



Welcome to the AITC-SK Summer newsletter. Earlier in Spring we sent out a newsletter to our Ag Ambassadors promoting our Agriculture Roadshow for teachers, new resources we have accessed and a short update on our major activities. This newsletter is specifically designed for our investors. We believe it is important you are kept informed of our activities and programs. Enjoy!

#### Quotes from the Agriculture Roadshow for Teachers:

“My respect for the producers, their ingenuity and drive, and their commitment grew in leaps and bounds”.

“I had no idea that the agriculture industry was so diversified, yet so inter-meshed”

“I know there is much more to learn and I am inspired to continue learning”

#### Did you know?

- ◆ Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries.
- ◆ During a lifetime the average person eats about 35 tonnes of food.
- ◆ You're more likely to be hungry if you are cold.
- ◆ Half of the world's population live on a staple diet of rice.
- ◆ Potato crisps were invented by a North American Native named George Crum.
- ◆ The first breakfast cereal ever produced was Shredded Wheat.

Source: Nutrition Management Services  
(www.nms.on.ca)

### 2007 Agriculture Roadshow

#### “Food — Blending Science and Passion”

From July 9—12, 2007 a group of 14 teachers and two Sask Learning Co-ordinators took part in the 2007 Agriculture Roadshow. This unique, hands-on professional development experience allowed teachers to gather a greater insight into the agriculture industry in Saskatchewan. Our goals of the Roadshow were to provide teachers with:

- Opportunity to network with our teachers, administrators and industry professionals.
- Ideas on new activities to integrate into teaching
- Ideas on places to take class trips
- Free resources to use in the classroom
- Information on new and cool things about this province
- Delicious Saskatchewan grown food

The teachers learned a lot and had a great time and the benefit AITC-SK realized was also great. The teachers spent time assessing some of our resources and giving us valuable feedback.

The teachers have also committed to sharing what they learned with other teachers. A number of them have volunteered to assist in our sessions at the major teacher convention being held in February 2008 with expected attendance of 12,000 teachers.

This year's Roadshow was jam-packed with exciting activities and hands-on experiences. Our itinerary included sessions on “Misconceptions in Agriculture” with Leanne Campbell from Manitoba AITC and “Nutrition and Functional Foods” with Dr. Lisette Mascarenhas from Ag-West Bio. We took teachers right to the production level where they had a chance to milk cows on Fehr and Enns dairy farms, grow sprouts at Mumm's Sprouting, and see the bees on Hannigans Honey Farm. Tours of the Saskatchewan Food Centre and Pork Interpretive Gallery were also included.

During our travels we stayed at the beautiful Carlton Trail Guest Ranch and the charming Champêtre County. Finally our week was complete with every meal featuring Saskatchewan made products. A special thanks to Chef Rob Fuller from **Farm Pure Foods** for catering a fantastic lunch with “only oats” products.

Thank you to our Investors for making this program possible:

**Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food**  
**Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission**  
**Monsanto Canada**  
**Agricore United**  
**Dairy Farmers of Saskatchewan**

*Funding for this project was provided by the Saskatchewan Council for Community Development through the ACAAFS program.*

**Thank you also to all the commodity groups who supplied information for the teacher packages.**

## Envirothon

Saskatchewan was proud to host its first Envirothon at Blackstrap Youth Camp on May 24 - 25th 2007. Envirothon is an exciting event in which teams of five high school aged students exercise their environmental training and problem-solving skills in a competition centered on four universal testing categories (i.e., soils/land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, and wildlife) and a current environmental issue, which was renewable energy this year.

AITC-SK was a member of the organizing committee and coordinated the volunteers. We were pleased that the question the students had to answer in their major presentation was about the optimal location to put up an ethanol plant. The winners of this years Envirothon were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Mount Royal's "A" team, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Mount Royals "B" team 3<sup>rd</sup> - Lumsden. Congratulations to these teams and their teachers! Next years Envirothon is being held at Cypress Hills, for more info go to [www.saskriverbasin.ca](http://www.saskriverbasin.ca)



## Prairieland Park School Tours

We are pleased to announce a partnership between the Prairieland Park Corporation and AITC-SK for the School Tours Program. The following tours take place through-out the year at the Saskatoon exhibition grounds:

Fall Fair and Mexhibition "The Story of Beef"

- Crop Production Show "Grain Production Today"
- Gardenscape "Little Green Thumbs"
- Western Canadian Livestock Expo "Milk and Pork Production"



In an effort to make this program even more valuable to teachers, AITC-SK is working hard to ensure the school tours program has strong curriculum links.

At each tour several stations are set up, each focusing on a specific theme. Classes rotate through the stations spending approximately 15 minutes at each. This is an excellent learning opportunity for the students and provides students a chance to talk to people involved directly in the agriculture industry. For more information contact our office or check out <http://www.saskatoonex.com>

## Little Green Thumbs

A few months ago Agriculture in the Classroom, the First Nations Agricultural Council of Saskatchewan, Heifer International, and Potash Corp teamed up to help four schools in the province set up indoor gardens.



The results have been amazing as the students have watched tiny seeds explode into vibrant, large, green gardens with cucumber, gourd, pepper and tomato plants. The gardening experience has provided students with an appreciation and understanding of nature, agriculture, food, and lifecycles.

On June 14th the students of St. Maria Goretti, Cardinal Leger, WhiteCap First Nation, and Chief Poundmaker schools came together for a Little Green Thumbs celebration where they shared their experiences and stories about their gardens.

We are seeking new sponsorship for this project as we have seen such fantastic results. It is our hope that we can expand the Little Green Thumbs project into at least 6 new schools next year!

For more information check out: [www.littlegreenthumbs.org](http://www.littlegreenthumbs.org)