

## SaskTel cellular recycling program will benefit transition houses

June 25, 2009 – SaskTel today announced a new cellular recycling program called Phones for a Fresh Start that provides an opportunity for Saskatchewan residents to drop off their used wireless devices for recycling, while providing cellular phones and prepaid phone cards to women’s shelters across the province.

The program is made up of two main elements:

- Under a one-year agreement with the Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan (PATHS), SaskTel will provide used cellular phones, along with prepaid wireless phone cards, to PATHS for distribution to residents of five transition houses in Saskatchewan.
- SaskTel will accept donations of any used wireless devices, batteries, chargers and accessories at all SaskTel Stores and participating SaskTel Authorized dealers. All donated items will be shipped to a wireless recycling company which will pay SaskTel for each device. The money will be used to provide the phone cards to the transition houses.

“This innovative program will help protect the environment while providing an essential communications tool to Saskatchewan people in transition,” Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for SaskTel, Don Morgan said. “I applaud SaskTel and PATHS for coming up with a creative solution to some serious problems.”

“We’re proud to offer Saskatchewan residents an easy way to dispose of their used wireless devices and accessories,” said Robert Watson, SaskTel President and CEO. “This new program will keep wireless phones out of our landfills, while helping people in need.”

“The donation of cellular phones and prepaid wireless phone cards will greatly assist the Shelters in improving services by providing lifeline to women in danger as well as a providing a valuable communication and support network for them,” said Karen Closs, Co-chair of PATHS Board of Directors.

The five transition houses included in the program are:

- Regina Transition House
- Moose Jaw Transition House
- Southwest Crisis Services (Swift Current)
- Project Safe Haven (Yorkton)
- Piwapan Women’s Centre (La Ronge).

Customers donating their used cellular devices are responsible for removing all personal data including contact lists, photos, messages, etc.

### About SaskTel

Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation (SaskTel) is the leading full service communications provider in Saskatchewan, with \$1.138 billion in annual revenue and over 1.3 million customer connections including over 510,000 wireless accesses, 555,000 wireline network accesses, 216,000 internet accesses and 70,000 *Max*<sup>™</sup> (TV) subscribers. SaskTel offers a wide range of communications products and services including competitive voice, data, internet, entertainment, national security, messaging, cellular, wireless data and directory services. In addition, SaskTel International offers software solutions and project consulting in countries around the world. In 2008, SaskTel contributed over \$610 million to the Saskatchewan economy through dollars spent with Saskatchewan-based suppliers and sponsorships to non-profit organizations. SaskTel and its wholly-owned subsidiaries have a workforce of approximately 5,000 employees.

For more information, please contact:

Andy Tate, SaskTel Media Relations

Phone: (306) 777-4548

Email: [andy.tate@sasktel.sk.ca](mailto:andy.tate@sasktel.sk.ca)