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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:

TOURISM SECTOR RECOGNIZES NATIONALLY CERTIFIED TOURISM PROFESSIONALS

REGINA and SASKATOON: This month, Saskatchewan's tourism sector honoured 96 new nationally certified tourism professionals and 10 apprentices who recently obtained Journey person status at two special dinners. Professional Recognition Dinners were held on Monday, June 8 at the Delta Regina Hotel in Regina and on June 15 at TCU Place – Saskatoon's Arts & Convention Centre in Saskatoon.

The Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council (STEC), a division of Tourism Saskatchewan, administers standards and certification to the province's tourism sector. Individuals who complete training are nationally recognized across Canada as Tourism Certified Professionals, Tourism Certified Supervisors or Tourism Certified Managers.

At both dinners, STEC acknowledged various Saskatchewan businesses that have demonstrated best practices and a commitment to employee training and development by pursuing National Occupational Standards and *emerit* Professional Certification. The following properties were recognized for supporting an impressive level of staff development, and achieving a minimum of 60 per cent staff certified and/or 80 per cent enrolled in nationally recognized certification programs.

The Abbey Restaurant and Parlour, Regina
Battlefords Tourism, North Battleford
Blackmur's Athabasca Fishing Lodges, Athabasca Lake
Big Sky Outfitting, Cutknife
Casino Moose Jaw, Casino Services, Moose Jaw
Casino Regina, Regina
Churchill River Voyageur Lodge, Churchill River
CNT Management Group, Regina
Coronach Tourism, Coronach
Greenwater & Marean Lake Outfitters, Marean Lake
K & P Outfitters, Kyle
Lawson Creek Outfitters, Porcupine Plain
Living Skies DMC, Saskatoon
Nipawin Economic Development & Tourism Department, Nipawin
Northern Greens Resort, Nipawin
Northern Tourism Region
Redwillow Outfitting, Carrot River
Saskatchewan East Central Tourism Region
Saskatchewan South East Tourism Association

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Saskatoon Folkfest, Saskatoon
Scott Lake Lodge, Scott Lake
Selwyn Lake Lodge, Selwyn Lake
Tourism Saskatchewan, Saskatoon/Regina
Western Development Museum, Moose Jaw
Western Development Museum, North Battleford
Western Development Museum, Education and Volunteer Centre, Saskatoon
Western Development Museum, Marketing Department, Saskatoon
Western Development Museum, Yorkton
Wheeler River Lodge Ltd., Wheeler River
Wollaston Lake Lodge, Wollaston Lake

Over the past year, numerous businesses and organizations in Saskatchewan have worked to meet and exceed customers' expectations by providing employees and managers with Service Best training. Various businesses made an extraordinary commitment to service excellence by training a minimum of 60 per cent frontline and managerial staff. Those businesses are:

Battlefords Tourism, North Battleford
Blue Iris Inn Bed and Breakfast, Saskatoon
Capital Cab 2000, Regina
CNT Management Group, Regina
Clark's Interiors, Saskatoon
Government House, Regina
Head for the Hills, Redvers
Murray's Store, Redvers
Redvers Activity Centre, Redvers
Nelson Motors & Equipment, Redvers
Gieni's Family Restaurant, Nipawin
Pharmasave 404, Redvers
Redvers Agencies, Redvers
Red Willow Outfitting, Carrot River
Travel Only, Redvers
Spectra Credit Union, Redvers
Fort Battleford National Historic Site, Battleford
Sylvestre's Bed & Breakfast, Redvers
Tourism Saskatchewan, Saskatoon/Regina
Western Development Museum, North Battleford
Western Development Museum, Yorkton
Husky Car & Truck Stop, Swift Current
Harbour View Bed & Breakfast, Goodwater Site/Weyburn

STEC and Tourism Saskatchewan extend congratulations to all of the 2009 honourees, along with best wishes for success and continued achievement in the tourism sector.

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