

The Co-operative Housing Association of Saskatchewan

Newsletter

Let's join and work together

CHAS Mission Statement:

As one voice we will have a strong positive influence while working on collective interests that strengthen all Saskatchewan Co-operatives

Website: <http://www.coophousingsk.ca>

CHAS Vision Statements

*To have equal representation from all Saskatchewan Housing Co-operatives.
To provide education to all Saskatchewan Housing Co-operatives.*

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CHAS General Membership Meeting

The meeting was held on August 27, 2011 at the lovely Silverwood Estates in Moose Jaw. Lunch was provided by Esquire, who graciously donated the proceeds back to CHAS. (Thank you!) Myles Shaw, Saskatchewan's newest CHF Regional Director, formally withdrew from his position on the CHAS Board of Directors to allow more member representation. He will, however, continue to participate in CHAS in his CHF role. Consequently, Joan VanBrek from Lakewood Housing in Regina was newly appointed to the Board of Directors. Welcome, Joan!

CHAS Sponsors SCA Co-op Housing Forum

The SCA hosted a Co-op Housing Forum on September 9th in Saskatoon. CHAS donated \$300 to sponsor the evening reception the night before, where the co-op housing sector mingled with government, housing developers, and the public to raise awareness and share experiences of co-operative housing.

CHAS Exploring Funding Opportunities

As our operating agreements with the province soon come to an end, the board is exploring grants and funding opportunities to develop an education package to enhance the public and private sector's knowledge of the co-operative housing model and why it should be preserved and protected. Not only would we like to see more housing co-ops in the province, but we need to protect the ones we have. In 2011, CHAS raised \$360 with a Sobey's BBQ. More fundraising is needed.

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CHAS Event Days

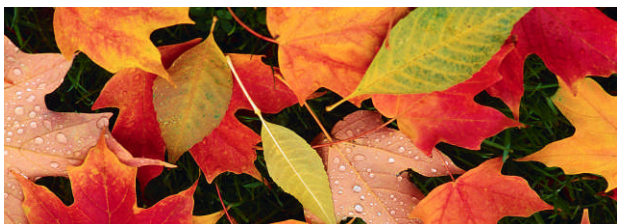


CHAS Event Day in Regina, Saturday, June 25th

CHAS Event days were held in June. In Moose Jaw, festivities were held on June 4th at Crestview. Approximately 100 people attended. The Moose Jaw Express reported the story. As a result, Esquire received 5 new applications, Crestview received 7 new applications; and at Silverwood, 7 people took away application forms. Two door prizes were awarded and Saskatchewan MLA Don Mitchell made an appearance. Tea, coffee and dainties were served. Overall, it was a great success!

Argyle Park in Regina saw an excellent turnout on June 25th. The co-op was decorated with green and yellow balloons, thanks to some spirited APHC members. Generous door prize & food donations were received and many local volunteers came out. The BBQ and games were a hit, especially the "Tacos-in-a-bag." Jamie Garcea, NDP candidate spent most of day there. David Forbes, MLA from Saskatoon was in attendance, expressing great interest in the co-op housing model.

CHAS sends a big THANK YOU to its member co-ops and volunteers for making our Event Days a success!



CHAS Networking

From sponsoring receptions to hosting Event Days, CHAS continues to work hard for our member co-ops to raise awareness of co-op housing and its benefits.



Regina Event Day: L to R: CHAS Board member Natasha Sutherland (APHC) and President James Gilliard visit with Sask MLA David Forbes and NDP candidate Jaimie Garcea, and Leona Volk, one of APHC's original members.

2012: International Year of Co-operatives

The United Nations adopted a resolution in December 2009 declaring 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives. It will provide the opportunity to:

- Raise public awareness of co-operatives and the economic and social contribution of the co-operative business model.
- Support the growth and sustainability of co-operatives.
- Create legacy initiatives that will live beyond December 31, 2012.

Watch out for Local Events happening in your city in 2012. Visit <http://www.canada2012.coop/> to learn more.

Government of Saskatchewan's Housing Strategy

On August 8, 2011 the Government of Saskatchewan released *A Strong Foundation - The Housing Strategy for Saskatchewan 2011-19* and the *2011-12 Provincial Action Plan*, which outlines government's key activities for the strategy's first year of implementation. This precedent-setting strategy involves the entire housing sector and promotes a housing environment where all Saskatchewan people have access to homes that enhance their well-being, build local communities and contribute to a growing province.

In March and April 2011, the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) held strategy consultations with more than 350 housing stakeholders throughout the province to tackle these issues and set out tangible solutions. These discussions resulted in five broad strategic priorities:

- Increase the housing supply;
- Improve housing affordability;
- Support individuals and families in greatest housing need;
- Enhance strategic planning for housing; and
- Collaborate, communicate and educate.

To read the full strategy visit:

<http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/housing-strategy>

There is room for Co-op Housing in the new strategy. CHAS will be working hard to ensure our co-op homes remain a model of sustainability and accessibility.

Next CHAS Meeting

Saturday, November 5th, 2011

Lakewood Manor

1123 Devonshire Drive N., Regina, SK

NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST!

We need a name for the CHAS Newsletter!

Send your ideas and suggestions to Tayah at tayahh@gmail.com



DID YOU KNOW?

The Co-operative Housing Association of Saskatchewan was incorporated on July 21, 1981 and was the engine in the development and building most of the co-operative housing projects in Saskatchewan.

