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RECREATION PROFESSIONALS RECOGNIZED AS THE BACKBONE OF SASKATCHEWAN COMMUNITIES

Saskatchewan – June 17-23, 2024 has officially been declared *Recreation Professionals Week* in Saskatchewan for the seventh consecutive year, thanks to the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, Hon. Laura Ross.

Recreation Professionals are instrumental in enhancing health and well-being through diverse leisure and recreation interventions, ensuring the safety and enjoyment of parks, open spaces and recreation facilities and providing opportunities for community engagement.

"Behind thriving communities and highly valued services are educated, trained professionals who care deeply about the people they serve," said Jordan Wall, S.A.R.P. Executive Director. "We're excited to bring much-needed attention to our hard-working recreation professionals who play a pivotal role in the health and well-being of all Saskatchewan residents."

This year's theme, "The Backbone of Your Community" underscores the important role of recreation professionals in Saskatchewan communities. The celebration will include the inaugural Recreation Rumble, recognizing outstanding contributions to the province's recreational landscape.

Recreation Professionals work reduces healthcare and social service costs, enhances property values, attracts new businesses, enhances community development and increases tourism opportunities.

Their passion, knowledge and experience enable them to deliver programs and services across various sectors, community development initiatives, vital infrastructure, quality of life improvements and overall well-being.

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About S.A.R.P.

The Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals (S.A.R.P.) is a non-profit, member driven organization committed to the recreation profession by representing and supporting current and future recreation professionals. Our Members are individuals such as Recreation Professionals, Recreation Students, and retired Recreation Professionals. Learn more at <u>sarponline.ca</u>.

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