

## A Message from the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport

Tansi and welcome to the Multiculturalism Council of Saskatchewan's (MCoS) Multiculturalism Honours Awards at the beautiful and inspirational Wanuskewin Heritage Park.

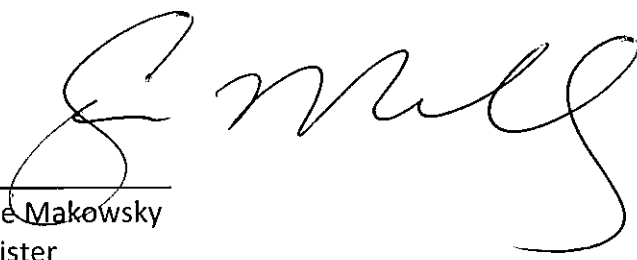
Saskatchewan recently completed a remarkable decade of growth. Our province's population continues to increase, as it has now for 45 consecutive quarters. Our welcoming environment, career opportunities and quality of life are attracting people from across Canada and around the world. People are moving to Saskatchewan to join in the success story that is the result of our collective efforts, hard work and vision.

A major benefit of this immigration is our growing diversity, which is a foundational component to our strength and economy. Our provincial motto couldn't be more appropriate and relevant than it is today – "From Many Peoples Strength." These newcomers, following in the footsteps of earlier waves of arrivals, along with Saskatchewan's Indigenous Peoples give our province a competitive economic advantage in a number of ways and holds a bright promise for the future.

We see this growing diversity in our daily lives – people working hard, contributing new energy and ideas. It is through multiculturalism, however, that we see the richness of our expanding tapestry of cultures.

With multiculturalism, we don't ask people to abandon their heritage and culture. Instead we encourage people to retain what makes them proud and even ask them to share it. Events like Saskatoon's FolkFest, welcoming summer Powwows and Saskatchewan Multiculturalism Week, all reinforce the message that we have so much to learn, to share and to enjoy about the many cultures in Saskatchewan.

I congratulate and thank everyone at this year's MCoS Multiculturalism Honours Awards for what you have contributed to helping make Saskatchewan a great multicultural province.



Gene Makowsky  
Minister