

Action Swift Current reflects on successes

A long series of positive accomplishments over the past year has allowed the Action Swift Current committee to earn straight A's on a report card of projects they have tackled.

On Monday the committee released a list of 10 highlights from the past year that have had a positive effect on the community. Action Swift Current is a business retention and expansion initiative that grew out of a 2002-2003 survey. They have hit the ground running and recorded successes in addressing the main community concerns raised in their initial findings.

"We're just still starting. We think in the next year we'll have another 10 projects added on to this list as well. It's just a continuous growth in progress that projects will keep being delivered, done and move on to other developments as well," admitted Action Swift Current Leadership Team member Chuck Thomson.

Evidence of partnerships that have helped get the community moving forward include approval of a new regional hospital, approval of the casino/performing arts centre/ convention centre proposal, and improvements through the Discover Downtown initiative. Action Swift Current has also helped generate business growth through their Firms Expanding Committee. A tax-break program for new and expanding businesses in the community has been utilized by eight businesses, resulting in more than \$1.8 million in construction.

Other highlights include the launch of a branding initiative, an educational enhancement project, youth and senior's issues projects, plus exploring transportation in the community.

"There's a force within this community, and it's called Action Swift Current, and it's affected a lot of other people within the community, and it's a positive, positive thing," said Action Swift Current Leadership Team member Gord Budd.

Further details on all their initiatives is available on their comprehensive website, www.actionswiftcurrent.com.

The bottom line is we think we've captured some lighting in a bottle. Economic development takes years and we are well underway in building a positive infrastructure, and a positive business climate here for our existing business base," Thomson said.

*Press Release Date:
The Southwest Booster
December 27, 2003*