SIPA

Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association Inc

A Review of 2014 Activities

SIPA was established with four goals/objectives

I. Advocate for irrigation concerns to government

II. Promote the benefits of Irrigation

III. Provide direct input to government in setting policies that impact irrigation

IV. Assist in the expansion of irrigable acres

1. Advocate for irrigation concerns to government

Meetings and correspondence with Provincial MLA's, Cabinet Ministers, Crown Corporations and federal members of Parliament.

Some areas addressed were:

- CSIDC
  - Signed a new "5 party 5 year framework agreement" for the Canada Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC)
  - Promoted the proposal for an expanded role for CSIDC "Saskatchewan's Global Irrigation Expansion and Modernization Network".

- Presented the resolutions from last year's AGM to the Water Security Agency and Ministry of Agriculture
  - Irrigation District Drainage
  - Qu'Appelle South Irrigation District – move forward on engineering designs for irrigation development

- Saskatchewan's Irrigation Strategy-necessary for the industry to move forward

- Divestiture of Federal South West Irrigation Projects

- Funding for bridge/culvert crossings of RM roads within irrigation districts administered by SARM should continue and an increase be considered

2. Promote the Benefits of Irrigation

- Updating Promotional materials for tradeshows and conferences with funding from the IODF program

- Display booth at
    - Crop Production Show
    - C & D Associations and Saskatchewan Watersheds Joint Conference.
    - CSIDC Field Day

- Assisted with the organization and promotion of the annual CSIDC field day

- Press release re: High Volume Vegetable Study

- Continue co-operation with and support for the Moose Jaw - Regina Industrial Corridor

- Continued with updates to our website irrigationsaskatchewan.com

- Attended 2 Legislature receptions
    - Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds
    - Launch of the Moose Jaw - Regina Industrial Corridor

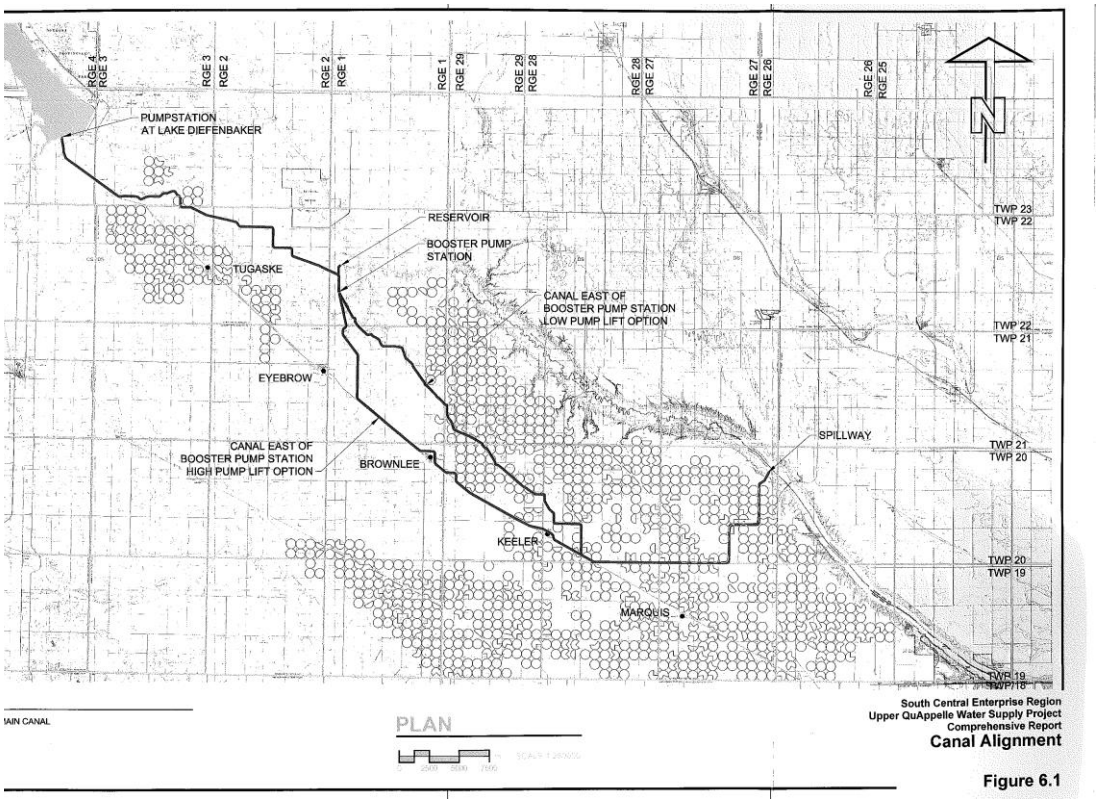
3. Provide direct input to government in setting policies that impact irrigation

- SIPA continues to provide input to support development of the industry. In 2013 the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure program (FRWIP) was signed by the federal and provincial governments under the Growing Forward II program. There were revisions to the program in the spring of 2014. There is financial assistance available until early 2018 for off farm works for the development of new acres of irrigation within districts and for private irrigators.

- Met with a member of Howards Wheater's team from the Global Institute for Water Security regarding "GOVERNANCE" of water in the province

4. Assist in the expansion of irrigable acres

SIPA continues to work with The Qu'Appelle South Irrigation District #31 Inc and participated in a number of meetings arranged by the Qu'Appelle South Irrigation District with the Water Security Agency and Ministry of Agriculture. We also continue to work with the Moose Jaw - Regina Industrial Corridor to advance the Qu'Appelle Irrigation project - they are complimentary to each other



5. Other Activities

- Attended irrigation district board and annual meetings
- Board members participated in watershed stewardship committees
- Board members appointed on the board of Directors of ICDC and Management Committee at the CSIDC
- Ongoing Research on information of the drought and irrigation in many parts of the United States, Primarily California and its effect on irrigation opportunities for Saskatchewan
- Board member participated in the "Threats to the South Saskatchewan River Basin" conference.