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# *News Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **COSMOPOLITAN INDUSTRIES OPENS EXPANDED RECYCLING FACILITY**

**SASKATOON, Saskatchewan** – Saskatoon residents and businesses, Cosmopolitan Industries Ltd. program participants and the environment will benefit from an expansion to Cosmopolitan Industries Ltd.'s paper recycling operation.

Premier Brad Wall of Saskatchewan, Donald Atchison, Mayor of Saskatoon, and a representative of Western Economic Diversification Canada will be in attendance for the grand opening. The proceedings include a ceremonial "first sort" with dignitaries testing out the new workspace and equipment.

The \$1.5 million project included funding from Western Economic Diversification Canada of \$475,000, and the Province and the City provided \$237,500 each. The project added 10,000 square feet to the paper recycling facility.

Cosmo also upgraded equipment for its recycling operations. This included installing a star wheel sorter to mechanically remove the cardboard from the paper stream and installing two sort lines. Funding for that portion of the project came from the on-going support of the Star Phoenix and the City of Saskatoon as well as significant contributions from the Kinsmen TeleMiracle Foundation, Riverside Vipond Golf Classic Affinity Credit Union and Maunders McNeil Foundation as well as many contributions from other supporters.

"We are happy to support Cosmopolitan Industries and the work they do, both for the environment and for people with intellectual disabilities," said Premier Brad Wall. "It's great to see how Cosmo has grown since its humble beginnings, and I'm sure this expansion will allow the group there to do even more good work."

"The Government of Canada is proud to have helped ensure that Cosmopolitan Industries can continue to grow and to carry on its important community work," said MP Maurice Vellacott. "Projects such as these are tangible, concrete results that our government expects to realize from its investments."

"This is a great time for Cosmopolitan Industries," said Mayor Donald Atchison. "The expansion gives their participants more opportunities, and it certainly helps the environment. The City of Saskatoon is delighted with the partnership we've had with Cosmopolitan Industries, and look forward to many more successful years ahead."

Kirk Anderson, President of Cosmopolitan Industries, said that “The City of Saskatoon and the Star Phoenix have been Cosmo’s recycling partners for over 35 years. We are glad to have been able to partner with the Western Economic Diversification and the Province of Saskatchewan to make this expansion a reality. Other recycling partners include Kinsmen TeleMiracle, Riverside Vipond Golf Classic, Affinity Credit Union, Saskatoon Curbside Recycling, SARCAN and the many retailers that host Community Collection Centres.”

The expansion means Cosmo will become more efficient. It will significantly expand the capacity of the organization’s paper waste recycling operation enabling it to keep up with recycling demands for years to come.

The expansion will make the sorting process more suitable for its adult participants to operate independently, which will result in more work opportunities for them. Cosmo will also be able to pursue other paper recycling opportunities, which are not attractive to private sector recyclers.

From its modest beginnings in 1970 with 15 people, to its current program for over 400 adults and 120 staff, Cosmopolitan Industries Ltd. continues to offer opportunities to enhance the quality of life for adults with intellectual disabilities. Respecting the dignity and needs of each individual, Cosmo creates opportunities, provides support and challenges participants with intellectual disabilities to reach their full potential.

**For more information, please contact:**

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