

Mayor Deb Higgins– June 28, 2013

We often take for granted at times, or simply forget, the privilege we enjoy every day as Canadians. Media reports each evening give us glimpses into unsettled and violent situations occurring around the world, but in Canada, we feel far removed from that kind of day-to-day turmoil.

We are able to celebrate our heritage without fear of reprisal or discrimination and above all, we enjoy freedom of speech. We enjoy high standards of education, high standards of workplace health and safety, and opportunities to build a career of our own choosing. Our everyday lives include a clean environment, fresh water, blue skies, and wide-open spaces to travel at will. We have the right and the responsibility to vote in democratic elections and the right to voice our opinions on subjects that concern us. These are just a few of the privileges we enjoy and a few reasons why previous generations of our families have immigrated to Canada and why many people still choose Canada as their new home today.

Saskatchewan has always been a province with many opportunities, yet we have maintained our small town, caring attitude. With our provincial motto “From Many Peoples Strengths” we have built a reputation for lending a helping hand in times of need, supporting each other and welcoming newcomers.

Our community of Moose Jaw has carried that philosophy through our over 100 years of development. With the well-earned nickname of “The Friendly City” we continue to support neighbours, lend a helping hand when needed, and we believe strongly in community.

Most certainly, things are not perfect but we continue to enjoy a quality of life envied by many throughout the world.

As we are busy preparing for the Canada Day long weekend, I hope we all take a few quiet moments to think of the wonderful city and country we call home. Each of us has the great fortune of living in a land where we are blessed with peace and prosperity. For Canadians of all faiths, cultures and backgrounds, this weekend is a time of hope and promise, of family, and a time we recognize how truly blessed we are to call Canada home.

Have a safe and happy Canada Day weekend!

Deb Higgins
Mayor