**MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **Friday, May 28, 2021**

The South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District held its **virtual annual general meeting** on May 27, 2021. The Agenda included receiving the financial statements and the report of the District’s auditor, appointing the auditor for the ensuing year, electing directors to the Board for the 2021-22 year, receiving the 2021 annual report of the District and approving bylaw changes brought forward.

The AGM opened with community speakers, Ryan Reiss, Mayor of the Town of Vibank, and Regan Lanning, Weyburn Arts Council (WAC) Curator. Ryan spoke to their community efforts to create a Community Recreation Plan in Vibank, and Regan shared the creative programming and successes WAC has undertaken during the pandemic. More information on WAC activities can be viewed at <https://weyburn.ca/craft-with-wac/>.

Executive Director, Joni Hagen, reported, *“this past year presented heightened emotion and critical decision-making, as we were confronted with a new normal. All forms of culture, sport and recreation, from grassroots to professional leagues, were placed on hold in 2020-21. Sport, Culture and Recreation is changing, and it has been a time of stress and uncertainty. But it is also a moment in time when the work we are doing is most critical.”* Many accomplishments were highlighted including a transition to virtual services and a 14% increase in newsletter distribution from 2020 to 2021.

South East District is pleased to announce the appointment of four new members to the volunteer Board of Directors - *Amber Anderson of Estevan, Sheldon Watson of Ochapowace First Nation, Rhonda Lamb of Kronau and Tami Scott of Oxbow.* They will join the 2021-22 board: *Danielle Hoffman of Stoughton, Kristeen Cherpin of Radville, Sheila Guenther of Estevan, Ryan Dale of Weyburn, Tyler Hillstead of Weyburn, and Morgan Jones of Weyburn.*

*For more information, contact Joni Hagen, Executive Director, South East Sport, Culture & Recreation District, by email at ed@southeastdistrict.ca.*