

## CHRC celebrates partnerships during luncheon

A partnership luncheon on Monday provided the Cypress Hills Regional College an opportunity to recognize the many people they rely upon to help make them a success.

The luncheon saluted the many businesses, organizations, and service club partners who help the College have a positive impact in the southwest.

"We have to rely on partnership and we have to rely on partnering with people that understand what we're doing, what we need to do, and that level of understanding has gone up so it makes our work easier. And it makes us more approachable and it makes them more approachable," explained Dr. Neil Clarke, Chief Executive Officer of the CHRC.

Dr. Clarke explained that the College has enjoyed a boost through their association with Action Swift Current.

"We at the College have strengthened our partnerships as a direct and as an indirect result of what's been happening with Action Swift Current."

Many of the Action Swift Current committees have College representatives involved in their responsibilities. This allows a two-way sharing of information that assists both sides with developing plans and needs assessments. Overall, it has resulted in a better understanding of their partners.

"We can't function without these partners," Dr. Clarke said.

"I salute all of our partners for having the tenacity and the good sense to continue working jointly in the best interest of the community."

The luncheon guest speaker was Swift Current MLA Brad Wall. The SaskParty leader reminded the audience to take the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of CHRC over their past 30 years of operation in Swift Current.

"Our Regional College is absolutely essential to the fabric of our community and to the fabric of Southwest Saskatchewan," Wall said.

"And it isn't just the \$2.7 million to resources that contribute directly to our local economy. It offers this province and it offers our region a front line defense in the battle to retain our young people."

He said the Regional College system provides an opportunity and options for those who leave the province and eventually want to come back. Because of their strong ties to their communities Colleges are important in ensuring young people have the option to do that.

Wall pointed out that the College management and staff are flexible to meeting the demands of employers and students in the region. They have been able to adjust programming to meet local realities, including helping meet the increased demand for safety training in terms of the oil and gas industry.

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