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September 28 to October 4, 2007

saskatchewan employment weekly

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**Our energy has a future.**

## Instrumentation Technician

Based at our McClean Lake site, and reporting to the Senior Mill Maintenance Supervisor, the Instrumentation Technician will be responsible for specifying, installing, programming, troubleshooting, de-bugging and repairing mill process measurement and control instrumentation. The incumbent must be able to install and calibrate instruments, set-up, make drawings and schematics for control loops.

As the successful candidate, you will be a graduate of a two-year instrumentation technology program. You are a team player and have a solid working knowledge of DCS systems, PLCs, SMART field devices and Windows based application software. Fisher-Rosemount, PROVOX and Modicon PLC experience is an asset. Preference will be given to those applicants who possess journeyman certification along with three years of industrial maintenance experience.

\* Please quote competition #007-291-M-SWNA

## Journeyman Plumber – Surface Crew

Based at our McClean Lake site, and reporting to the Services Supervisor, the Journeyman Plumber will perform new installation and modifications to existing facilities on site. Responsibilities will include the maintenance and repair to water, sewer, oil, gas, propane and refrigeration equipment, as well as all labour work associated with heavy industrial operation and construction.

As the successful candidate, you will hold a Saskatchewan or Inter-provincial Journeyman's plumbing ticket, a commercial gas ticket and a furnace and refrigeration-training certificate or equivalent. You must also hold a gas fitting ticket.

\* Please quote competition #007-286-M-SWNA

**McClean Lake is located 750 km northeast of Saskatoon and operates on a fly-in, seven-day-in/seven-day-out rotating schedule.**

Qualified applicants are to submit their resume, referencing which job they are applying for, by **October 12, 2007**, to:

**AREVA Resources Canada Inc.**  
Fax (306) 343-4656  
Email: careers@areva.ca



[www.ArevaResources.ca](http://www.ArevaResources.ca)

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As a part of the Maintenance and Facilities department you will be responsible for quick, accurate maintenance support of all production equipment. This includes new equipment installations, preventative maintenance and trouble shooting urgent equipment failures. The ideal candidate will have formal industrial mechanics training or equivalent experience.

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Closing Date: October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

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blanket classifieds INSIDE



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**Saskatoon Job Fair**  
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Thursday, October 4, 2007

**Melfort Job Fair**  
Travelodge Melfort, 101 Spruce Haven Road, Melfort, SK  
Saturday, October 6, 2007

**Regina Job Fair**  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 1800 Prince of Wales Drive, Regina, SK  
Wednesday, October 10, 2007

**Brandon Job Fair**  
Career & Employment Youth Services, #2 - 1040 Princess Avenue, Brandon, MB  
Friday, October 12, 2007

**Winnipeg Job Fair**  
Greenwood Inn, 1715 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, MB  
Sunday, October 14, 2007

**Medicine Hat Job Fair**  
Medicine Hat Lodge, 1051 Ross Glen Drive, Medicine Hat, AB  
Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Please call Charlene Milne at 1-866-952-3816 to set up an interview time.

# Bread and railcars the key to prosperity

by Pat Rediger

*Sometimes the grass isn't always greener*

*"over there" - sometimes the best opportunities are right under your feet. The town of Ogema is benefiting from that idea thanks to a former resident, a talented local labour pool, and some creative business prospects.*

Dana McCracken considers Ogema to be the "job creation capital of Canada". With upwards of 90 new jobs created in the past few years and the population increasing to 320, McCracken believes that Ogema is a prime area to conduct business.

That's precisely why he established Omega Steel Industries Ltd. in his hometown in 2000. His company has grown from two employees to 28 and has invested in Valley Infrasonics in Rosthern, which refinishes baking pans. McCracken recently established another company, Ogema Industrial Lubricants and Services (OILS), which is the western Canadian dealer for Blue Star Lubrication Technologies.

Born and raised on a farm near Ogema, McCracken decided to seek his fortune outside the community and rose through the ranks at IPSCO to become the maintenance supervisor at its Iowa plant. Wanting to return to Saskatchewan, McCracken settled in at the family farm and established a new company providing custom fencing and reaching lease agreements with oil companies.

As the company expanded, McCracken raised extra revenue by adding shareholders and renamed it Omega Steel Industries Ltd. The company diversified into a number of ventures including industrial fabrication, manufactured goods such as gate latches and saddle racks, and performed custom building.

A few years ago Omega Steel began providing maintenance to rail cars and established a new shop on the railway coming into town. The company also has a 5,000 square foot facility in town, which is currently being expanded.

"I was born and raised here and I figured the grass was greener over there," says McCracken. "Sometimes the grass isn't always greener over there."

continued on page 4

**SaskPower** /Recruitment

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Poplar River Power Station has two openings in the trades sector. One may be a good fit for you! Check out the jobs at [saskpower.com/careers](http://saskpower.com/careers) for more details.

### Coordinator, Production Support (CAAR-546162)

The Coordinator, Production Support position provides short and long term planning and coordination of the production support (maintenance) teams as support for the production areas. They are responsible for a multitude of duties including: development of work schedules for production and production support teams; evaluate resource requirements including: staffing, equipment, specialty tools; provide functional direction, research, support, leadership, supervision and liaison activities for internal resources such as Production Support and other SaskPower staff reporting to this position, administer contractor as required, lead or assist in the writing of technical specifications; administrate various internal and external regulations, policies and union contracts.

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The closing date for these positions is November 1, 2007.

For more information and to apply online, please visit [saskpower.com/careers](http://saskpower.com/careers), or mail your resume, making clear reference to Position #CAAR-546162 or #CAAR-546169, to:

SaskPower Recruitment  
2025 Victoria Avenue  
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Fax: (306) 566-2087

SaskPower values and supports employment equity and workplace diversity. SaskPower hires on merit and welcomes applications from all interested and qualified individuals.



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Box 2817  
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Telephone: 306-752-9277  
Fax: 306-752-3757

Choice Nutrition Centres Inc. is looking for a career-minded individual to train as a Biofeedback Therapist for our busy natural health care clinic in Melfort. After training, the position is full-time and permanent.

The successful applicant should have post-secondary education in Science (i.e. nursing, kinesiology, biology, etc.). We also require basic computer skills. The successful applicant should have good people skills and a willingness to learn and grow.

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Please fax resumes to the above address.



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We thank all applicants for their interest. Only those receiving interviews will be contacted.

# 1 blanket classifieds

September 28 to October 4, 2007

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Southwest REDA in partnership with Swift Current Chamber of Commerce's Labour Attraction and Retention Committee (LARC) are inviting all employers to the Think Future Labour Attraction and Retention Conference on October 18&19 in Swift Current. The Think Future Conference will provide employers with the latest tools and strategies for attracting and retaining employees. Breakout session topics include, immigration, generational differences, employee retention, attracting and changing our attitudes. WestJet, Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan, Paul Martin Communications and the University of Lethbridge are sending their best employees to share their business success secrets. For more information on the Think Future Conference check out [www.southwestreda.ca](http://www.southwestreda.ca)

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**TOWN OF OXBOW / RM OF ENNISKILLEN #3** is seeking a dynamic individual for the position of Economic / Recreation Director. Duties will include development / maintenance of community profile; economic plan for community; land development advice; promotions / marketing plan; business attraction / retention. Applicants to state qualifications & salary expectations. Deadline for applications October 19, 2007. Send applications to Town of Oxbow, Box 149, Oxbow, SK. S0C 2B0 or email: [townofoxbow@sasktel.net](mailto:townofoxbow@sasktel.net).

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**THE PRINCE ALBERT DAILY HERALD** has an immediate opening for a reporter for its news/health beat. Applicants should have a journalism degree/diploma or previous experience in a newspaper environment. Send applications and portfolio material to [vfaulkner@paherald.sk.ca](mailto:vfaulkner@paherald.sk.ca) or Prince Albert Daily Herald, Prince Albert, SK S6V 0Y5.

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## AUCTIONS

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**UNRESERVED FARM AUCTION**  
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Alida, SK  
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**UNRESERVED TRUCK & Equipment Auction**, October 23/07, Calgary, Alberta. Partial listing: 06 Deere 444J; (2) 06 Deere 650J Sidebooms; 770 CH grader; 98 Aspen Tri 50 ton lowboy; 8 wheel jeep. To consign to this auction or for further information call Canadian Public Auction 403-269-6600 or visit: [www.canadian-publicauction.com](http://www.canadian-publicauction.com).

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## COMING EVENTS

**SOUTHERN GOSPEL CONCERT** - Thursday, October 11, 7:30 P.M. Circle Drive Alliance Church, Saskatoon. Pfeifers - Palmetto State Quartet. Tickets \$20 Available at Scott's Parable Store or Call Ervin 306-931-2674.

**THE KINETTE CLUB** of Kindersley will be celebrating it's 60th anniversary with a Come & Go Tea, October 13 from 2-4 pm at the Norman Ritchie Centre. All past Kindersley Kinette's welcome.

## Safe Families, Schools & Communities Conference

Respect Me, Respect You: Turning the Tables on Respect  
**Conference will address:** bullying / violence & what you can do about it.  
**October 29 & 30 /07**  
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For information, contact:  
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## WANTED

**\$\$\$ CASH FOR OLD COMICS \$\$\$** Recently retired, have new hobby! Looking for all types of older comic books. Check your attic now! Phone 306-862-9102.

**Bread and railcars the key to prosperity** continued from page 2

One of the company's strengths has been its workforce. Hiring farmers with a diverse range of skills has enabled Omega Steel to easily move from one project to the next. One month it may be working on rail cars— adding extra capacity and conducting maintenance— and the next month it may be installing fencing at a feedlot.

Although it is sometimes challenging finding employees in a smaller community, McCracken says there have been enough local people to meet his demand. Some people are also returning to Ogema from Alberta and that has provided extra staff.

“Our biggest sellers right now are the feedlots,” says McCracken. “We’re working on several projects right now and we have some potential projects. The oil patch is second and we have a significant amount of walk-in traffic looking for custom fabrication work.”

Although McCracken isn't an engineer by training, he is well-known for his ability to fix things and build new devices. He's been able to save on expenses by designing and constructing his own equipment.

That reputation spread to Rosthern, which is home to Valley Infrasonics. The equipment, which refinished baking pans for commercial baking operations, had stopped working and McCracken was dispatched to make repairs.

“I looked at it and fixed it. When it came time to pay me, I said, give me 30 per cent of the company. When they asked why, I said it was a good opportunity. After a while they agreed. Since then Omega Steel has increased its stake in the company.”

It was a similar set of circumstances that led him to rail car maintenance. Omega Steel was contracted to provide maintenance on a few rail cars, and McCracken says he didn't want to stop at just one contract. He sought out CP and negotiated agreements with it. Recently the company completed maintenance on 346 railcars for the Saskatchewan Grain Car Corporation.

Lubricants were another natural extension for McCracken. During his time at IPSCO, he became acquainted with the people who now operate Blue Star. When one of the owners contacted him and asked him to be the dealer for Saskatchewan, McCracken said he was interested, but wanted the entire western Canadian market. A few Blue Star officials visited McCracken, conducted a tour of the region and reached an agreement with him.

McCracken says that operating in a small town has not been a deterrent. Since his staff frequently moves to where the project is located, the physical location of the company does not need to be tied to a larger community. Operating costs are much lower

and it enables him and his staff to maintain their lifestyles on the farm.

“I think we're in a pretty good business,” he says. “When you think about the 1930s and how tough things were, they still had bakeries and rail cars. We're involved with both of them so we'll still be here even during tough times.”

**As published in the September 2007 Saskatchewan Business Magazine.**



**Not just another local product:** Ogema native Dana McCracken came home to establish Omega Steel Industries in 2000. The company expanded and thrived on the strength of its ability to diversify, thanks to McCracken's innate business savvy.

# RECYCLING tip



## Plastic Bags & Newspapers

# Don't Mix

“When recycling make sure your newspapers are not bagged. It will save recycling facilities time.”



**Support Recycling**  
**It is up to all of us!**  
Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association and their Community Newspaper Members

NOTE: Recycling program may not be available in all communities.