



Saskatoon, Saskatchewan CANADA | 17-22 July 2016

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IRC 2016 - 2nd Announcement - January 2015

The First Call for Papers for the 2016 International Rangeland Congress in Saskatoon, SK Canada is now open.

We invite you to present a paper - oral or poster presentation - featuring your research on range/grassland related to one of thirty-one (31) topic categories.

The online submission system will be live starting February 1, 2015.

If you are a rancher, grass farmer, extension agrologist, range manager, land reclamation specialist, parks or wild lands supervisor, modeller, remote sensing specialist or a person interested in the management of the world's grazing and wild lands you are also invited to make an oral or poster presentation involving your work or operation.

For a complete list of the topic areas you can present in, please visit the [Call for Papers](#) section of the website. Full [Paper Submission Guidelines](#) will be found here.

Also please find updated information on the [Pre-Congress Tours](#) as well as details on [Delegate Sponsorship](#).

Please forward this Announcement on to colleagues who would be interested in attending in IRC 2016.

We look forward to seeing you in Saskatoon in July 2016!

Bruce Coulman and Duane McCartney
Co-Chairs of the Congress Organizing Committee

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IRC 2016 - 1st Announcement - June 10, 2014

Planning is well advanced for the X International Rangeland Congress (IRC) for which the theme is "The Future Management of Grazing and Wild Lands in a High Tech World". We have put together an ambitious program to meet the aim of the IRC to promote the interchange of scientific and technical information on all aspects of rangelands and grass farming including: research, planning, development, reclamation, management, extension, education and training. A full list of the subject areas to be covered by the Congress can be found under the [Program](#) section of this website.

Exciting, informative pre-congress and mid-congress tours will showcase western Canadian rangelands, livestock operations, cultural and heritage sites, and the spirit of the people. Under the [Tours](#) section of this website you will find a brief summary of three of our pre-congress tours.

The Congress will take place in [Saskatoon](#), which is centrally located in the Canadian portion of the Northern Great Plains grasslands of North America. It is the largest

city in Saskatchewan with a population over 250,000. It ranks as one of the top cities in Canada in population and economic growth due, in part, to world-class agricultural and biotechnological research. Saskatoon has a modern [airport](#) that offers frequent daily connections to Canadian airline hubs in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver, and to Minneapolis, Denver and Chicago in the USA.

Rangelands are important for Canada, and in particular to the agricultural economy of Saskatchewan, which has almost 5 million ha of native grass rangelands, about 2 million ha of introduced hay, and 1.6 million ha of perennial pasture crops out of a total of nearly 26 million ha of agricultural land. The livestock industries, which include beef, dairy, sheep, buffalo, and exotic or game livestock, depend on rangelands and perennial grasslands for the base of their feed resources. For more information on Canada's range and pasture land visit [Canada's Forage Profile](#) on the United Nation' FAO website.

The Congress will take place at the [Teacher's Credit Union Place \(TCUP\)](#), which is a world-class convention centre located in downtown Saskatoon and within walking distance to 10 hotels. The South Saskatchewan River flows through Saskatoon and provides a beautiful park with trails for recreation just a few blocks from downtown.

If you are interested in tourism in natural areas, Saskatchewan's numerous lakes offer some of the best fishing in the world. In addition, the stunningly beautiful, rugged Canadian Rocky Mountains are only a 7-hour drive from Saskatoon.

This website will be updated on a regular basis as planning continues. Our next announcements will be:


January 2015 – First call for papers and delegate sponsorship

September 2015 – Full info on conference registration and accommodation

On behalf of the Congress Organizing Committee, we hope that you are planning to attend IRC 2016. We look forward to seeing you in Saskatoon in July 2016.

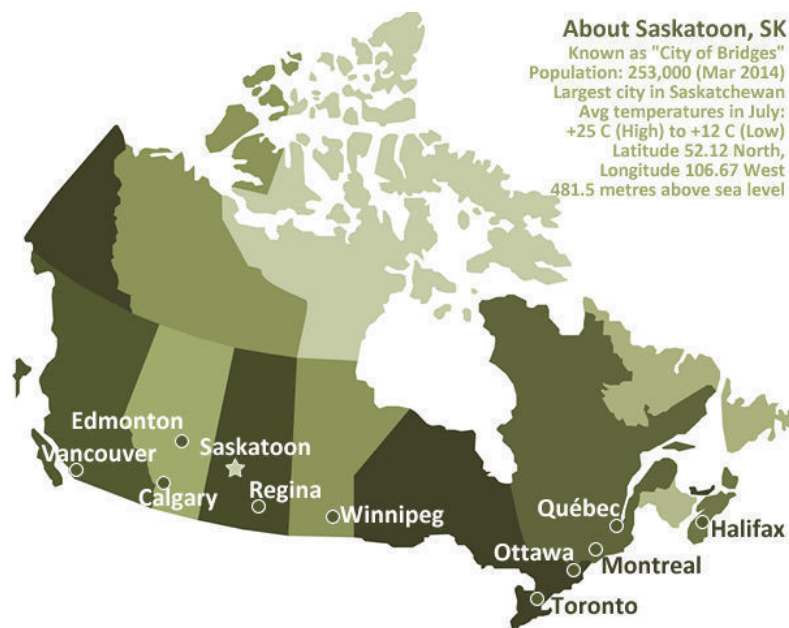
Bruce Coulman and Duane McCartney


Co-chairs, IRC 2016 Organizing Committee

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ABOUT SASKATOON



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To learn more about tourism opportunities in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan please click on the logos below.



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Tour Information

Preliminary Pre-Congress Tours

Pre-Congress Tour #1 – Prairies Mixed Grassland Tour

July 10-16, 2016
Seven days, six nights



[Download Map for Tour #1](#)

The tour will begin in Saskatoon and will travel through the mixed grass prairie ecoregion of southwest Saskatchewan and southern Alberta. The majority of landscape in this area is treeless. The mixed grass prairie is mix of mid and short grass species. The most important grass species include needle grasses, wheatgrasses and reed grasses. Featured tour stops will include the Saskatchewan Pastures Program Matador community pasture, a government managed pasture that provides summer grazing to livestock producers and Grasslands National Park, one of North America's largest and least disturbed native prairie areas. Visitors will see how Grasslands National Park is working to restore areas of native prairie that have been invaded by crested wheatgrass. The tour will continue through the mixed grassland and into the Cypress Upland ecoregion. Tour participants will see the landscape change dramatically into fescue prairie, lodgepole pine forest and remarkable geological features. From Saskatchewan the tour route will continue through southern Alberta. Featured stops will focus on the range management of several large cattle operations managed on government owned and privately owned grazing lands. In Alberta, participants will have an opportunity to visit Head-Smashed-in Buffalo Jump world heritage site. On return to Saskatoon, the tour will visit the University of Alberta Rangelands Research Institute – Mattheis Ranch located near Duchess, Alberta.

Pre-Congress Tour #2 – Prairies Moist Mixed Grassland and Aspen Parkland Tour

July 13-16, 2016
Four days, three nights



[Download Map for Tour #2](#)

The tour will begin in Saskatoon and will travel through the moist mixed grassland and aspen parkland regions of central Saskatchewan and Alberta. The aspen parkland was once characterized by a mosaic of aspen groves and fescue grasslands. In recent times, these fescue grasslands have been reduced by cultivation with now remnants scattered between tame forage pastures and cultivated annual crop lands. The Western Development Museum in North Battleford, Saskatchewan will provide a look into the past and let participants experience the history of agriculture in Saskatchewan. Extensive range research will be highlighted at the University of Alberta, Kinsella Research Ranch; a 12,000 acre grazing operation with 850 cattle. Producer stops will focus on the grazing management challenges of large cattle grazing operations within the prairie

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ecoregion of Alberta and Saskatchewan, including government owned and government operated lands.

Pre-Congress Tour #3 – Saskatchewan Mixed Grassland Tour

July 14-16, 2016
Three days, two nights



[Download Map for Tour #3](#)

The tour will begin in Saskatoon and will travel through the mixed grass prairie regions of south western Saskatchewan where the landscape is largely treeless. The mixed grass prairie is so called because of the mix of mid and short grass species. The most important species include needle grasses, wheatgrasses and reed grasses. The tour will stop at the Matador Community Pasture, a government owned and operated pasture, in operation since 1922, through the Saskatchewan Pastures Program. This stop will highlight range management principles and past research studies conducted at the pasture site. The tour will include Grasslands National Park, one of North American's largest and least disturbed native prairie areas. Park staff will outline steps being taken to covert hundreds of hectares of tame grass seeded many years ago back to native prairie.

Preliminary Mid-Congress Tours

July 20, 2016

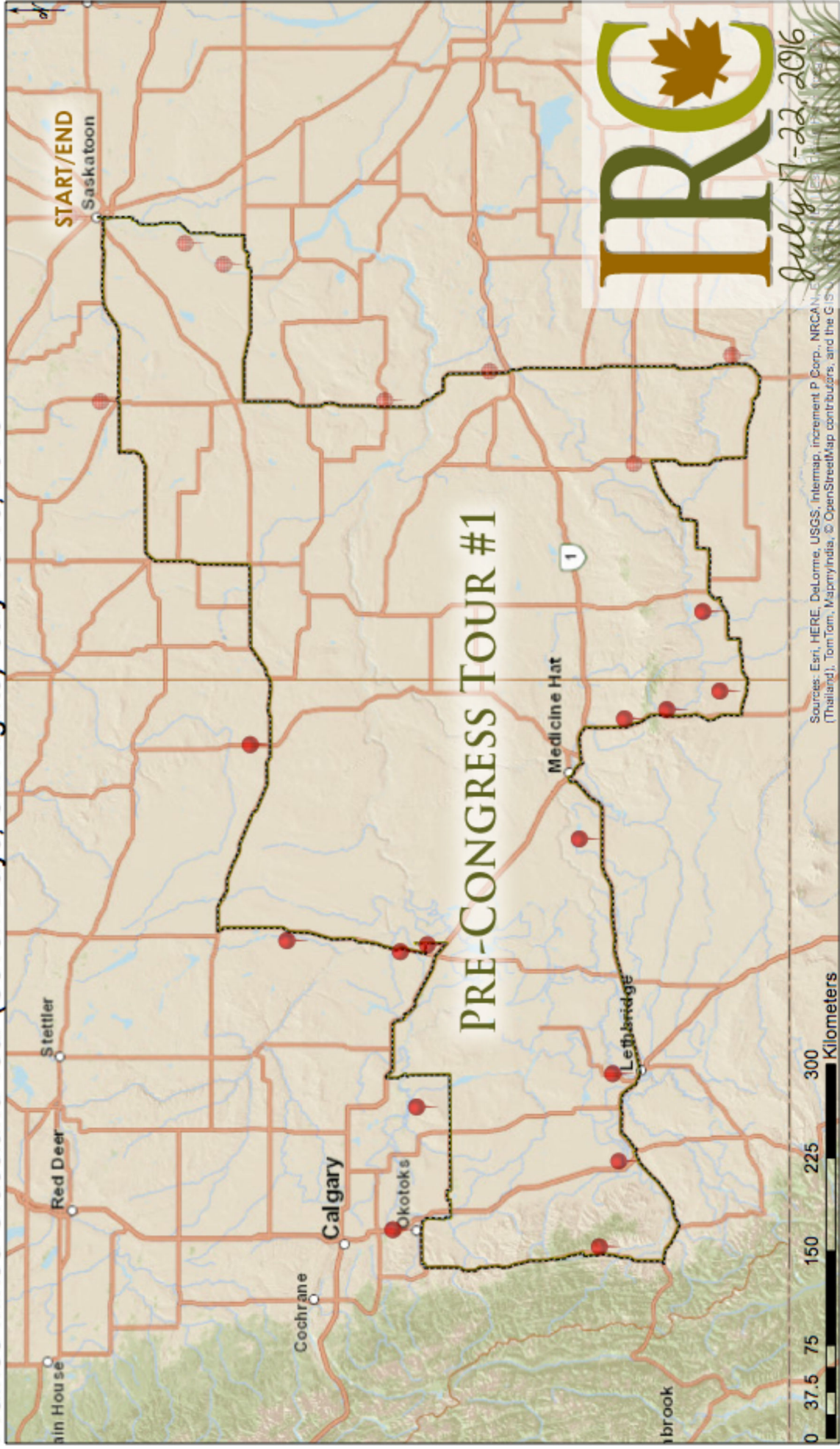
Tour options will include a look into the settlement of Saskatchewan, with the Northwest Rebellion Tour, featuring stops at Batoche, Fort Carlton and Duck Lake and the History of Saskatchewan Tour, stopping at Western Development Museum, Wanuskewin Heritage Park and Beaver Creek Conservation Area. Several mid--Congress tours will focus on the different types of livestock and grazing based agricultural operations located in Saskatchewan. Participants can choose to visit intensive dairy operations; large cow/calf grazing operations or specialized livestock farms raising elk and bison. Tour choices will also allow participants to visit private and government-owned and managed grazing lands. Research and science occurring within Saskatchewan's agriculture industry will be a theme for some of the tour options with stops planned at the University of Saskatchewan including the Canadian Light Source Synchrotron, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, College of Veterinary Medicine, the Crop Development Centre and the Western Beef Development Centre.

To learn more about tourism opportunities in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan please click on the logos below.

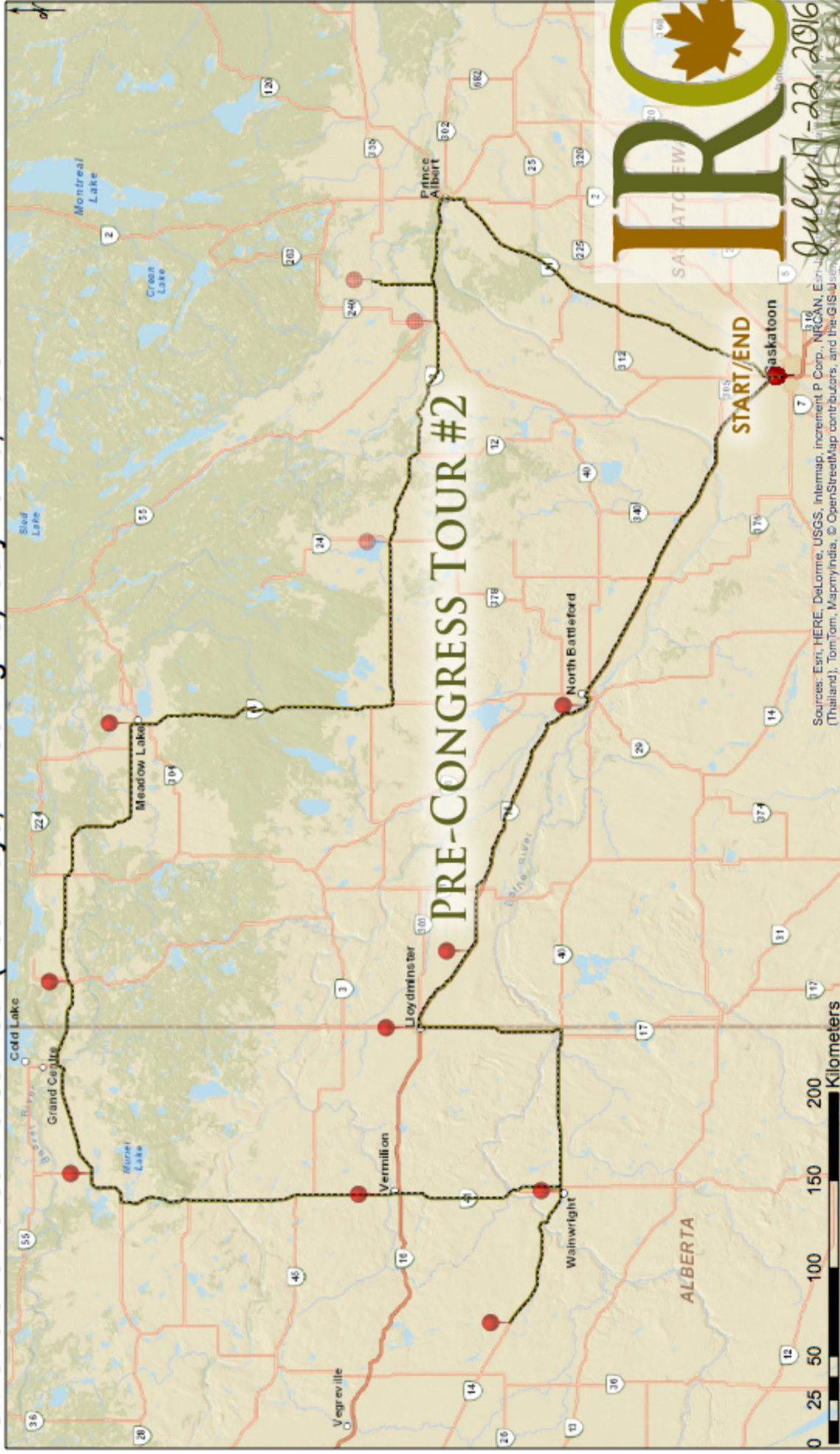


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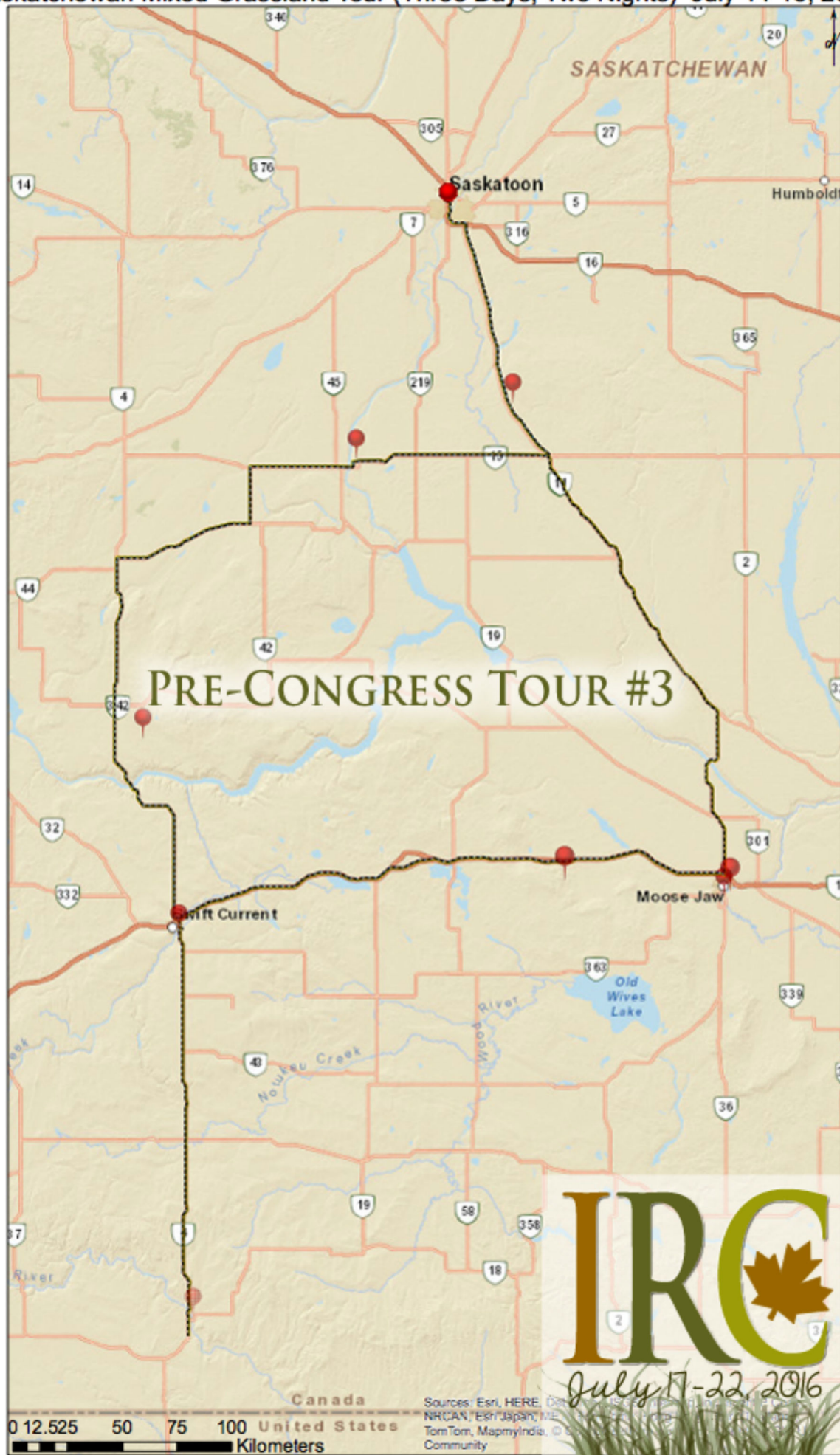
Prairies Mixed Grassland Tour (Seven Days, Six Nights) July 10-16, 2016



Parkland and Boreal Forest Tour (Four Days, Three Nights) July 13-16, 2016



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri, (Thailand), TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community





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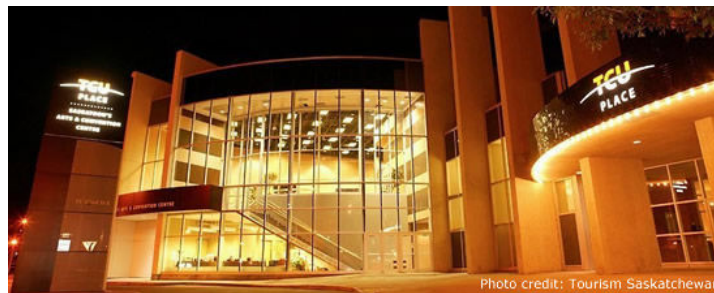
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Congress Venue



The Congress will take place at the Teacher's Credit Union Place (TCUP) (www.tcuplace.com). TCU Place is a world-class convention centre located in downtown Saskatoon. It is within walking distance to 10 hotels, next door to the Midtown Plaza shopping centre as well as several restaurants.

TCUP is located approximately 10 minute (5.5 kilometre) drive from the John G. Diefenbaker International Airport.

Venue Address:
 Teacher's Credit Union Place
 Saskatoon's Arts & Convention Centre
 35 - 22nd Street East
 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 0C8
 T: 306-975-7777
 E: info@tcuplace.com

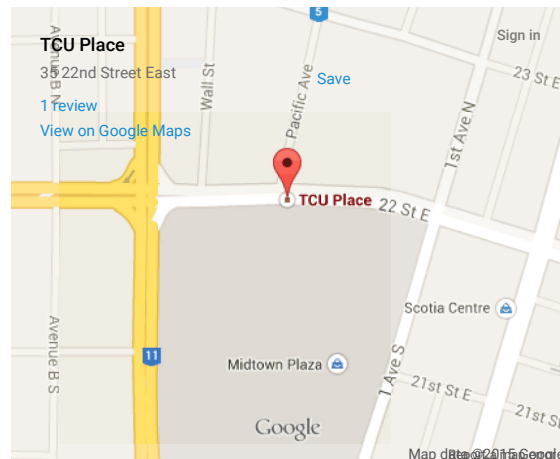
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Delegate Sponsorship

As with every Congress, some financial assistance may be available for delegates that need some extra support to attend the IRC in Saskatoon.

The level of support is anticipated to range from a minimum of registration fee being covered to a maximum of the registration fee plus \$800 US of accommodation costs being covered.

Priority will be given to delegates that will contribute to the Congress and have demonstrated need for support.

An online system has been set up for Delegate Sponsorship applications.

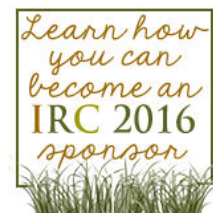
THIS SYSTEM WILL BE LIVE ON FEBRUARY 1, 2015.



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