



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Village of Val Marie honours its heritage with the launch of the  
Val Marie Elevator Living Heritage Project**

**September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**, Val Marie, SK – Heritage Saskatchewan and the Val Marie Heritage, Culture and Youth Grain Elevator Restoration Committee are excited to announce the screening of a documentary about the heritage elevator and launching the accompanying booklet on Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in Val Marie’s Prairie Community Centre (Senior Centre). No RSVP is required. The project is centered on the heritage grain elevator and its evolving role and significance within the village throughout the past 90 years. The film presentation was produced by Grade Ten and Eleven students from Val Marie School and the booklet written by members of the community.

The purpose of the project was to raise the profile of the Val Marie heritage grain elevator and tell the amazing story of what this community has achieved in saving this iconic piece of Saskatchewan’s heritage from being demolished. Structures such as these continue to disappear from the prairie landscape at an alarming rate. By celebrating the success stories of those that recognise the importance of such buildings and what they mean to their community, the hope is that others will be inspired to do the same.

Ingrid Cazakoff, CEO, Heritage Saskatchewan, commented: “Buildings like the grain elevators and barns that we are so used to seeing here in Saskatchewan all tell stories that go so much deeper than the structures we see. There are the memories of those who worked within their walls or others who may reminisce about their parents or grandparents’ daily trips by horse and cart to get

their grain weighed. The Val Marie Elevator Living Heritage Project beautifully documents these intangible elements and gives us a real understanding of what the elevator means to their community and why it was so important to restore it. Being able to preserve not just the building itself but also the many stories and perspectives contained within is invaluable and we are honoured that Val Marie invited us to be involved with this project.”

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### **About Heritage Saskatchewan**

Heritage Saskatchewan is a non-profit, non-government organization funded by Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, through SaskCulture Inc.

Heritage Saskatchewan serves as the heritage community of interest for SaskCulture. In this capacity, and through our research, we have the ability to influence and inform new thinking about heritage. In turn, we are sharing our knowledge with the people of Saskatchewan to strengthen our collective ability to lead, collaborate, develop and promote Living Heritage in Saskatchewan – giving voice to Living Heritage.

Living Heritage are those values, beliefs and ways of living we inherit from past generations that we still use to understand the present and make choices for the future. This Living Heritage shapes our sense of identity as individuals and our relationships with others, shaping our communities and our quality of life.

### **ENDS STATEMENT**

Living Heritage is understood and recognized as integral to quality of life for all Saskatchewan citizens. Living Heritage builds an inclusive, cohesive, vibrant and sustainable heritage community.

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