



President's Report

It's exciting to be able to report on the work that the SEPA directors have taken on since the last newsletter was sent out.

SEPA members and attendees at the March 2011 conference

the planning process and in the event of an actual emergency.

A panel is already on the agenda for the SEPA 2012 conference which will provide more details on how we can all work together to build capacity within our communities.

conference. I was able to speak on aspects of emergency management that are shared by all communities, as well as airports and airlines. Over 150 delegates attended the conference and I was able to encourage them to attend provincial training and become involved with community emergency planning as we hope that with the more viewpoints we have into our plans, the more effective they will become.

Directors have met with SUMA, Saskatchewan School Board Association and officials from CPSP to discuss areas of common interest and ways to build community capacity

challenged us get the name and mandate of SEPA out into the province, and to work on their behalf to give them more tools and support. We took on that request and directors Al Kildaw and Mike Kaminski have met with SUMA Protective Services and the Saskatchewan School Board Association. There is a future meeting with SARM planned in 2012.

All the discussions have focussed on the ways that the organizations can work together to support our local emergency managers. In communities with limited human resources, we want to ensure that our emergency managers are aware of all the support that is available during

The Board also had a meeting with Corrections, Public Safety and Policing and we had an engaging and frank discussion about what we would like to be able to take back to our membership for support and training. Once everything has settled down following the election, we are hoping to resume our conversations with them and be able to report further on their contribution to the 2012 conference and other initiatives that we have planned.

October also gave SEPA the opportunity to speak at the Saskatchewan Aviation Council

Due to a change of jobs, increased workload and responsibility during the flooding of 2011, Director George Barker has resigned from the SEPA board. We would like to thank George for his contribution. We would also like to welcome on board a new Director, Jay O'Connor from Regina. Jay will fill in the position until elections in March 2012



Notes from All Over

Canora staged a mock disaster on September 24, 2011 with a scenario involving collision between a school bus with 19 students on board and a truck with anhydrous ammonia.

Mock disasters are a time consuming, but vital, asset to emergency preparedness and there is a detailed article in the October 5, 2011 edition of the *Canora Courier* which outlines many of the challenges involved in an exercise and the lessons learned.

Kindersley has a table top exercise planned for the end of November which will test both the community and airport emergency response plans. Communities with airports may want to review their resource list to see if they have included local or area airports in their planning process.

Need ideas for discussion at your next EMO meeting? Or are you looking for a presentation for your council or interested public? There are presentations available at www.sepa.ca.

If your organization is looking for inspirational, passionate speakers for your next event, please consider calling the Tema Conter Memorial Trust's Trauma Speakers Bureau at 1-888-288-8036. One of the speakers is Hal Neuman, who presented at the SEPA conference in 2010.

Hal is an engaging and interesting speaker with a lot of practical advice. He also has an informative website with interesting suggestions at www.bigmedicine.ca.

The Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association:

Is the voice of over 300 emergency planners from all across the province.

Works in the public interest to improve the awareness and preparedness of emergency planners

Promotes and safeguards the interests of emergency planners

Represents the interests, aims and views of the membership to other organizations and levels of government when topics relating to emergency planning, organization or response are being discussed.

Currently we have a commitment for an opening and closing key note speaker.

Conference 2012 will have a slightly different time format as we will be opening the registration desk at 8:30 Tuesday, March 20, with the conference welcome speeches commencing at 10:30 and the keynote speaker at 11.

Members have asked for more information on developing emergency plans, ways to make existing plans better, and real life examples with lessons learned. We have those speakers already booked and organized.

You also asked for interactive exercises and we are working hard to make arrangements to offer pre-conference training which will include a table top exercise.

We are also expanding our invitation list for the tradeshow with the hope to bring you more businesses and services which can assist in the event of an emergency.

More details will follow in the coming months as we continue to work on the preparation for our "Capacity Building in Public Safety" conference.