

Bringing *Technology* to You

Access Communications is investing in Saskatchewan. We are expanding our Wireless Internet service to more areas by adding more towers. Pictured at the right is a **Wireless Internet** crew installing equipment at the top of a 200-foot tower near Humboldt.



We hosted an open house for our newest customers in **Yellow Grass** in June and took the opportunity to present information about the new digital and broadband internet services now available in that community.



And the renovated **Retail Office** in Regina will open at the beginning of August. The new layout provides customers streamlined processes for day-to-day account transactions - while offering an enhanced experience for those wanting to discuss what services and options are best for them. Dedicated staff will be on hand to demonstrate the latest technology and interactive kiosks will complete the package. A similar plan will be rolled out in the coming months to our other retail locations across Saskatchewan. **We do appreciate the patience shown by our customers during the disruption.** Below: the buffalo is excited to be finally free of the construction cage... Did you know the buffalo statue is made of co-ax cable?



Co-op Membership Renewal

Members that need to renew their memberships in our co-operative this summer will have received a notice letter with this newsletter. Since most members renew for more than one year at a time, only some members will need to renew this year.

NOT SURE WHEN YOU NEED TO RENEW? Check the year printed at the top of the address label of your newsletter or contact Member Relations. Members need to renew by August 31 in the year their membership expires.

IT'S EASY TO RENEW:

- In person: at any of our retail locations
- By phone: simply call Customer Service or Member Relations to have your membership fee added to your Access services account.
- By mail or email: send to Member Relations (2250 Park St, Regina, SK S4N 7K7)

An **auto-renew option** is also available to make it easy for you to keep your membership up to date.

When you renew, please don't forget to tell us of any address or name changes. For questions or assistance with your renewal, or for a new membership application, contact Member Relations.



Individual member meetings this fall - Access Communications will be hosting a series of regional member meetings in October and November at which time individual members will elect voting delegates to represent them for the next two years - look for more details with the fall YOUR ACCESS newsletter.

Proud to again be named as one of Saskatchewan's Top Employers in 2016.



YOUR ACCESS

ISSUE #63 — A newsletter for the members of Access Communications Co-operative Limited —
AUGUST 2016



Access Wins Awards

We don't do it to win awards, but we were very proud to have the work done by our volunteers and staff recognized recently.

On May 28th, the community-produced Access7 program, *Invisible Wall* won a prestigious Golden Sheaf Award at the **Yorkton Film Festival** as Best Community Television. The series is all about the difficulties of being a new Canadian in Regina, from language barriers to day-to-day struggles. The series is the work of community producers, Jacqueline Hui and Janice Hui and was competing against other programs from across Canada including another Access7 series, *Beyond the Echo*. Access Communications was also pleased to sponsor the high school film program with the YFF and air the gala night on Access7.

The **CCSA Tuned In Canada Awards** is a project sponsored by the Canadian Cable Systems Alliance, a national organization representing more than 100 independent cable and communications providers across Canada.

Access Communications is proud to be named a 2016 Tuned-In Canada award winner for:

- Best public service/community building effort: Access Communications Children's Fund donation to the **Northeast Outreach** women's shelter (Melfort)
- Best community channel programming (news): **RezX**
- Best community channel programming (sports): **Hockey Night in Saskatchewan**
- Best community channel programming (entertainment): **Heritage in Scarlet**
- Best on-camera community channel personality: **Lisa Peters, Talk of the Town** Regina

Congratulations to all the Access7 community producers, volunteer crew and Access Communications staff who earned these honours!



What's Inside

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IN THE COMMUNITY

OUR MISSION

We are a community owned co-operative dedicated to providing exceptional communications and entertainment services and unique opportunities for local expression.

OUR VALUES

Integrity

We live by our belief in honesty, respect, and trust in everything we do.

Employee-Centered

We enable everyone's involvement, growth and contribution in a challenging, safe and fun environment.

Customer-Focused

We deliver extraordinary value reliably, dependably and consistently.

Community-Oriented

We are an integral part of the communities we serve, contributing to their energy and progress.

Innovative

We create and embrace change that enhances customer service, the community and our organization.

Contact Us

Head Office:

2250 Park Street, Regina, SK S4N 7K7

Member Relations:

member.relations@myaccess.coop
306-565-6640 in Regina or Toll Free
1.866.211.6334 ext. 6640

Toll-Free 24/7 Customer Service
1.866.363.2225

For the latest news, contests and videos, visit us at:



Access Communications Co-operative Limited 2016 Board of Directors

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Access Communications joined groups across Canada to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage and contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Metis people. celebrating **National Aboriginal Day** on June 21.

We were honoured to have Chief Murray Ironchild and Elmer Eschappie of the Piapot Nation visit our head office that day to speak with staff and share their stories and insights with us.



Access is Communications is proud to support many Aboriginal projects throughout the year especially with our Access7 programming including *RezX*, *The Four*, *All My Relations* and those colourful and exciting Pow Wows.



June was a busy month for our **Access Centennial Scholarship Program**.

Scholarships were awarded to graduating students from over 170 high schools across the province. Since the launch of the program in 2005, our Co-operative has invested \$275,000 in post-secondary education plans for high school students in Saskatchewan. Recipients are chosen by their schools not only for academic achievement but who also are making a difference

through their community involvement. Access Communications is also proud to further support Saskatchewan youth by awarding several entrance scholarships for the Film and Video Program at the **University of Regina**.

Access7 was there in many communities to record local high school graduation ceremonies. In addition, Access7 aired the University of Regina Spring Convocation and Sask Polytechnic Wascana Campus graduation ceremonies.



Discounts for Access Members

The **Member Benefits Program**, provided by The Co-operators Group, offers exclusive insurance coverage and savings for Access Communications Co-operative members.

The Co-operators Group is a co-operatively owned and controlled organization and it works to build meaningful relationships with its member organizations, such as Access Communications. Discounts are available for travel insurance; life, health and dental benefits; farm insurance; and home and auto insurance. There is flexibility in the plans offered by The Co-operators and their advisors are available to assist Access members in choosing the appropriate plans.

To access the program or for more information:
Contact your local The Co-operators office directly;
or visit cooperators.ca/memberbenefits



Since the beginning of the 2016 year, the Access Communications Children's Fund has already donated over \$100,000 to support projects that benefit children and youth at risk or in need across Saskatchewan. (Pictured below: Nicole Combres of the Battlefords Boys & Girls Club with Access Regional Manager, Martin Smith)



The major fundraiser for the Children's Fund is its weekly TV Bingo on Access7. With jackpots from \$5,000 up to \$10,000 each week, it's definitely worth watching...and playing!

The Access Communications Children's Fund is pleased to announce its recent support to the following groups:

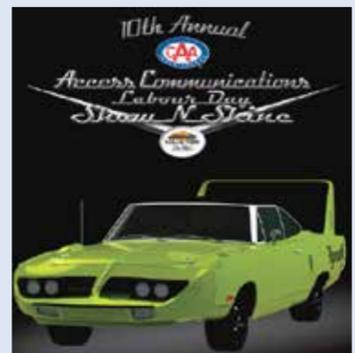
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| Town of Arcola Library | Optimist Clubs of Regina |
| Big Bros. Big Sisters, Humboldt | P.J. Gillen School, Esterhazy |
| Fort Qu'Appelle Community School | Sask Abilities Council |
| Gordon Denny School (La Ronge) | Sask Choral Federation |
| Mossing School of Music, Regina | SOFIA House |
| Regina North Central Family Centre | United Way Regina |

The Children's Fund invites non-profit organizations and charities with a focus on children and youth in our communities to apply for funding. More information and an application form can be found at www.myaccess.ca/ChildrensFund

Join us for the **10th Annual Labour Day Show N Shine** on Monday, September 5th from 12 noon to 4:00 pm in Access Community Park (Park St & Arcola Ave in Regina).

Thanks to many our volunteers, our partners The Collectors Car Club of Saskatchewan, and our many sponsors including the CAA of Saskatchewan, thousands of visitors will view up to 500 antique and vintage cars. All proceeds from the event go to benefit the Regina Food Bank.

And check out more great cars on **Cruisin' on 7** as TV host Bob Friedrich visits car shows across the province.



What's Happening in the Industry

On June 15, 2016, the CRTC issued its new policy framework for **Local and Community Television**. The goal of this review by the CRTC is to ensure that Canadians continue to have access to local programming that reflects their needs and interests. This includes local news as well as the broadcast of community programming through which Canadian can express themselves.



Access appeared before the Commission in January to highlight the value Access7 has in our communities, especially where we're the only source of local TV content. Hundreds of Access7 supporters also submitted their own comments to the CRTC and we were gratified to have other organizations, including the Canadian Olympic Committee, speak to the Commission about the success that Access7 has in telling the stories of our communities.

Providing a vehicle where the community can express themselves through the medium of television is a founding principle on which Access Communications Co-operative was formed. It continues to this day to be a top priority to bring local stories to neighbours and viewers near and afar.

We were pleased to see that the decision provided for continued support for local access community programming. More to follow as we determine the impact for a revised funding model and as Access goes through a CRTC license renewal process.

For more info on these and other CRTC initiatives, go to www.crtc.gc.ca

