



Ranch Ehrlo Society



Ranch Ehrlo AGM celebrates growth

Ranch Ehrlo Society marked an important milestone with its 59th Annual General Meeting (AGM), a chance to look back on a year of growth and collaboration while charting the path ahead. Board members, senate, staff, and other stakeholders joined the AGM virtually on September 24.

Blair Swystun, board chair, opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement before moving into the approval of the agenda and minutes from the 2024 Ranch Ehrlo AGM.

In his chair's report, Swystun highlighted the agency's strategic direction through the launch of a five-year plan focused on inclusion, innovation, and growth. He spoke about expansion in the family programs and celebrated community-driven initiatives made possible through strong partnerships. Swystun also recognized Ranch Ehrlo as one of Saskatchewan's Top Employers for the 14th consecutive year.

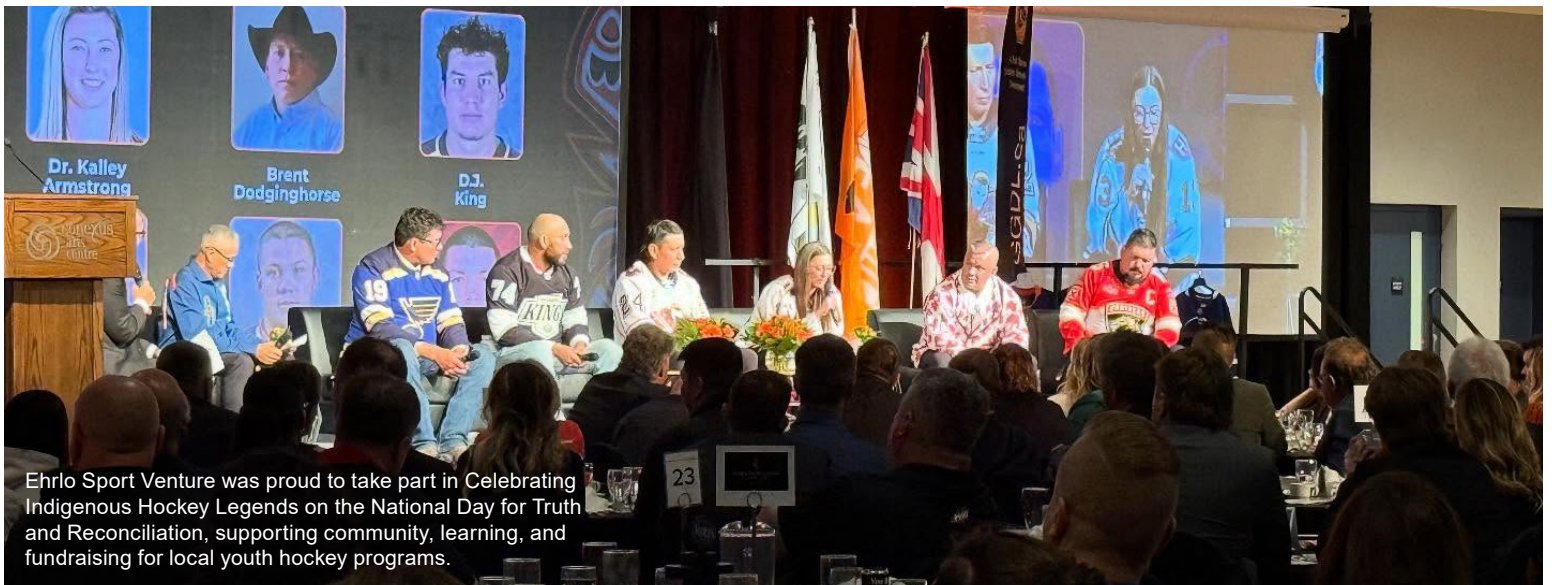
"We are proud of this designation and continue to work hard to ensure we provide a workplace that supports employees in building brighter futures



Pictured L to R: Chair Blair Swystun, Deb Pacholka, Amy Groothuis, Frank Regel, and CEO Natalie Huber

for our participants and themselves," he said, before passing the floor to CEO Natalie Huber.

Huber presented the CEO Report, which showcased the agency's record-breaking annual powwow and the release of the agency's Indigenous Engagement Guide – developed to deepen our collective understanding and create more meaningful opportunities for reconciliation in our daily



Ehrlo Sport Venture was proud to take part in Celebrating Indigenous Hockey Legends on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, supporting community, learning, and fundraising for local youth hockey programs.

work.

She also spoke about improvements behind the scenes, from enhanced case management and centralized contracts to staff-focused initiatives that strengthen service delivery.

Speaking to service delivery, Huber paused to recognize the efforts of the staff who truly make a difference in the lives of individuals, families, and communities every day.

“The true impact of our work is seen through the pride and dedication of our staff. A few months ago, I attended the southern youth Awards Night. I’ve been to many of these events before, but this time I was struck by the voices of external stakeholders – people who pulled me aside to comment on the passion, commitment, and pride of Ranch Ehrlo staff. They saw what I see every day: staff who make children, youth, and families the centre of every celebration. At each event I attend, I’m reminded of how deeply our staff care, and how much progress our participants are making because of our staff’s commitment. That’s what makes this work so special.”

Building on that sense of pride, Shelley Reddekopp, vice-president of support services, provided a high-level overview of the agency’s financial health. She shared that the 2024-25 financial results were positive, with a year-end net surplus of \$2.9 million. Shelley outlined notable capital expenditures, including renovations, landscaping projects, and backup power installations at the Buckland and Pilot Butte campuses. Members voted to receive and approve the audited financial statements and confirmed the continued appointment of Deloitte as the auditor for 2025-26.

Board appointments were then presented and approved, welcoming new members Lindsay Oliver, Anne-Marie Urgan, and Yaya Wang. Recognition was also given to outgoing board members Amy Groothuis, Deb Pacholka, and

Frank Regal for their impactful service and strong leadership.

Together, these updates, recognitions, and celebrations reflect Ranch Ehrlo Society’s ongoing commitment to transparency, excellence, and service to children, families, and communities across Saskatchewan.

For a deeper look at our key initiatives and highlights, we invite you to read Ranch Ehrlo’s 2024-25 Annual Report on ehrllo.com. You can also explore the 2024-25 Outcomes Report for detailed information and statistical data on the success of our programs and participants.

Tim Hortons Holiday Smile campaign is back

We’re excited to share that the Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookie campaign is back on November 17! For the fourth year in a row, Ehrlo Sport Venture has been chosen as the charity of choice by our local Regina and area Tim Hortons stores. We look forward to connecting with community during this meaningful campaign.

Stay tuned to our Facebook page and ehrllo.com/sport-venture for updates and ways to get involved!



City supports Ehrlo Housing initiative



Ehrlo Housing has received a funding commitment for up to \$50,000 from the City of Regina’s Housing Incentives Program (HIP) to support the revitalization of the Lakeshore Village apartments on 23rd Avenue in Regina. This funding was provided through the City’s Pre-Development Grants Pilot Incentive stream under the HIP, which is supported by the Federal Housing Accelerator Fund.

The grant will help cover pre-development costs, including architectural and construction drawings, as well as support for developing the business case for rejuvenating Lakeshore Village.

Upon its completion, the pre-development profile will be shared with contractors to develop a more accurate estimate for the renovation costs so Ranch Ehrlo can determine how the project might be phased, develop a budget, determine financial viability, and apply for necessary permits. It will be during this stage of the project, that applications will be made to both the City of Regina’s Acquisition and Repair Fund and to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation’s (CMHC) Affordable Housing Fund.

“If we lose 43 units of affordable housing due to aging infrastructure it will be a big loss for Regina, and I think the City understands that,” said Shelley Sayer, director of Ehrlo Housing. “I think it’s absolutely wonderful that they are stepping up – they understand the scope of the [housing] problem and are contributing to a solution.”

Built in 1958 and acquired by Ranch Ehrlo Society in 1997, the Lakeshore Village apartments have been part of Regina’s affordable housing network for decades, providing safe, affordable housing for families. The property includes 43 apartment units, one staff office, and four units converted into a community daycare centre.

Since the summer of 2024, Ranch Ehrlo has been working to identify and develop a business plan to address Lakeshore Village’s infrastructure and repair needs. A preliminary inspection by third-party contractors revealed that, due to the age of the buildings and the tenant demographics, health and safety upgrades are required. The units themselves are also dated and reaching their service life, requiring refurbishments such as ceiling and wall repairs, painting, new flooring, doors and trim, appliances, and lighting.

NMC supports music therapy at the Ranch

The National Music Centre (NMC) Music Therapy Initiative has awarded Ranch Ehrlo Society a \$70,000 grant to further support the delivery of music therapy services. This marks the third consecutive year that NMC, a non-profit museum, performance venue, and recording studio, has chosen to support music therapy at the Ranch.

“This funding will help us sustain what we’re currently doing while enhancing our work by adding capacity to complete research and embark on new endeavors,” said Melanie MacDonald, certified music therapist. “It really has been phenomenal to see the growth of music therapy at Ranch Ehrlo.”

Over the past two years, funding from the NMC Music Therapy Initiative has had a profound impact at the Ranch. Support has enabled program expansion, fostering a greater awareness of music therapy and strengthening its presence within the organization.

In 2023, music therapy expanded to include the Family Treatment Program (FTP), Family Centred Addictions Program (FCAP), Group Living Treatment Services (GLTS), and the LGBTQ2 True Colours program. NMC funding also supported a paid internship for a music therapy student, which led to the graduate joining Ranch Ehrlo as a second certified music therapist in 2024.

With NMC’s continued support, services have steadily grown – extending to day program students and introducing Harmonic Connections, a special focus group for youth in group living. Growth has also included annual client meetings that bring together clinical consultants and music

therapists, as well as the launch of summer sessions at the Pilot Butte campus in July and August 2025.

Looking ahead, MacDonald plans to use NMC funds to dedicate time and resources toward research on the FTP and FCAP programs, with a particular focus on family sessions. Music therapists also intend to host a spring musical while building cultural competency through the theme of the Seven Sacred Teachings and further grow services to reach participants in Ranch Ehrlo’s new Community Living Supports program.

“The impact the funds from the NMC Music Therapy Initiative have been evident not only in the number of participants served, but also in the growth and joy observed by the participants,” said MacDonald.

If you’d like to donate to Ranch Ehrlo’s music therapy program, please make your contributions at ehrlo.com under the donations tab by selecting ‘music therapy’ from the drop-down menu. NMC matches all donations.

Lasting impact of ER

In times of crisis, it can be a bed offered in the middle of the night, a soft pillow to rest a head, and a warm breakfast in the morning that reassures children they are safe, cared for, and not alone.

For the children and youth who enter Ranch Ehrlo’s Emergency Receiving (ER) programs, that care often comes when they need it most. Arriving at Samson House, Ranch Ehrlo’s newest ER program on the Corman Park campus, can mean stepping into the unknown – new faces, new rooms, and a place far from what feels familiar. Yet, within that space, they are met with compassion and patience from staff who dedicate themselves to making each child feel at home, even if only for a short time.

Because ER care is temporary, children often come and go suddenly, leaving staff to wonder what became of their lives. Recently, the Samson

House team had a rare chance to find out.

Steve* contacted Samson House manager, Cam Banning, to share that he and his father often think of the staff who supported him during a difficult time. Their kindness, patience, and steady presence had never left him. To show their gratitude, Steve and his dad returned to Samson House with pizza and appreciation for those who once brought him comfort.

“This warmed my heart,” said Banning. “It shows the impact staff have on the youth we work with — giving them hope, positive relationships, safety, and support.”

Ranch Ehrlo operates four ER programs: Rorison and Kenyon on the Pilot Butte campus, Fraser House in Prince Albert, and Samson House on the Corman Park campus near Saskatoon. Each provides short-term emergency care, up to 30 days, while the Ministry of Social Services develops the best care plan.

** Name changed for privacy*

Thank you to our sponsors and donors

Thank you to all of our donors and sponsors who helped Ranch Ehrlo in the past several months:

- OneHoop \$ 1,155 ESV
- South Sask Community Foundation Grant \$50,000 ECS
- Jumpstart Grant \$8,700 MNF
- Andrew Sheret Ltd employees & partners \$480.25 ESV
- QCM-registrations to benefit \$55 ESV
- KLM Ventures \$5,000 Ranch Ehrlo
- Sherwood Co-op IN KIND ECS

Orange Shirt Day



Staff and participants reflected on the lasting impact of residential schools by hearing the powerful story of Nolan Malbeuf, an Indigenous man who shared his experiences of resilience. Listening to Indigenous voices helps guide us toward understanding, reconciliation, and a future of respect and hope.

Monday Night Football



The Monday Night Football League kicked off in Sept., with support from Mosaic Stadium and the Roughriders Alumni Foundation. Young players got a special boost as the Saskatchewan Roughriders joined opening practices, and each athlete took home a mini football, courtesy of the Alumni.

Support staff barbecue



Our support staff enjoyed a barbecue in September. It was a wonderful chance to catch up after summer and reconnect over hotdogs and burgers. Events like this help us build connections across teams, strengthen relationships with colleagues from other departments, and celebrate the great work we do together.

FASD Awareness Day



Ehrlo Counselling staff joined community members at the Wascana Centre Bandstand to take part in a walk for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Day to raise awareness about the impacts of prenatal alcohol exposure.

Ehrlo Housing BBQ



Families, neighbours, and staff came together at Lakeshore Village in late September for Ehrlo Housing's annual tenant appreciation barbecue — an afternoon of food, fun, and community connection. The event gave tenants a chance to catch up, meet new neighbours, and celebrate the spirit of community.