Saskatchewan
Seniors Mechanism

19th Annual General Meeting

May 26, 2009

Cathedral Neighbourhood Centre
2900 13th Ave
Regina, SK
May 26, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

We have the pleasure of submitting herewith the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism for the year ending March 31, 2009, including year-end financial statements for the year audited by our authorized accounting firm, Mintz & Wallace.

Enclosed you will also find Executive Member and Committee Chair reports summarizing this year’s activities.

Respectfully submitted,

____________________________  _______________________
Board Member                     Board Member
TABLE OF CONTENTS

2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA 7

MINUTES FROM 2008 AGM 11

CURRENT BYLAWS 19

PRESIDENT’S REPORT 31

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT 35

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
  FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT 39
    Motion to Appoint the Auditor
  GRANTS COMMITTEE REPORT 43
  ISSUES COMMITTEE REPORT 47
  PUBLIC RELATIONS/MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 49
  BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT 51

PROGRAM REPORTS:
  SENIORS’ FRIENDSHIP 55
  CERTIFIED FITNESS LEADERSHIP FOR SENIORS 57
  FRAUD AWARENESS TOOLKIT 58
  EXCURSIONS FOR CONGREGATE HOUSING SENIORS 60

OTHER REPORTS:
  PHILIPS LIFELINE SASKATCHEWAN 63
  ALCOA REPRESENTATIVE REPORT 67

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 71

RESOLUTIONS 75

OTHER
  VOTING DELEGATES 87
AGENDA
2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009
10 a.m.

1. Call the Meeting to Order—Allen Morrison, President
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the May 7, 2008 Annual General Meeting
4. President’s Report—Allen Morrison
5. Executive Director’s Report—Bev MacLeod
6. Committee Reports:
   6.1 Finance Committee Report—Les Lye
       a. Auditor’s Report: Mintz & Wallace, Chartered Accountants
       b. Motion to Appoint the Auditor
   6.2 Grants Committee Report—Bev MacLeod for Alf Zimmerman
   6.3 Issues Committee Report—Bev MacLeod for Allan Stamler
   6.4 Public Relations/Membership Committee Report—Wayne Rutten
   6.5 Bylaws Committee Report
7. Program Reports:
   a. Seniors’ Friendship Program
   b. Certified Fitness Leadership Program
   c. FRAUD CENT$ Toolkit
   d. Excursions for Congregate Housing Seniors
8. Other Reports
9. Nomination of President—Joanne McDonald
10. Receiving Resolutions—Allan Stamler
10. Closing Remarks
Present:
Al Morrison, President
Joanne McDonald, Past President
Les Lye, Federal Superannuates National Association
Andre Nogue, FSNA
Bill Taylor, FSNA
Laurent Desrosiers, Federation des Aines Fransaskois
Annette LaBelle, Federation des Aines Fransaskois
Bill McLean, Regina Senior Citizens Centre Inc.
Alf Zimmerman, Saskatchewan Retirees Association
Bob Nolan, Saskatchewan Seniors Association Incorporated
Bob Walker, SSAI
Helen Christiansen, Saskatchewan Seniors Education Corporation
Louis Wood, SSEC
Gord Erickson, SSEC
Margaret Gailing, Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association
Myrtle Bell, SSFA
Mary Weber, SSFA
Allan Stamler, Saskatoon Council on Aging
Verda Petry, Senior Power
Jim Slough, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Peter Wiebe, STS
Al Schell, STS
Wes Norheim, Saskatchewan Federation of Union Retirees
Betty Pickering, SFUR
Lynn McCaslin, SFUR
Norm Lorenz, SaskTel Pioneers Chapter 59
Wayne Rutten, SaskTel Pioneers Chapter 59
Norm Schwager, SaskTel Pioneers Chapter 59
Brenda George, Women of the Dawn
Beverly MacLeod, SSM Executive Director
Lynne Couzens, SSM Staff
Fern Haight, SSAI
Joan Morrison, SSAI
Ollie Marciniuk, SSFA
Jean Crichlow, SSEC
Lee Anne Balliett, Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association
The Annual General Meeting was called to order by Joanne McDonald at 2:35 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda. **Motion:** Peter Wiebe/Betty Pickering that the agenda be accepted. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, May 31, 2007. **Motion:** Allan Stamler/Wayne Rutten that the minutes be accepted as circulated. Carried.

President’s Report – Joanne McDonald presented report as circulated. Carried.

Executive Director’s Report – Bev MacLeod presented report as circulated. **Motion:** Al Morrison/Robert Walker approved the President’s Report and the Executive Director’s Report as presented. Carried.

Committee Reports:


5.1 (a) Auditor’s Report: Mintz & Wallace, Chartered Accountants. Les Lye presented the Auditor’s Report, including: Assets & Liabilities, Investments, and Statement of Operations, and summarized information about member organizations who received funding this fiscal year. **Motion:** Les Lye/Bill Taylor that the Auditor’s Report be accepted.

5.1 (b) **Motion:** Les Lye/Allan Stamler that Mintz & Wallace be reappointed as auditor for 2008-2009.

5.2 Grants Committee Report - Beverly MacLeod presented the Grants’ Committee report as circulated. **Motion:** Allan Stamler/Verda Petry that the Grants’ Committee report be accepted as circulated. Carried.

5.3 Issues Committee Report – Allen Morrison presented the Issues Committee Report as circulated. **Motion:** Allan Morrison/Peter Wiebe that the Issues Committee Report be accepted as circulated. Carried.

5.4 Public Relations/Membership Committee Report – Bev. MacLeod presented the Public Relations report as circulated. **Motion:** Wayne Rutten/Wes Norheim that the report be accepted as circulated. Carried.

5.5 ByLaws Committee Report – James Slough, Chairperson, presented housekeeping issues in the bylaws and that do not substantively change the intent of each of the effected clauses. **Motion:** James Slough/Peter Wiebe that the bylaw corrections be accepted as follows:

- Change 5 (2), sub-clause (c) to read 5 (2), sub-clause (3) to keep numbering sequences consistent.
- Remove the section of 9 (4) that reads: “and the provisions of subsection 11 (3) (b) apply” because:
  * It references a clause that does not exist in the 2006 by-laws; and
  * The content has already been referenced as 2006 sub-section 12 (2).
Remove section 12 (2) (b) because:
* It references a clause that does not exist in the 2006 by-laws; and
* Its substance is addressed in 2006 section 11(2) (c).

Remove all references to “Chief Executive Officer/Program Coordinator” and replace with the words “Executive Director”.
Carried.

Program Reports.
ABCs of Fraud, Regina Housing Authority Project, Seniors’ Friendship Program and Recreation Investment Partnership Program are circulated as information.
Philips Lifeline in Saskatchewan – circulated as information.
Nomination of President. Fern Haight presided over the nominations. Nomination for President accepted by Allen Morrison who let his name stand for election.
Fern Haight called for nominations from the floor.

**Motion:** Verda Petry/Allan Stamler that the nominations cease. Carried. Allen Morrison was elected as President by acclamation.

**Motion:** Fern Haight/Allan Stamler that the Nomination Report be accepted as circulated. Carried.

Joanne McDonald turned the meeting over to Allen Morrison.

Allen Morrison thanked Joanne McDonald for her work as President, and Fern Haight for her work as Past President.

Resolutions. Al Morrison and Peter Wiebe.

**Resolution #1:** The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), lobby SGI, to make available to everyone over the age of 55, the information concerning the 55 Alive Driver Awareness Course and that SGI provide the 55 Alive Driver Awareness Course free of charge to anyone over the age of 55.

Friendly amendment to Background Information: Add another bullet stating: “To seniors, $40 can be a substantial amount.”

**Motion:** Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

**Resolution #2:** The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism urge the Federal Government to insist that the marketing of any new drug be accompanied by clear information, stated in layman’s terms, detailing precisely how much more effective it is than the drug it is supposed to replace, and what the increased risks are, if any.

**Motion:** Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

**Resolution #3:** The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), lobby the federal and provincial governments (separately or in partnership) to:
Phase in a national prescription drug strategy which would begin with coverage for key catastrophic drug costs with gradual expansion of coverage as finances permit, until the plan is universal in application; and,
Phase out the “evergreening” of patent drugs so cheaper generics are available sooner,
saving money for the health care system, patients, hospitals and provinces; and,
Ban the direct-to-consumer advertising of pharmaceuticals so there is less unnecessary
prescribing of drug therapies.

Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #4: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism urge the Saskatchewan School Board
Assn. (SSBA), the School Boards and the Saskatchewan Provincial Government to exempt
Senior Centres from paying school taxes.

Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #5: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), lobby SGI, SUMA, and the
Government of Saskatchewan/Highway Traffic Board to effect changes in the current
traffic regulations in urban municipalities to effect a consistent approach regarding the
location, size, and style of street signage used at intersections.

Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #6: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), lobby SGI, SUMA, and the
Government of Saskatchewan/Highway Traffic Board to effect changes in the current
traffic regulations in urban municipalities to effect a longer “amber light” time at controlled
intersections to provide sufficient time for drivers to make safer driving decisions.

Motion: Peter Wiebe/Al Morrison that this resolution be approved. Carried.

Resolution #7: The Saskatchewan Provincial Government adopt a Home Owner Grant
Program similar to the one in the province of British Columbia that entitles ‘senior’ home
owners a maximum reduction in property taxes based on a system of graduated assessed
property value.

Motion: Peter Wiebe/Al Morrison that this resolution be accepted. Carried. (12 for, 11
Against)

Resolution #8: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), lobby the federal and
provincial governments to enact rock solid consumer protection laws (similar to VISA and
MasterCard) that limits liability from stolen, lost or forgotten credit cards, debit cards,
petroleum pump key locks, telecommunication calling cards, online computer access and
any other such methods of goods, services and cash access liability to a maximum limit of
fifty dollars ($50) and zero liability from the moment of reporting such loss or theft.

Motion: Peter Wiebe/Al Morrison that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #9: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), lobby the federal and
provincial governments to make industries using card key and computer access systems
industries be fully responsible for providing reliable consumer friendly security control,
including hard drive memory security cameras with time recorded photo image protection,
to limit theft and unlawful use of all such card keys and computer system access.

Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #10: The Government of Saskatchewan set aside a week to recognize caregivers.

Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.
Resolution #11: The Government of Saskatchewan move to more standardization, accreditation, regulation and supervision of care in long-term care facilities.
Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #12: The Government of Saskatchewan institute training initiatives on the needs and care of older adults.
Motion: Al Morrison/Peter Wiebe that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #13: The Government of Saskatchewan give further emphasis to wellness and health promotion amongst seniors.
Motion: Peter Wiebe/Al Morrison that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #14: The Government of Saskatchewan move quickly to provide high speed internet access to rural Saskatchewan.
Motion: Peter Wiebe/Al Morrison that this resolution be accepted. Carried.

Resolution #15: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism prevail upon the Saskatchewan Health Minister and the government to withdraw:
* introducing a means test to qualify for the Saskatchewan Drug plan
* it’s attitude about the means testing that impacts delivery of Pharmacare to seniors in Sk.

Motion: Al Zimmerman/Louis Wood that the resolution be amended to remove the second line. Carried.

Motion: Second Amendment – Bob Walker/Al Schell that the resolution read as follows: The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism prevail upon the Saskatchewan Health Minister and government to withdraw a means test to qualify for the Saskatchewan Drug Plan. Carried as amended.

Resolution #16: The Government of Saskatchewan be lobbied toward providing an office known as the Seniors’ Directorate. Such an office would be the central source of information to seniors (communicating by writing as well as computer links) of all services which are provided throughout Saskatchewan.

And also in time, developing an understanding and co-operative rapport with those providing services to seniors from the other levels of government.

Motion: Alf Zimmerman/Verda Petry that the resolution be amended by deleting the second paragraph. Carried.

Meeting was adjourned by Norm Lorenz.

_________________________________  ________________________________
President: Allen Morrison               Secretary, Margaret Gailing
SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM
CURRENT BYLAWS
SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
President’s Report
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

This year I have chaired seven board meetings and four of those were combined with a Strategic planning session, plus a short board meeting after last year’s AGM. I also sat in on several committee teleconferences as ex-officio member. Overall my year has been a very interesting and informative one for me. In chairing Board meetings I have seen a positive change in our board members. They are more involved in the business of the Mechanism and are being more open about their organizations in the round table segment of our meetings, which is nice to see. I try to let the board members form a consensus on decisions that need to be made rather than me making the decision.

One of our most valuable assets is our Executive Director, Beverly MacLeod, who works very hard to bring relevant items to be discussed to each meeting. She updates all of us on where the Mechanism is at every meeting, or by e-mails or phone calls to me when necessary. Lynne Couzens is also doing a wonderful job as Bev’s Administrative Assistant and I am pleased to be associated with both these ladies. My heartfelt thanks to both of them.

Our teleconferences are used by the Executive, Finance, Grants, Issues and PR committees. It would be nice to see more involvement from our alternate board members on these committees to ease the load of the chairpersons. Because of these “phone meetings” our regular board meetings have been able to be shorter and to the point. This also allows those that have to travel some distance a chance to get home earlier.

I have attended several STOPs to Violence meetings representing SSM and became a Tasks committee member, attended our Gala luncheon, attended and helped man our table display at the Spotlight on Seniors in Saskatoon and, met with F.A.C.E. (Families Advocating for Compassionate Environments) in care homes. Bev and I were invited to speak at SFUR’s conference in Regina, attended with Bev and three other board members at a joint meeting with SCOA at Saskatoon in December and had the pleasure of speaking at our Christmas social. Several meetings were cancelled during February and March due to bad weather. Our three day conference was well attended earlier this month and there was a lot of information available for those who attended. I was asked to bring greetings on behalf of SSM to the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan conference in Saskatoon. I also belong to FSNA and am their Provincial Advocacy officer, and this connection will bring another link to the sharing of information and working together with a common goal of contributing to a better quality of life for the seniors of Saskatchewan.

We have also submitted a proposal to the Government for the formation of a Seniors Secretariat. Hopefully SSM can be the organization to facilitate the input and output of information for the seniors of Saskatchewan with the support from the secretariat.

If we at the Mechanism do not move with the changing times, and they are changing, we will not be as relevant. SSM, as the umbrella organization representing 13 senior organizations (and hoping to get more) should lead the way. Our vision and mission statements should give us the impetus we need to do our jobs as volunteers and make our vision and mission statements happen.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Morrison
SASKATECHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
I am pleased to report the activities of the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. This past 12 months has been spent looking inward to examine how SSM can operate more effectively to achieve its mission of improving the quality of life for seniors in Saskatchewan, in addition to working with outside stakeholders to advance this very important mission.

Specifically, there was a review of how several committees operate relative to meeting the goals of our current strategic plan, with a view to making appropriate changes to achieve greater efficiencies. This larger examination of operations also meant that stakeholders from SSM met with the decision-makers of many of our member organizations to determine a way that seniors’ organizations can work more cohesively together in this province. I have had the pleasure of meeting independently with several of our organizations since November, 2008, and will continue with these meetings into next year. SSM’s goal is to better understand the current needs of each of these organizations to more effectively support them in today’s environment.

In terms of identifying issues of common concern, the SSM board examined surveys from the past 18 months and determined the priorities identified at that time were still current and relevant. Among these issues was Senior Abuse, a topic that was also identified by the National Seniors Council as being a priority for the federal government. Therefore, Senior Abuse and its causes and consequences formed a large part of the types of initiatives and funding opportunities SSM sought this past year. Further on the subject of Senior Abuse, I was fortunate to be able to attend a F/P/T working group on Financial Abuse in Ottawa in June, 2008.

The details of this year’s programs can be found elsewhere in this booklet, but examples of the types of programs SSM offered this year include:

- The Seniors Friendship program, a companionship program to reduce urban isolation (a major risk factor for senior abuse);
- Excursions for seniors residing in congregate housing, another program to keep seniors active and reduce isolation (again, a risk factor for abuse);
- Create a Fraud Awareness Toolkit that can be used by community-based organizations around the province to provide seniors with tips to avoid being victims of frauds and scams;
- Planning a conference where stakeholders from around the province will come together to examine best practices and gaps in local senior abuse initiatives with the goal of creating a provincial protocol.

Funds to deliver these programs included the opportunity to hire a new Program Coordinator, Tracy Thompson. She has been with us for just over a year and oversees the delivery of these services.
Advocacy is a critical element of SSM’s mission. As noted last year, there are many forms of “advocacy”, including the formal ‘influencing’ of decision-makers, and the more informal delivery of services to those in need. We concentrated more on the “informal” delivery of services for much of the year as noted above. However, the major focus of our research and action was the recommendation of the formation of a Seniors Secretariat. We provided a brief to the Standing Policy Committee chaired by Glen Hart, and have requested a meeting with the Health Minister to discuss the concept of a Seniors Secretariat in more detail. In addition, several of our member organizations have entered into discussions with representatives from various arms of the provincial government, which only reinforces the need for a single entry point to the provincial government on all matters related to seniors.

In terms of outside activities, we organized a Gala Luncheon during Seniors Week with Graham Barker of the Phoenix Group as our keynote speaker. He spoke eloquently about the power of seniors working together in this province. We supported the organization of a Century Club Tea with the Lieutenant Governor and Government House during this time as well.

I had the pleasure of attending many of the conventions and meetings of our member organizations and always learn more about the needs of seniors at each of these gatherings. I also travelled around the province to meet with outside organizations, such as the South West Council on Aging, and Community Against Family Violence, to gain support for our Senior Abuse Conference. We continue to support the valuable work of Safe Saskatchewan with their Provincial Seniors Falls Prevention Strategy. We acted as eyes and ears on the ground for a regional consultation process for rural seniors. As well, we continue to contribute to community and provincial committees to broaden our influence and resources.

It is my hope that the recent programs and services delivered through the Mechanism will better position our organization’s reputation as being relevant to all older adults in Saskatchewan. Next year’s goal is to improve our research capacity in order to be an even more relevant voice for seniors in this province.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly MacLeod
SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Finance Committee Report
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

Committee Members:
Les Lye, Chair
Frank May
Margaret Gailing
Andre Nogue

Another banner year and our organization remains financially sound due to the grant “hunting” efforts of Bev McLeod, Executive Director.

Internal controls instituted two years ago remain in place. Also, the Finance Committee continues to review, analyze, and recommend alternative methods to present statements to the board. Recently, the committee has assumed the task assigned to the Grants Committee.

Thank you to Frank May and André Nogue, Finance Committee members; Bev McLeod; and Debbie Giesinger, bookkeeper.

Respectfully submitted,
Les Lye
Treasurer

Note: Auditor’s Report 2008-2009—See Appendix A
Appointment of Auditor
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

**Motion:** Mintz and Wallace be reappointed as auditor for 2009-2010

Moved by: Les Lye

Seconded by:
Grants Committee Report
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

Committee Members: Alf Zimmerman, chair
Les Lye
Frank May
Ivy Kennedy

Core Funding:

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism receives its core funding from:

- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, and
- Saskatchewan Health

Funding from these sources provides money for day-to-day operations and the delivery of certain core programs for seniors. Core SSM programming includes such things as: the quarterly publication of our newsletter *Gray Matters*, a Seniors Information Line, research on seniors issues, advocacy, an annual conference to raise awareness about seniors concerns, bringing seniors groups together to facilitate opportunities to work together, a resource/service library for seniors, the Century Club, a celebratory Gala Luncheon for Seniors Week, and many others.

CORE FUNDING APPLICATIONS for 2008-2009:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granting Body</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Status / Decision Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPRA (Sask Lotteries) (Provincial Gov't)</td>
<td>$148,000</td>
<td>Core/administrative = $74,000 Included in this category was the ‘required’ Members Initiative Grant proposal that focused on promoting certified fitness led exercise programs Members’ programs = $74,000</td>
<td>APPROVED March 31, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK Health (Provincial Gov't)</td>
<td>$43,361</td>
<td>Funding is in part to supplement wages at a community based organization</td>
<td>APPROVED March 19, 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CORE FUNDING APPLICATIONS for 2009-2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granting Body</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Status/ Decision Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPRA (Sask Lotteries) (Provincial Gov't)</td>
<td>$156,800</td>
<td>Core Funding Member Initiative Grant to promote link between Primary Health Care and Active Living</td>
<td>APPROVED Early April, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK Health</td>
<td>$46,172</td>
<td>Core Funding</td>
<td>APPROVED March 17, 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Member Organizations’ Program Funding:

Fifty percent of funding from Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation supports member organizations’ programs that focus on active living.

An Evaluation Sub-committee reviewed the applications relative to the parameters of the grant, and decided to fund the following programs in 2008-09:

- **SSFA**: 55 Plus Games / Workshops, Clinics & Meetings / Walking Program;
- **SSEC**: Healthy Aging through Lifelong Learning Outreach Program
- **SSAI**: Member Newsletter
- **Federation des Aînés Fransaskois**: Annual Health and Prevention Convention
- **Saskatoon Council on Aging**: Saskatoon Century Club

SSM Program Funding:

Significant effort was expended in 2007 and early into 2008 submitting grant proposals for seniors’ programming that was either provincial in scope, or fulfilled a local need where there was no uptake from other CBOs. We were pleased to receive notification early into fiscal 2008-2009 that several applications were approved. This meant we were able to deliver several new programs:

- Excursions from seniors’ buildings at Regina Housing Authority (City of Regina – Community Initiative),
- the Seniors Friendship Program (New Horizons for Seniors),
- a program to reduce the barriers for certified fitness leadership for a provincial Older Adult Exercise program (SPRA),
- development of a Fraud Awareness Toolkit that has since been branded FRAUD CENT$ (New Horizons for Seniors – Elder Abuse Awareness), and
- bringing together interested provincial stakeholders at a conference to create an action plan for a senior abuse protocol.
The following is a summary of the activity in 2008-2009:

### FUNDING APPLICATIONS BEYOND CORE FUNDING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granting Body</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Status / Decision Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMHC (Federal Gov’t Agency)</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>Study to demonstrate potential increase in seniors’ property taxes may impact SK seniors’ independence</td>
<td>DENIED May, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Horizons – Fraud Awareness Tools (Federal Gov’t Program)</td>
<td>$291,000 over 3 yrs ($100,000 each year)</td>
<td>Grant call requested awareness tools be created and shared to assist with reduction in elder abuse; ABCs model was submitted with intent that scripts and printed material be disseminated to seniors groups throughout province</td>
<td>APPROVED August, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIPP—Certified Fitness Leadership (SPRA – Provincial Gov’t)</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>Partnership with SPRA to develop tools and offer subsidies to assist candidates for Older Adult Exercise module meet fitness leadership certification</td>
<td>APPROVED February, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Development (City of Regina)</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>Subsidizing transportation for seniors strictly to and from medical services (to align with fall member survey outcomes)</td>
<td>DENIED April, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Initiative (City of Regina)</td>
<td>$5,200</td>
<td>To further advance the Century Club in Regina through identification of future members, and through coordination of events and activities</td>
<td>APPROVED April, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Employment Strategy (YES) (Federal Gov’t)</td>
<td>$8,004</td>
<td>This would be a summer student who would concentrate on Century Club growth; if Community Initiative grant is approved, there is opportunity to redirect summer student to other initiatives</td>
<td>APPROVED May, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRA</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>Strategic Planning session</td>
<td>APPROVED April, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Initiative (City of Regina)</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
<td>Grant in support of delivering off-site RHA programming (exercise, entertainment, with transportation)</td>
<td>APPROVED April, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCC (Regina Spirit Fund)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Grant in support of delivering RHA programming (exercise, entertainment, with transportation)</td>
<td>DENIED April, 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Throughout 2008-2009, the following grant applications were submitted. We have been advised of the status of some of these, but are still waiting for the results of others. The majority of these grants, even if approved in fiscal 2008-2009, will be enacted in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Granting Body</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Status / Decision Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Horizons for Seniors</td>
<td>$24,650</td>
<td>Funding for a conference to bring together stakeholders in SK working in the senior abuse field for the purpose of creating a provincial protocol</td>
<td>APPROVED November, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(HRSDC)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Initiative</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>Grant in support of delivering RHA programming (exercise, entertainment, with transportation)</td>
<td>APPROVED April, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(City of Regina)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Society</td>
<td>$112,000</td>
<td>Application to fund feasibility study and pilot operation of a Seniors Legal Aid Clinic</td>
<td>PENDING July-Sept, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Student</td>
<td>$5,400</td>
<td>Funding for a research student to assist with coordinating an elder abuse strategy</td>
<td>PENDING May, 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly MacLeod for Alf Zimmerman
Issues Committee Report  
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism  
2009 Annual General Meeting

Committee Members: Allan Stamler, Chair  
Wally Coates  
Charles Ames  
Charles Keple

Over the summer of 2008, the provincial government requested input on how various stakeholders would benefit from Saskatchewan’s “economic boom”. The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism submitted a summary electronically of the types of ways seniors could be supported financially by this government based on what our grassroots members are telling us:

1. One of the goals of Saskatchewan Health is to encourage seniors to age “at home”. However, a large percentage of seniors in Saskatchewan live on fixed incomes, and rapidly rising property values and the associated costs to maintain these properties are threatening the future independence of many senior homeowners. They may soon have to sell their homes and move to sub-standard housing, creating a whole new set of challenges. Possible policy changes that could form part of the solution could include:
   a. Property Tax Relief: Seniors need some form of property tax relief to be able to afford to stay in their own homes. Suggestions for property tax relief could include:
      i. User Pay: Pursue a public policy whereby all seniors are excluded from paying the education portion of property tax;
      ii. Property Tax Deferment: a lien against the property registered at Land Titles for a percentage (to be determined) of annual property taxes;
      iii. Property Tax Abatement: Reduce property taxes based on a graduated system of a combination of income and property values.
   
b. Relief for Home Maintenance Costs: While the substantial increase in energy costs facing all Saskatchewan residents have been reduced for the time being, now the cost of electrical power will soon be increased. Those seniors on fixed incomes will be particularly hit hard. Seniors on fixed incomes must be considered for relief of home maintenance costs, whatever form they take.
   
c. “Ability-friendly” Housing: The thresholds to assist seniors convert their existing homes to “ability-friendly” housing must be increased.

2. Extend Home Care benefits to ensure minimum provision basic needs (i.e. ensuring patients are eating, hydrating and taking medications appropriately). Revised graduated subsidies for home care should also be considered.

3. Care Home Spaces: The government should be creating an economic climate (e.g. tax breaks, subsidies, low interest loans) for investors to build new care home spaces, or approve publicly funded care home spaces, because demand is only
going to increase over the next 35-50 years. This would be a logical alternative to the current practice of placing them in expensive hospital beds that could be better used for other purposes.

4. **Care Giver Relief:** The government should also take leadership in creating respite bed spaces on a graduated cost scale. The economy currently saves a significant amount of money through the current practice of familial/friend caregivers, and they need some relief.

5. **Seniors’ Directorate/Secretariat:** This would be both a central repository for information to assist seniors, plus a funding body whereby any group delivering programs and/or services to seniors could access funds. It is our experience that different types of governmental service delivery for seniors are compartmentalized. It is our recommendation that information and services for seniors be housed in one central agency that would more effectively coordinate program and service delivery for seniors.

**Seniors Secretariat:**

The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism put forward a brief to the Standing Policy Committee in late winter, 2009, that provided background information about other provinces that have Senior Secretariats or bodies with a similar mandate. We also provided some recommendations around what a Seniors Secretariat could look like in Saskatchewan. We believe government services for seniors in Saskatchewan can be enhanced by centralization. Centralization would of itself provide better awareness of services for the senior population. Having all services coordinated by a single entity would also facilitate a higher quality of research and policy development, which in turn would result in smoother delivery and greater accessibility of government services.

Currently in Saskatchewan, the Ministries of Health/Healthy Living and Social Services take the lead in delivering government services to seniors, but there are a multitude of other areas of government that also impact seniors’ lives. The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism is aware that the current government structure attempts to informally coordinate strategies to address all of these areas. However, from our experience and knowledge in working directly with seniors in Saskatchewan, and networking with other organizations that work with seniors, we continue to witness the struggles that seniors face due to this loosely knit structure. Not having a single authority within government on “all-things senior” becomes painfully apparent when the average person cannot find information about government services for seniors.

SSM wishes to address this issue through specific research and action. We strongly feel a more coordinated effort on behalf of seniors in this province is necessary. Therefore, as a primary goal, Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism encourages the establishment of a ‘**Seniors Secretariat**’.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly MacLeod for Allan Stamler, Issues Chair
Public Relations/Membership Committee Report
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

Committee Members: Wayne Rutten, co-chair
Bob Walker, co-chair
Kerrie Strathy
Norm Lorenz

The SSM communication committee consists of co-chairs Bob Walker and Wayne Rutten and members Kerrie Strathy, Norm Lorenz and executive Director Bev MacLeod.

The committee focused on the needs and objectives of SSM from a communications point of view, that is:

SSM is to be an organization to provide support, assistance and awareness of seniors and senior organizations in Saskatchewan.
SSM needs to develop a communication strategy that reflects communication and awareness internally between members and externally to the public, government and other organizations/stakeholders.

Actions that have taken place:

Each member of SSM has developed a member profile that has been shared with members. The member profiles include membership information, location, objectives, mission and vision statements.
Executive Director Bev MacLeod and some of the board members have conducted meetings with individual member organizations to develop stronger relations between and to understand the operation and objectives of the member organization and SSM.
Pursuing the opportunity of seniors and member organizations to participate in the 2010 Olympic Torch Relay through Saskatchewan.
We have discussed the existing communication mediums and potential needs for future promotion of SSM and its members.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Rutten
Co-chair
Bylaws Committee Report
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

No action was taken regarding the bylaws in 2008-2009.

Respectfully submitted,
James Slough
Bylaws Committee Chair
Seniors Friendship Program

At the January, 2008 board meeting, it was announced that the Mechanism received approval for its New Horizon grant proposal regarding Urban Isolated Seniors. The amount of the grant was for $19,212.00.

The intended goal was to reduce seniors' isolation in Regina. Our objectives were to:

- amalgamate existing community partner knowledge to identify isolated urban seniors,
- co-ordinate intergenerational volunteers to visit isolated seniors in Regina,
- identify challenges to, and opportunities for, social inclusion,
- short-term objective: reduce seniors isolation through weekly visits, allowing them to build relationships, and
- longer-term objective: identify why these seniors are isolated, refer them to current (pre-existing) social programming in Regina, and generate recommendations to create programs in Regina where there are gaps.

It took several months to first complete the infrastructure of the program before we could start the actual visits. We had to hire a coordinator, prepare the promotional pieces for obtaining both the visiting volunteers and the seniors to be visited, engage our community partners to assist with communication/promotion channels, advertise through media contacts (community newspaper, community and commercial television spots), and orient our volunteers before sending them to do their first visit (criminal record checks/training/pairing of volunteers, etc.) Our coordinator also completed a first visit with each senior to ensure they were “appropriate” for our program. This took a considerable amount of time (i.e. from December until mid-April). Therefore, realistically we only visited isolated seniors from mid-April until the end of November (just over 7 months). However, judging by the feedback from both the volunteers and the isolated seniors, everyone seemed to appreciate the initial preparation that was done. The program was deemed to be well organized, we tried to anticipate questions so we could address questions and concerns as they arose, and people (both seniors and volunteers) felt they could approach the coordinator if they needed assistance with anything.

The coordinator scheduled visits between volunteers and seniors (with each senior receiving a minimum of 7 visits). Volunteers collected biographies & completed surveys identifying barriers to inclusion plus the interests of the participating seniors.

Results of the program included having fewer isolated seniors in Regina with the measurement being the number of participants (seniors) in the program multiplied by the number of visits each received. We identified barriers to social inclusion for these socially isolated seniors and measured this through the completion of surveys that pointed out reasons why these seniors remain isolated. We became aware of the types of things isolated seniors would choose to do if they had the opportunity and measured this through creating and completing interest inventories. However, the re-
sult we were the proudest of was have isolated seniors form new friendships, including socially isolated seniors spending time with other socially isolated seniors. Our measurement for this was having our coordinator follow up with participants to determine their continued contact with volunteers and other seniors. The volunteers continued to see their seniors well after funding for this program was discontinued.

Feedback included:
- Happy seniors; they were paired with a team of 2 volunteers who visited regularly (typically once per week or as schedules permitted) and had someone who valued them;
- Fulfilled volunteers who felt appreciated by both our organization and the seniors;
- Networking in large groups that included both our seniors and volunteers (which allowed people to meet and mingle with differing personalities outside of a home environment);
- reduced isolation of seniors which staved off depression in a number of people (not only the seniors but also some of the volunteers),
- referrals (seniors learning about social and recreational opportunities in Regina that may be of interest to them),
- encouragement and the building of self-esteem for the seniors (and volunteers), and
- knowledge for our volunteers (e.g. they learned about mental health issues that impact seniors).

We would like to add one editorial note. While in a perfect world we would have liked to touch 500+ isolated seniors in Regina (and given sufficient time and funding we likely could have), we recognize that it took a lot of courage for the isolated seniors that did participate to reach out for help. While we were able to identify fairly early into the program where many isolated seniors were located in Regina, it had to be the seniors’ “choice” to contact us. We congratulate the ones who found that courage to participate in our program.

The community benefited because groups pulled together in a different way than they had before for the benefit of all seniors in our community. It set the stage for new working relationships, and provided a new network of volunteers who are dedicated to help isolated seniors in Regina. It also re-emphasized the need for greater transportation opportunities for seniors in Regina in a fashion that is quantifiable, not just anecdotal in nature. It identified where there were gaps in programming for seniors in specific areas of the City. The program also reinforced to the community how easily seniors are left behind if we do not make a concerted effort to recognize and value their needs.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Thompson
Program coordinator
Certified Fitness Leadership for Seniors
In Partnership with Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (RIPP)

This program straddles two fiscal years. It began in 2008 and is set to be completed in June, 2009. Its intention is to facilitate training opportunities for seniors to become certified fitness leaders. SPRA promotes the value of properly qualified fitness leaders to lead fitness activities for seniors to minimize risk to the senior population.

The outcomes of this project thus far have been positive. We have completed and printed the fitness theory correspondence course. In order to reach this milestone, we went through several drafts, but we needed to be sure it was: 1) approved by SPRA, and 2) as clear as possible for the intended audience – i.e. seniors who have no background in fitness theory but are genuinely interested in assisting seniors in their area of the province participate in certified fitness programming.

Many people have expressed interest in this program. In terms of promotion, we advertised in SARM and SUMA newsletters, and SSM’s Gray Matters newsletter. We sent out letters to personal care homes throughout Saskatchewan and emails to every town and village office that we could find an email address for. We advertised the availability of the program in our Gray Matters and through Saskatchewan Seniors Association Inc (SSAI), another provincially-based seniors’ organization (one of our member organizations).

As is the way with most programs with limited funding, despite significant advertising at the front end, we are now receiving many inquiries about taking this program just when we have to close down registration. We have distributed correspondence course material to many individuals throughout Saskatchewan. A significant number have now completed the Fitness Theory portion of the course and are sitting the national examination.

We were able to offer the First Aid & CPR portion of this program in clusters throughout the province. We had the most interest from Gravelbourg, Esterhazy, Davidson, Saskatoon and Regina. Dates are set up with the contracted SPRA master trainer for several areas, in addition to First Aid & CPR trainers. The concept was to create nodes around the province so that interested participants would not have to travel too far.

SSM believes that having more certified trainers to lead exercise programs for seniors will not only reduce the risk of injury, but ensure more of our seniors, particularly in rural areas, stay active. Ultimately, this will contribute to improved quality of life for seniors in Saskatchewan.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Thompson
Program Coordinator
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism was thrilled when it was informed it had received funding from New Horizons for Seniors Program for a three-year program to create and distribute a Fraud Awareness Toolkit. The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism was only one of two organizations in Saskatchewan to receive this funding, the other being the Saskatchewan Seniors Education Corporation, one of SSM’s member organizations.

In 2007, the National Council for Seniors prioritized Elder Abuse Awareness. The federal government’s objective was to help fund organizations to develop education and awareness activities to help reduce abuse of older adults. Specifically, New Horizons wanted awareness and educational tools based on pre-existing materials to be developed.

By coincidence, in recent years the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism delivered a program called the ABCs of Fraud. Its purpose was to raise seniors’ awareness of frauds and scams, and provide them with the tools necessary to avoid becoming a victim of fraud. A unique feature of the ABCs of Fraud program was that it delivered a very serious message through “humorous skit-style presentations”. Research has indicated this style of presentation is a well received learning tool. In addition to this, those who delivered the presentations were seniors. This set the stage for building trust with an audience composed of seniors because the volunteers could relate to the real-life experiences faced by the audience.

Building on the foundation of this very successful program, SSM proposed a program to develop a Fraud Awareness Toolkit in late 2007, and late in 2008 was awarded approval to proceed. SSM will draw on many partners in the province to ensure this project’s success, including: participants from its member organizations, provincial anti-fraud experts such as the Regina Commercial Crime Unit of the RCMP, and the Consumer Protection Branch of SK Justice, in addition to the ABCs of Fraud program volunteers, a seasoned group that delivered anti-fraud awareness and prevention tips targeted at seniors’ audiences.

The short-term objective of this program is to create an instructional toolkit that will train community-based organizations how to develop their own fraud awareness volunteer program. The longer-term objectives are increased capacity to deliver fraud awareness and prevention information to seniors around the province, and to create and facilitate a referral network to deliver these presentations. Ultimately we hope the project will raise awareness and educate seniors in Saskatchewan about consumer frauds and scams to prevent them from becoming victims. The more seniors who are armed with information about what to look for, and what actions to take to
avoid being a victim of consumer fraud, the fewer seniors there will be who are im-
pacted in Saskatchewan.

The first year of the program (Phase I) has involved research to determine what Sas-
katchewan-specific material needs to be included in the toolkit through:

- Establishing a Steering Committee;
- Reviewing best practices regarding how to recruit, train and retain volun-
teers;
- Reviewing existing information/resources/materials related to fraud;
- Consulting with key service providers;
- Scheduling pilot “presentations” to help determine the most effective ap-
proaches in delivering fraud awareness skits;
- Exploring how to facilitate regular updates on current scams with an anti-
fraud partners;
- Establishing a marketing strategy;
- Reviewing evaluation requirements and best practices.

Although the consultation process involves a significant time investment, we viewed
this as a critical piece. It is important that a firm foundation be built in order to leverage
the effectiveness of this project.

Phases II and III will involve writing the toolkit, field testing it, and then disseminating it
across the province. It is our understanding that upon completion of our project, the
federal government wishes to obtain the finished product in order to share it with the
rest of the country.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Thompson
The grant supported many different outings for seniors in Regina Housing Authority (RHA) buildings. Our first outing was to the RCMP museum. We attended the museum in September and October. We had 32 seniors attend the museum in total. They were all very excited to be able to see the museum.

In November, we started a weekly Friday bus trip to the Lawson centre that continued to March 31/09. We chartered a bus to pick up at 9 of the RHA buildings each week. We gave them 2 hours at the centre to do whatever they wanted to do. Many took advantage of being able to safely get out of their apartment to stretch their legs with no ice hazards. They walked the track, swam in the aquatic centre or used the equipment. We had some trial and error with this, because of the company that we chartered kept having issues. In January we decided to switch transportation companies. Things went much smoother after that.

In February, we had some help from our practicum student from the U of R; she was able to create three new outings for our senior participants. She held Cultural Awareness Days for three Thursdays in a row. The response to these events was amazing. We had approximately 45-60 people attend each event. She had guest speakers in from Vietnam, China, Japan, Africa, Pakistan, Ghana, and Amazon. There was presentation, items on display and even food from different countries. The participants could not stop talking about it! They were amazing afternoons.

The month of March brought outings to the Golden Mile Bowling alley, IMAX Theater, and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Bowling was a great challenge for many of the participants as some had never bowled in their life, while others had not bowled in 25 years. It was exciting to see them get out and be excited for the day’s events. We had one participant who had a stroke several years ago and was left with minimal use of her left arm and a severe limp; she showed this writer what perseverance really is all about. Though her score was low, it was not the lowest in the game. She also did not miss a Friday Lawson trip ever! Our trip to the IMAX was great. We were able to see a double feature on Dinosaurs and Hurricane Katrina. Sometimes just seeing their expression on their faces as they come out of a show makes the whole process worth it; the expression of gratitude is always written all over their face. The last trip we made before the end of the fiscal year was to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. We arranged to have a guided tour. We arrived and split into 2 groups, with 2 leaders. One group went through the museum and all of the artifacts, while the other group went downstairs to the classroom to touch and feel real dinosaur bones, fossils and artifacts.

At the end of the day, we know we improved the quality of life for these seniors.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Thompson
SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM

OTHER REPORTS
Total Active Subscribers: YTD March 2009: 1087

A. 2008/2009 Achievements

- Strong rapport continues with our partner of nine years, Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism, and has resulted in an increase in referrals since March/08.
- SK Falls Injury Prevention Strategies Committee- board member to develop provincial strategies for prevention of seniors’ falls (2.5 yrs). I also co-chair the Regina and area Falls Prevention Committee. I have been associated with a falls prevention committee for 9 years. There has been a focus on Lifeline Program Managers presenting a new approach to Falls Prevention developed by falls experts at Yale University where they reduced falls by 30%. I have given 42 of these in services to date.
- Ongoing: In-service to Continuing Care Assistants at Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences (SIAST) in Regina as part of their curriculum module, “Safe Environment” and will be completed each year.
- First Nations: Meetings and in services completed with 16 First Nations in SK
- Lifeline installers: (called Home Service Representatives) I continue to recruit prospects, collect resumes and complete orientation training for new installers. Also actively participated and helped organize 2 HSR Workshops in Regina and Saskatoon in June/08 and currently planning workshops in May/09. There are currently 18 Lifeline installers in SK.
- Assist with training of new Philips Lifeline Community Representatives in BC and AB.
- Philips Lifeline Marketing Resource Team: as a member assisted with pilot projects introducing new marketing tools to referral sources and gathering information from referral sources to discover their needs.
- Continue to build rapport with Veterans Affairs Canada in Regina and Saskatoon. In Q4 2008 SK Lifeline won the award for the most VAC
installs in Canada.

- I continue to build rapport with the 200 Royal Canadian Legions in SK through presentations to the larger ones in Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince Albert and replenish marketing materials to most legions in SK. Since Jan 2008 when Philips Lifeline formed a partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion, nationally, Lifeline has offered the legion members 2 months free for the Lifeline service for themselves, family, or friends. I have been invited to the SK Provincial Conference in Nipawin in Oct.
- Philips Lifeline has partnered with Rexall Drugs nationally since April 2009.
- Continue to support the 3 Lifeline site-monitored programs in Melville, Estevan, and Weyburn.
- Attended numerous provincial and local conferences and education days for a variety of healthcare professionals-SAHO (SK Association of Health Organizations), SGNA (SK Gerontological Nurses Association), SSOT (SK Society of Occupational Therapists), Interprofessional Geriatrics Conference, SRNA (SK Registered Nurses Association), Renal Dialysis Nurses Conference, Palliative Care Conference, and Heart and Stroke Conference, Living Well with Kidney Disease
- Attended numerous conferences and trade shows locally and provincially which are attended primarily by seniors organizations, seniors and their families/caregivers but also healthcare professionals-Spotlight on Seniors, 2008 SSM Conference, SSAI Conference, Gerontology Institute, Embracing Retirement
- Displays and presentations at wellness and falls prevention fairs in seniors’ centers and residences have drawn large numbers of attendees and activations.
- Developing and maintaining provincial and community relationships.

Sales calls and in services/presentations to:
All hospitals and health centres
Provincial Home Care
Community Health Nursing Services in First Nations Communities
Private Home Health Services
Private Duty nurses-primarily Regina and Saskatoon
Community Clinics/Family Services
Physicians’ offices
Footcare clinics
Pharmacies
Day Programs/ Extendicares/ Transitional and Quick Response Units
Allan Blair Cancer Centre
Veteran Affairs Canada (VAC) Regina and Saskatoon offices
Saskatchewan Safety Council
Emergency Medical Services
HealthLine
Schools of Nursing
Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Clinics
Other health-related organizations: Parkinson’s Foundation, Canadian Diabetes Association, Alzheimers Society, Arthritis Society, ALS Society, Osteoporosis Society, Saskatoon Balance and Dizziness Centres, Post Polio Regina, Gerontology Association, CNIB, Stroke/Caregiver Education Program, Saskatchewan Voice of People with Disabilities, Canadian Paraplegic Association, SK Aids to Independent Living, Caregiver Support Groups
Other groups- various seniors centres and groups in seniors complexes and churches
Networking with any other health related organizations-home health aid stores
ALCOA Representative Report  
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism  
2009 Annual General Meeting  

Charles Keple  
ALCOA Representative  

Activity: As the 2008/09 SSM Representative to ALCOA, I attended a two day Planning Session and Guardian Meeting, and I have had five extended conference calls with ALCOA Guardians.

Status: ALCOA remains vulnerable to the arbitrary nature of government programme cuts and to reduced corporate sponsorship. Nonetheless, several small research grants or cooperative projects have been approved, and ALCOA remains secure for 2009. A substantial project with the Public Health Agency of Canada is in the planning stage.

ALCOA Achievements: The major ALCOA research projects related to Active Living for Canadians with diabetes, arthritis, and more recently cancer were all well received. These partnership research projects are one of the major ALCOA strengths, and whenever possible the SSM has facilitated Saskatchewan participation in such research.

ALCOA Priorities: The April 2009 Final Report of the Special Senate Committee on Aging “Canada’s Aging Population: Seizing the Opportunity” made 32 Recommendations. The first of the five showcased recommendations was “that the federal government move immediately to take steps to promote active aging and healthy aging and to combat ageism”. Clearly, ALCOA intends to reinforce that recommendation by both continued focused research and by concurrently updating the well-received but somewhat dated material such as the Moving Through the Years, A Blueprint for Action for Active Living and Older Adults.

Related Initiatives: The SSM focus on Elder Abuse has many elements. It should be remembered that the 2005 SSM Elder Abuse Protocol reinforced the Saskatoon Council on Aging finding that the key remains Elder Abuse Prevention and avoidance. The principal components of prevention are the inter-related subjects of Education, Independence and Peer Support. Since ALCOA plays a lead role with respect to Independence and a significant supporting role with respect to Peer Support, the synergy of SSM and ALCOA cooperation should continue.

Recommendation: I recommend that SSM continue its membership in ALCOA and that the SSM continue to champion Active Healthy Aging, the marginalisation of ageism, and the Prevention and Avoidance of Elder Abuse.
SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Nominating Committee Report
Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
2009 Annual General Meeting

Chair: Joanne McDonald

Report to the Annual General Meeting
Nominee for President - Allen Morrison.

Allen has served as President of the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism Board for the past year.

Note: Nominations will be called for at the AGM. If there are members nominated from the meeting and a nominee agrees to let his or her name stand, there will be a ballot by secret vote.

Report to the Board Meeting immediately following the AGM

Nominees for the Executive Committee of the Board:
Allan Stamler
Alf Zimmerman
Les Lye
Margaret Gailing
Joanne McDonald

Respectfully submitted
Joanne McDonald
Nominations Chair
SASKATCHEWAN SENIORS MECHANISM

RESOLUTIONS
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #1

To: SSM Resolutions Committee                                                Date: May 5, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatchewan Federation of Union Retirees

Moved by ___________________    Seconded by ___________________

BE IT RESOLVED that

The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM) actively promote the expansion and enhancement of the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), the Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) to have the base amounts as a cost effective measure that would help keep seniors out of poverty.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK  S4P 3X9

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Background Information:
BE IT RESOLVED that
The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism actively support SFUR in their efforts to fight for improved protection for workers and retirees in Defined Benefit Plans by advocating for a ban on employers taking contribution holidays; and, in dealing with solvency deficiencies the employers need to be made responsible for making up these deficits by setting up separate trusts for making these payments’ and, by ensuring that short term relief for dealing with solvency deficiencies be assessed on a case-by-case basis only.

Background Information:
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION  #3

To:  SSM Resolutions Committee                                                                  Date: May 5, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatchewan Federation of Union Retirees

Moved by ________________   Seconded by ________________

BE IT RESOLVED that
The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), actively support SFUR in their efforts to fight for Pension Plan protection for retirees in Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Plans by fighting for Good Governance practices including clear disclosure of pension finances; accountable and transparent practices for ethical and responsible investments; and lobbying the federal government to implement stronger regulations for managing pension fund money and financial markets; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that
The SSM along with the SFUR advocate on behalf of retirees to ensure retirees have a say in how their pension plans are run; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that
The SSM and SFUR support efforts to establish an Employer Funded National System of Pension Insurance to ensure working people and retirees’ pension plan protection.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK  S4P 3X9

Background Information:
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #4

To: SSM Resolutions Committee  
Date: May 5, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatchewan Federation of Union Retirees

Moved by _____________________  Seconded by _____________________

BE IT RESOLVED that

The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism actively support and promote the Primary Health Care Model; a model particularly well-suited for rural areas that focuses on early intervention, health prevention and promotion with a holistic, patient driven, team work approach to the delivery of services; that is a more efficient delivery model offering comprehensive and accessible services under one roof; and is a cost saving measure for the health care system.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism  
Resolutions Committee  
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK S4P 3X9

Background Information:
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #5

To: SSM Resolutions Committee
Date: May 26, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism

Moved by ____________________  Seconded by ____________________

Be it resolved that
The Government of Saskatchewan be lobbied toward providing an office known as the Seniors Secretariat that would steer governmental policy direction for seniors. Government services for seniors in Saskatchewan would also be enhanced by centralization in a Seniors Secretariat.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK  S4P 3X9

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Background Information:

Centralization would of itself provide better awareness of services for the senior population. Having all services coordinated by a single entity would also facilitate a higher quality of research and policy development, which in turn would result in smoother delivery and greater accessibility of government services.
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION   #6

To: SSM Resolutions Committee                                             Date: May 26, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism

Moved by ____________________          Seconded by ____________________

Be it resolved that
The Government of Saskatchewan be lobbied to complete a Legislative & Policy Review for appropriateness with respect to senior abuse.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK S4P 3X9

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Background Information:

Currently, there are many pieces of legislation and governmental policy that may impact appropriateness of prevention and intervention in senior abuse cases. There needs to be a full review of these separate pieces to allow a more coordinated approach to this issue.
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION  #7

To: SSM Resolutions Committee                                             Date: May 26, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism

Moved by ____________________          Seconded by ____________________

Be it resolved that
The Government of Saskatchewan be lobbied toward providing an office known as the Seniors Secretariat that would steer governmental policy direction for seniors. Government services for seniors in Saskatchewan would also be enhanced by centralization in a Seniors Secretariat.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK S4P 3X9

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Background Information:

Centralization would of itself provide better awareness of services for the senior population. Having all services coordinated by a single entity would also facilitate a higher quality of research and policy development, which in turn would result in smoother delivery and greater accessibility of government services.
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION  #8
To:  SSM Resolutions Committee                                                Date: May 19, 2009
Sponsored by Saskatoon Council on Aging

Moved by _________________________          Seconded by ___________________

BE IT RESOLVED that
The Government of Saskatchewan should set aside a week to recognize caregivers.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK  S4P 3X9

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Background Information:
Many caregivers are spouses and children caring for a senior relative. It is out of love and concern that they endure the challenges of long hours of giving care. It would be nice and proper to give these people recognition and to draw attention to the caregivers situation and the needs of their charges. The government is the beneficiary of savings because private citizens are providing care to their charges. Money should be budgeted to hold events throughout the province recognizing the important contribution of caregivers.
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #9

To: SSM Resolutions Committee  Date: May 19, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatoon Council on Aging

Moved by _________________________          Seconded by ___________________

BE IT RESOLVED that
The Government of Saskatchewan moves to more standardization, accreditation, regulation and su-
pervision of care in long-term care facilities.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK S4P 3X9

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Background Information:
We are going to see a rapid increase in personal and long-term care facilities in the next decade. An accreditation body, including licensing will be necessary to ensure basic standards of care and conditions exist. The body should be able to investigate and obtain remedies following complaints.
SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION #10

To: SSM Resolutions Committee

Date: May 19, 2009

Sponsored by Saskatoon Council on Aging

Moved by _________________________ Seconded by ___________________

BE IT RESOLVED that

The Government of Saskatchewan institute training initiatives on the needs and care of older adults.

Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
Resolutions Committee
112-2001 Cornwall St. Regina, SK S4P 3X9

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Background Information:
Community based training classes which are given for free or for a nominal fee should be held around the province. The purpose is to help equip and enable individual/non-professional personal care givers with skills to help them better care for their charge. Life does not prepare us to be good care givers and they need help to do their job more effectively. This is not intended to take away from trained care givers but to give non-paid personal care givers more confidence.
1. Les Lye  
2. Andre Nogue  
3. Bill Taylor  

1. Carmelle Beaudry  
2. Adrienne Sawchuk  
3.  

1. Frank May  
2. Cathy Theriault  
3. Pierre Schweda  

1. Alf Zimmerman  
2. Ron Reavley  
3. Graham Tuer  

1. Bob Walker  
2.  
3.  

1 Lien LeRuyet  
2 Delores Ast  
3.  

1. Margaret Gailing  
2. Myrtle Bell  
3. Gordon Garratt  

1. Allan Stamler  
2.  
3.  

1. Wally Coates  
2. Linda Tate  
3. Yvonne Mitchell  

National Association of Federal Retirees  
Fédération des Aînés Fransaskois  
Regina Senior Citizens Centre Inc.  
Saskatchewan Retirees Association  
Saskatchewan Seniors Association Inc.  
Saskatchewan Seniors Education Corporation  
Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Inc.  
Saskatoon Council on Aging  
Senior Power
1. Jim Slough  
2. Peter Wiebe  
3. Al Schell  

1. Chuck Ames  
2. Betty Pickering  
3. Fiona Bishop or Lynn McCaslin  

1. Wayne Rutten  
2. Norm Lorenz  
3. Lorraine Siniawski  

1. Ivy Kennedy  
2. Brenda George  
3. Carmilita Agodmar
Appendix A