

Heritage Week Media Backgrounder

The Government of Saskatchewan has designated February 18-22 as Heritage Week in Saskatchewan.

A special heritage lecture at Regina's Royal Saskatchewan Museum will take place on Wednesday, February 20, from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. In his presentation "Does 'Building Sustainability' Include Sustaining Buildings, nationally recognized lawyer and author Marc Denhez will discuss how heritage builds community pride and contributes to economic sustainability. Mr. Denhez has worked in the law of planning, downtown rehabilitation, and heritage for 10 provinces, UNESCO, five major cities, and on assignments in 16 countries. In 1998, his book *The Heritage Strategy Planning Handbook* was distributed at a conference of the World Bank. He has received a National Heritage Award from the Government of Canada.

For this lecture, he will be speaking to three themes/messages in heritage sector:

- Heritage conservation supports environmental sustainability
- Heritage conservation builds community pride and identity
- Heritage conservation stimulates economic development

Mr. Denhez's presentation is free and open to the public. This is an opportunity to learn about current heritage issues that affect all Canadians and why it's important to conserve historic places for now and for the future.

In addition, an annual Heritage Poster Contest for Saskatchewan Students is underway. It gives children across the province the opportunity to write about and create artwork depicting a historic place in Saskatchewan that is important to the community. The contest closes April 8, 2008 and the lucky winners will be announced in May.

Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport's website features a directory of every designated Provincial and Municipal Heritage Property in the province. All kinds of historic places can be found on the Saskatchewan Register of Heritage Property, including historic buildings and structures, archaeological sites and landscapes, and palaeontological or fossil sites. Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport is responsible for Saskatchewan's obligations under *The Heritage Property Act*, including the protection and stewardship of the province's heritage resources. Heritage resources in Saskatchewan include: historic sites and structures, archaeological sites and artifacts, palaeontological localities and objects, and any other property that is of interest for its architectural, historical, cultural or scientific value. Sensitive preserved and interpreted, heritage resources are tangible reminders of the province's history and development that reflect our unique character and cultural identity.

To learn more about provincial heritage property and historic places, visit <http://www.tpcs.gov.sk.ca/heritage.html>