

Outlying Support For Casino

There have been strong opinions voiced in Swift Current and in the rural areas of southwest Saskatchewan about the possibility of the building of a casino.

Robert Litowski of Cabri says if he could vote, he would vote yes to the fine arts centre and casino for Swift Current.

"We are not Swift Current residents but we still have a large stake in the future of Swift Current and southwest Saskatchewan," said Litowski, a teacher of 30 years who is now retired.

Litowski, who is a season ticket holder for the Stars of Saskatchewan tour, feels a Performing Arts Centre is exactly what Swift Current needs.

"The seating in the Comp. cafeteria is inadequate at best....the theatre and convention centre will be wonderful for Swift Current," said Litowski.

Litowski says that with the addition of a Performing Arts Centre, Swift Current should be able to attract better performers to Swift Current.

Litowski says that other than purchasing lottery tickets, he doesn't consider himself a gambler and he feels some people are taking the wrong approach to their decision.

"I think some people who plan to vote "No" think they are helping children and adults from facing poverty and hunger, but the vast vast majority of people are responsible whether it be drinking, gambling etc."

Litowski says that he believes that just because a small portion of people are problem gamblers, people shouldn't refrain from these type of activities.

Litowski says the way the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority is handling their money makes him proud.

"They are making investments which help First Nations People, but also local communities and non-native workers. It will also help the provincial government provide much needed services," said Litowski.

Downtown Business Bureau member George Kushner says that he feels the casino is not only going to benefit Swift Current, but the entire southwest.

"I have people lined up in Kyle, Gull Lake who are ambassadors of the proposed casino and Fine Arts Centre and they can't vote."

Kushner says that if the casino and Fine Arts Centre is built it will be the newest and finest of it's kind in Swift Current.

"With all do respect to Medicine Hat, it's time we got some reverse traffic back to Swift Current. Half of Medicine Hat are from Saskatchewan."

Kushner says that he along with some other members of the DBA, are trying to make this an outlying issue and not just a Swift Current issue.

"People should have the opportunity to congregate into a larger city and we are trying to make that happen," said Kushner.

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