

SaskEnergy SHA Hockey Day in Saskatchewan

SaskEnergy definitely scored last weekend with the first annual SaskEnergy Hockey Day in Saskatchewan. The event took place over the weekend of January 19th, and was a huge success! The purpose of the event was to promote the game of hockey, highlight the importance of local community rinks, and celebrate the volunteers who generously donate their time to keep hockey alive in their community.



Volunteer Champion Award certificate and pin

Over 40 communities across the province participated in this special day. Hockey games and tournaments for teams of all ages from initiation to senior hockey, both male and female, took up both days of the weekend in most communities. The Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League and the Saskatchewan Midget AAA Hockey League, also planned their All-Star games in Yorkton and Saskatoon around this new tradition. Some rinks were so busy that they even organized outdoor road shinny tournaments to accommodate their many activities, and our own TransGas Engineering and Operations crews even organized a shinny game at the Regina Storage Caverns!



Unity Silent Auction

The gala event in Unity, this year's host community, also had an overwhelming turnout! There were over 200 people in attendance for the dinner and silent auction, and with Saskatchewan's own Ash Cooper as the Master of Ceremonies, there wasn't a dull moment throughout the evening. Speakers for the evening included the President of Hockey Canada, Bob Nicholson; WHL Commissioner, Rob Robinson; SHA President, Greg Camp; retired NHL player, Mark Habschied; and President/CEO of SaskEnergy/TransGas, Doug Kelln. The community also organized a full two days of hockey, both indoor and outdoor, as well as a variety of fundraisers, including selling 50/50 tickets, a prize table, and a pancake breakfast. Unity did a great job this year, and preliminary reports indicate a significant amount of money has been raised to go towards the construction of female dressing rooms in their rink.



Tracy David, Unity Minor Hockey President; Ron Robinson, WHL Commissioner; Bob Nicholson, President of Hockey Canada; Kathy Johnson, Mayor of Unity; Mark Habschied, former NHL player; Doug Kelln, President and CEO of SaskEnergy/TransGas; and Greg Camp, SHA President

An important part of the festivities in each community was also to recognize local volunteers as the SaskEnergy Hockey Day in Saskatchewan Volunteer Champion. Each volunteer that was selected by their minor hockey association was someone who demonstrated outstanding dedication to their hockey community and inspired others to do the same. Many SaskEnergy volunteers were on hand at various events throughout the province to present these awards.



Top Left: Volunteer Champion Award being presented to Mike Fear by Vincent Tkatchuk
 Center Right: Volunteer Champion Award being presented to Lindsey Leko by Dawn Haines, SaskEnergy CSR and Lionel Pouliot, President of Weyburn Minor Hockey
 Bottom Center: SaskEnergy's Dale Kucharyshen presenting Volunteer Champion Award to Dean Amy in Grenfell

Thank you to everyone who participated in or volunteered for this event. Also, special thanks to our own SaskEnergy and TransGas employees, who were there volunteering at many of the events in Unity. Your efforts helped to make the first annual SaskEnergy Hockey Day in Saskatchewan a great event!

So, mark your calendars, since plans are already underway for next year's event, which will be taking place on January 17th, 2009!



Pierceland Initiation hockey team