

Unleashing the "Prairie Tiger"

Saskatchewan is currently experiencing an unprecedented economic renaissance.

Leading the provinces in growth, riding a continuous wave of investment interest and activity, and enjoying record prosperity, the province has been referred to as the rising star of Canada's New West, and perhaps the entire nation. It has become even more prominent in recent months during the profound reversals of national and

global economic trends—trends that Saskatchewan, while not completely unaffected, has remarkably and defiantly bucked.

But economic growth, especially at times like these, comes with a critical caveat—if it is not sustainable and responsibly managed, there is little to be gained, yet much to lose. Saskatchewan's long-awaited renaissance represents a brilliant

opportunity to chart a course for generations to come. How best to seize it?

For unprecedented growth and prosperity, an unprecedented approach: Enterprise Saskatchewan, the new special agency for co-ordinating the province's growth agenda. Led by a board composed of a comprehensive cross-section of stakeholders and leaders, it has one ultimate goal: reducing impediments and barriers to growth to

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This man has the eye of the tiger... see why on page 8



Andre Cayer of Watercycles Energy Recovery Inc. and his heat recovery system

Taking the Heat and Using It

By Elaine Carlson

Edenwold product saves heat – and cash

Four years ago, Andre Cayer wondered how he could harvest the heat from his shower before it disappeared into the drain. Today, his company in Edenwold, Saskatchewan—Watercycles Energy Recovery Inc.—is manufacturing and marketing a simple but very effective device that does just that.

Using a system of copper coils, heat is conducted away from the drainpipe at the same time as it preheats cold water on its way to the hot water tank. “A lot of energy is required to heat water from the 6-8° C when it comes into your house to the 41° C most people want for showers. We can get you almost halfway there with money you’ve already spent on energy,” says Cayer.

For the increasingly green consumer, the Watercycle™ makes good environmental sense because it consumes no energy and reduces carbon emissions. “Compared to solar hot water heating, our unit outperforms solar panels three-to-one per dollar spent,” says Cayer, “but it also works very well in conjunction with solar panels as well as with tankless hot water heaters where the unit doubles the output of any inline water heater. It also extends the life of traditional hot water heaters because there is less demand on the heating element.” Both the U.S. Department of Energy and NRCan project a 2-6 year cost recovery on investment.

While Watercycle Energy Recovery Inc. has mainly marketed to residential customers via its website www.watercycles.ca, a U.S. distributor and manufacturing reps, the unit has excellent potential for commercial

applications. “That would be any situation where someone pays the bill while a second party turns on the shower, such as hotels, fitness centres, swimming pools and commercial kitchens with multiple dishwashers,” says Cayer.

Cayer feels optimistic about the future. “Saskatchewan has all the elements to become a centre of excellence in green technology,” he says. “Not only do we have access to assistance for product development and testing and market development through agencies such as the Saskatchewan Research Council and NRCan and networks such as Communities of Tomorrow, but we just happen to have one of the greatest infrastructures on the planet—transportation routes, high speed Internet and excellent telecommunications. You can do anything from here!” ↘

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