



111 Cardinal Crescent
Saskatoon, SK S7L 6H5

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
October 28, 2011

SARCAN Celebrates Grand Opening of New Processing Plant

SARCAN Recycling celebrated a milestone achievement today: The Grand Opening of Saskatoon's new Processing Plant, located at 3720 Kochar Avenue in the newly developed Marquis Industrial Area. SARCAN, a division of the Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC), has the exclusive contract to recycle beverage containers in Saskatchewan. SARC consists of 83 Member Agencies across the province that support people with disabilities. The SARCAN Processing Plant celebration included an official ribbon-cutting ceremony, featuring Premier Brad Wall.

"Our vision is that Saskatchewan will be the most inclusive place in Canada – for people of all ages who live with disabilities – with the best services and the best supports, the most dignity and the most opportunities, said Premier Brad Wall. "Supporting the work for SARC and SARCAN is just one way we are building to that goal."

The new location will be able to better facilitate SARCAN's increase in volumes. "When the previous plant opened 18 years ago, we were processing 73 million containers a year, and employed 23 people. Now we process two and a half times the containers and have double the employees. A new plant was necessary", said Kevin Acton, SARCAN's Director of Operations, "We are thrilled to celebrate the opening of this facility and further develop SARCAN's Three E's: Environmental Protection, Economic Diversification and Employment Creation".

SARCAN has seen a 66% increase in deposit beverage containers returned for recycling in the last decade. Additionally, paint and electronics recycling programs have been introduced; both of which have hit milestones this year, with over 20 million pounds of electronics and over a million cans of used paint diverted from Saskatchewan's landfills. Saskatoon's new processing plant will better accommodate this type of growth.

Thanks, in part, to a \$4 million dollar capital grant through the Province of Saskatchewan's Go Green Fund, SARCAN was able to build this plant focusing on environmental sustainability through energy efficiency, a low-flow water system, a thermal roof and wall system, and usage of recycled materials. "Over 13,000 tonnes of recycled glass, rubber and asphalt have been used in construction", Acton said.

SARCAN's network extends across the whole province of Saskatchewan, with 71 depots and two processing plants. SARCAN employs over 600 people, the majority of which are people with disabilities. All staff earn competitive wages, benefits and a pension. With over five billion beverage containers returned to date, this new plant is just one example of the future growth anticipated from SARCAN.

--30--

For more information, please contact:
Sydney Smith, Communications Officer
Phone: (306) 933-0616, ext. 236
Email: ssmith@sarcn.sk.ca

www.sarcsarcn.ca

Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres' Vision Statement:
"Persons with disabilities enjoying *full citizenship*."