey Day in Saskatchewan, residents decorated him with a traditional Metis sash. For the next several hours, he entertained eager fans, both young and old, with autographs, stories and encouragement.

"This was a celebration of such a wonderful sport and our gift to the world, so to speak," said Trottier, a seven-time Stanley Cup champion. *"I love it and it's really enjoyable to be celebrated, tell them some stories and hopefully inspire the next generation of athlete or hockey player or the kid that has a dream and wants to excel."*

The annual event, which is a partnership between Cameco and the Saskatchewan Hockey Association (SHA), visits a different community each year with the goal of raising funds for local arenas and growing the game.

The 2017 event featured two host communities for the first time. Shellbrook organized a week-long celebration that raised a record \$175,000 for arena upgrades, while Pinehouse received some much-appreciated development programs for aspiring players, coaches and referees.

"It's that Saskatchewan community spirit of giving back," said Cameco CEO Tim Gitzel. *"You mix that with the Cameco volunteerism and our goal of making a difference in the communities in which we live and work, and together it's a potent mix. We've had a wonderful weekend."*

While resource industries faces challenges, Gitzel said Cameco will continue to support initiatives such as Hockey Day in Saskatchewan because they inspire Cameco volunteers to get involved and work with local people to accomplish goals.

"We're not just going to write a cheque and mail it in," he said. *"We're going to roll up our sleeves."*

The rewards for Pinehouse came in the form of training and development for local coaches, referees and minor hockey players. The SHA delivered certification programs and skills clinics – a rare opportunity for the northern community located 500 kilometres north of Saskatoon. Residents then enjoyed a pair of midget AAA games with girls teams from Prince Albert and Swift Current, and boys teams from Beardy's and Battlefords.

"The certification is very important because we need to get more volunteers out there for our kids," said Pinehouse Mayor Mike Natomagan. *"And to see this kind of hockey is something else."*

The community also received its first skate sharpener as a legacy of the event. Until now, many youngsters had been making do with dull blades.

"We want to leave an impression in these communities," concluded Gitzel. **"We want to make a difference and we are. I'm really proud of our volunteer spirit and our volunteer team."**



A Pinehouse fan gets a closer look at some of Bryan Trottier's Stanley Cup rings (he has seven total) during Cameco Hockey Day in Saskatchewan.



The Beardy's Blackhawks topped the Battlefords Stars during midget AAA boys action as part of Cameco Hockey Day in Saskatchewan in Pinehouse.

Safety First

The Six Rivers Fund Supports Safer Community Initiatives in Ile a la Crosse

The Ile a la Crosse Safety Board vowed last spring to follow through with initiatives to make its community safer, particularly addressing issues of violence and illegal drug activity. One of the priorities was to get more community members involved.

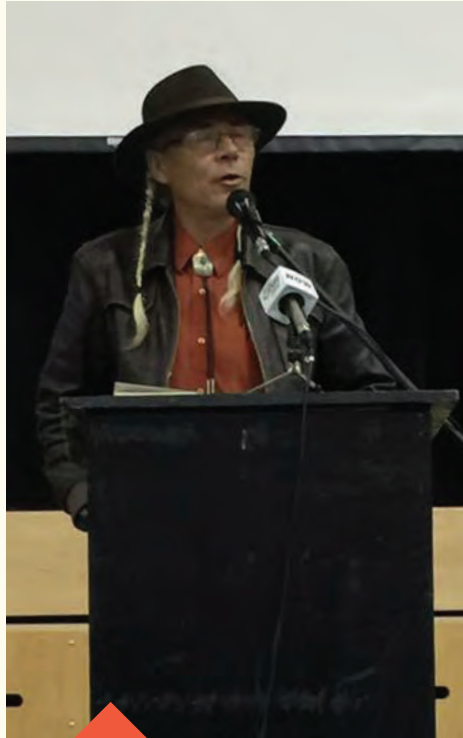
With support from the Six Rivers Fund the board held its first conference, Sharing Responsibility, in September.

"Typically this is something only one or two elected officials from the village would travel to attend in Prince Albert" says Donny Favel, village councillor and member of the safety board. "The funding allowed us to bring in well-known facilitators and offer information to more than 80 of our residents."

Participants learned more about aboriginal policing; alternative measures; drug and alcohol abuse prevention, and the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) program.

"With the SCAN surveillance in the community we were able to shut down a drug house that very day," says Favel.

Since then other some other nearby communities such as Beauval and Buffalo Narrows were also inspired to host justice conferences of their own. Favel says by working together the tools residents have learned will be even more effective.



Harold Johnson speaks at the conference.



"We are seeing a difference already now that we are more equipped to deal with problem activity in our community."



The Six Rivers Fund is committed to sponsoring projects and initiatives that will have the positive impact on as many northerners as possible with a focus on safety, health and wellness; youth; education; sports and recreation.



To apply visit: www.sixriversfund.ca

Meet Sabrina Fern

Cameco's community liaison, Fond du Lac.



Fond du Lac is a northern community on the east side of Lake Athabasca.

A quick fact about Sabrina Fern: she was once training to be a pilot.

That was more than a decade ago before she changed gears and graduated college with a Business Management certificate.

Today, she is Cameco's community liaison in Fond du Lac - making a difference in her hometown.

"If I know of a position that is open, I contact the people who have come in (to my office) and wanted a new resume or help updating it."

Sabrina also enjoys helping students prepare resumes - which she excelled at before joining Cameco.

"I had a girl come into the office (in my old position) and she was reluctant to apply for school. She was getting discouraged," recalled Sabrina.

"I said to her: 'If you just try... I will help you with your resume.'"

"Now she is taking university classes."

That is just one example of Sabrina making someone smile.

Sabrina is hoping to make every student in Fond du Lac smile this spring by raising enough money to bring professional photographers to the northern community for school pictures.

"This hasn't been done in the community since 2014," explained Sabrina. "And the photographers will also do passport and elder photos."

It's an ambitious fundraising goal - but Sabrina doesn't shy away from a challenge.

"I enjoy helping community members to better themselves," said Sabrina, who was born in Uranium City but raised in Fond du Lac before graduating high school in Prince Albert.



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