

## Event schedule

14:15 Bus leaves Delta Hotel

14:30 Commemoration Ceremony

15:00 Facility tour. Bus leaves for Delta Hotel (optional)

15:45 End of tour. Bus leaves for Delta Hotel

No registration required.

Fees are included in the conference registration.

### Government of Saskatchewan Dignitary

*Nithi Govindasamy*  
Deputy Minister of Saskatchewan  
Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure



### SaskPower Dignitary

*Mike Marsh*  
President and Chief Executive  
Officer of SaskPower



### CSCE Dignitary

*Reg Andres, P. Eng. FCSCE*  
President of CSCE



### Saskatchewan Party Dignitary

*Russ Marchuk, MLA*  
Elected member of Saskatchewan Party



### 2015 CSCE Regina Conference Historic Commemoration Organizing Committee

Cathy Lynn Borbely — Conference Co-Chair  
Jean-Philippe Blouin — Off-Site Coordinator and Event Emcee  
Call Sexsmith — Chair of National History Committee

[www.csce2015.ca](http://www.csce2015.ca)




CSCE Annual  
Conference—Regina,  
SK—May 27-30, 2015

## 2015 HISTORIC COMMEMORATION

SASKATCHEWAN SCIENCE CENTRE  
(FORMERLY REGINA POWER HOUSE)



*In recognition of civil engineers  
and those who helped design,  
build, maintain and renew the  
Powerhouse to its current role*

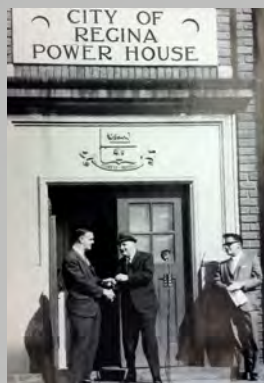
 SaskPower

 SASKATCHEWAN  
SCIENCE CENTRE  
*Real science. Real fun!*

## Saskatchewan Science Centre

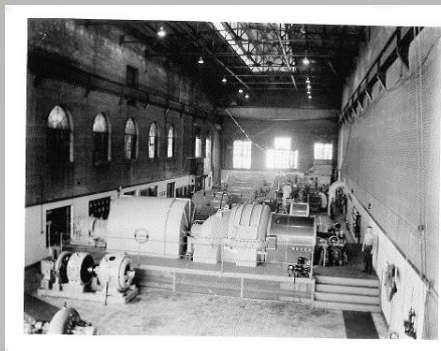
### ( formerly Regina Power House)

The history of electrical power generation in Saskatchewan began around the turn of the 20th century. At that time electricity was made available primarily in larger centres such as Regina and most electrical utilities were owned by municipalities.



The first electricity supply for Regina was provided by the Regina Light and Power Company and became operational on November 15, 1890. The company became a publicly owned utility in 1904 and was located on the corner of Smith Street and Dewdney Avenue. A year later, a new plant was built on the corner of Dewdney Avenue and Broad Street. These early facilities were "stand alone" facilities and were not connected to each other. They were fueled by residual fuel oil (RFO), by the Navy specification, Bunker C. This type of oil is characterized as a heavy RFO with a high viscosity requiring heating by a recirculating low pressure steam system.

Regina had been incorporated as a city in 1903 with a population of 2,249, but by 1911 it had grown to 30,213. To meet a growing need for electrical power in the burgeoning centre, the city decided to build a coal-fired generation plant. Two men who were largely instrumental in bringing the new plant to the city were **Edmund Bull**, who had worked at the old power house, and **Louis A. Thornton**, city commissioner at the time and former city engineer.



The architecturally pleasing massive red brick structure was completed in 1914 on the shores of Wascana Lake. Known as the Powerhouse, it was the main electrical power supply for the City of Regina and the first coal fired plant in the area. The plant first housed two 1500 kW generators. The units were all driven by coal-fired steam boilers. It is one of the oldest original buildings representing the adoption of coal fired electrical power generation in Canada.

#### An Ornament on Wascana Lake

The building's lakeside location was chosen because of the abundant supply of water needed to cool the boilers and to produce steam to drive the turbines. But the site was selected for symbolic reasons as well. The city administration wanted a building which "should be an ornament to the shores of Wascana Lake, which will one day be the beauty spot of the city." They achieved the goal and 100 years later, the original structure is prominent on the shores of the lake.

The Regina architectural firm of **Storey and Van Egmond** had begun planning in 1913 and the construction firm of **Smith Brothers & Wilson Ltd.** received a contract for \$90,800 to complete the work.

The building consisted of a basic rectangular structure housing the boilers and turbines, and four functional additions one on each face, housing a coal-handling facility, switching facilities, workshops and stores and duty-staff quarters. The exterior was trimmed with decorative white limestone and featured large steel-sashed Romanesque windows — unusual features for such a utilitarian building. Planning for the new plant building began in the spring of 1913 and construction was completed in 1914.

#### Transformation to Research and Science Centre

On May 1, 1965, the city sold the Powerhouse to the Saskatchewan Power Corporation (now SaskPower), which gradually phased the plant out of operation and shut it down completely in October 1978.

However, SaskPower built a new research and development facility adjoining the building and added a glass "greenhouse" over the front entrance. The Technical Services and Research division of SaskPower still uses the northern half of the renovated annex and about half of the old Powerhouse for its high voltage research facility.

SaskPower sought to find a use for the old Powerhouse structure and found one in May 1978, when the Junior Service League of Regina proposed what became the Saskatchewan Science Centre. Headstart Corporation cleared the allocated space of 10,275m<sup>2</sup> within the building for the centre in 1982.

**Arnott MacPhail Associates** was selected as architect in early 1987. Structural engineering services were provided by **Huntley O'Connor, P.Eng.** and two years later the Saskatchewan Science Centre opened to the public April 1989. It was officially opened in July of that year by Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of York.

Under its current use, the Powerhouse of discovery exhibit floor features hands-on science exhibits and live stage shows and demonstrations for the public. In April 1991 the Saskatchewan Science Centre opened its second attraction, the Kramer IMAX Theatre.

The Powerhouse also promotes careers as technologists, engineers, scientists — even an astronaut. Encouraging the imagination has the ability to transform children into individuals who can change the future of the province, the nation, and maybe even the world.