

July 17, 2017
For Immediate Release

Regina Exhibition Association President and CEO Mark Allan announces retirement

Regina, Saskatchewan – Mark Allan, President and CEO of The Regina Exhibition Association Limited (REAL – operator of Evraz Place), has announced his plans to retire on March 31, 2018. Throughout Allan’s 15-year tenure as the not-for-profit corporation’s leader, the 100-acre Evraz Place property has undergone a major transformation and annual revenues have grown steadily.

“I’ll never forget my first few weeks on the job. The Board of the day saw the need to reinvent this property, so I knew I had a challenge in front of me,” said Allan. “I looked out the window one day and saw more employee vehicles in the parking lot than guest vehicles, and I knew something had to change. The Board and I created a vision of what this property could be, and I’m proud to have been part of bringing this vision to life.”

Fifteen years ago, the property focused on agribusiness events including Canadian Western Agribition and Canada’s Farm Progress Show, as well as Regina Pats hockey and a few other major events like Queen City Ex and concerts. Today, Evraz Place is Canada’s largest interconnected, multi-purpose sports, entertainment and business complex.

Major upgrades since Allan took the helm in 2003 include removal of the race track and 23 aged and dilapidated buildings. In their place stand six interconnected facilities including Queensbury Convention Centre, The Co-operators Centre six-rink sports complex, Regina’s largest indoor soccer field – the EventPlex, and the 150,000 sq. ft. International Trade Centre set to open this fall. These major changes open doors for new business and attract many new trade shows and events to our city that result in positive economic spinoffs for the community.

“Mark has been an inspiring leader with an unwavering focus on making the Evraz Place property a premier event complex,” said Jeff MacPherson, REAL Board Chair. “His contributions have been outstanding, and he’s leaving an amazing legacy with a renewed property that will bring years of use and enjoyment for the community.”

The Board of Directors will begin the search for a suitable successor immediately to provide sufficient time for an orderly transition of the corporation’s leadership role.

- 30 -

Media scrum/photo opportunity:

Who: Jeff MacPherson, REAL Board Chair
Mark Allan, REAL President and CEO
Date: Tuesday, July 18, 9:30 a.m.
Location: Meet at Evraz Place Administration Building lobby (across from Confederation Park)

About Evraz Place

Situated in the heart of Regina, Evraz Place is one of the largest event complexes in Canada. The not-for-profit organization hosts the majority of Regina's major events, including Canada's Farm Progress Show and Queen City Ex. Evraz Place is home to Canadian Western Agribition, the WHL Regina Pats, the Regina Soccer Association and numerous concerts, trade shows and conventions. Visit www.evrazplace.com.

For more information, please contact:

Jeff MacPherson

Chair, Board of Directors

The Regina Exhibition Association Limited

Phone: 306-781-9211 Email: dwaner@evrazplace.com