

Success of the 5th Annual READ Saskatoon PGI Golf Tournament ensures free literacy programming to Saskatoon adults and families

SASKATOON (September 9, 2011) – The READ Saskatoon PGI Golf Tournament for Literacy has raised over \$150,000 for literacy in the past five years. This money addresses every Saskatoon family's wish for economic and social success by reaching out to the 1/3 of Saskatchewan's population that experience daily challenges because of low literacy.

Executive Director, Sheryl Harrow says, "The ability to use and understand information is fundamental to daily life at work, at home and in the community. We are honoured we can provide qualified staff and trained volunteers to help people and families achieve their hopes, dreams and potential".

READ Saskatoon could not do it alone. They rely on the support of the Saskatoon community along with dedicated sponsors – some of which have supported for 5 years including Affinity Credit Union, SaskTel, CBC Radio, Ecol Laser, Snooker Shack and Pro Print.

PGI Golf Tournaments for Literacy happen in every province and territory across our nation. Each PGI is organized by a local committee and every dollar raised stays in the community to support local literacy programs.

It's about more than words ... it is about literacy: reading, writing, speaking, listening and numeracy. By providing these foundational skills with qualified staff and trained volunteers, READ Saskatoon can help Saskatoon people reach their full potential.

Not only does this golf tournament make a difference, it is different. Highlight of the day is hearing from an outstanding adult learner, who has been awarded the Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon Adult Learner Achievement Award. This year's winner, Nooshin Nouroozi, reminds us that literacy affects every part of our lives and influences our health and well-being, our sense of personal security, and participation in our community. In the words of Nooshin: "I am Nooshin Nouroozi, who wants to be among people, help them and listen to them patiently. I want to be a nurse."

"READ Saskatoon Chair, Carm Michalenko says: "Like Nooshin, we need to make sure that people in Saskatchewan can read, write and perform numeracy well enough to increase their knowledge, access jobs, and contribute to the growth of our province."

About READ Saskatoon:

READ Saskatoon is recognized as a leader, providing quality literacy programs to individuals, families and workplaces. For over thirty years, the organization has provided free literacy programs through a small group of highly - qualified staff and trained dedicated volunteers. Last year, this combination resulted in:

- 860 adult learners received free literacy support through a literacy program or from a trained volunteer literacy tutor.
- 221 trained volunteers provide over 31,000 hours and \$470,000 of free literacy support to individuals and our community.
- 964 children and 842 parents and/or caregivers participated in free Family Literacy programs.
- 254 staff from schools, preschools, daycares, business and community based organizations received free Family Literacy Training.
- Workplace Literacy and Employee Development Workshops were embraced and delivered at 19 Saskatoon businesses.

For more information, please contact:

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