



# Motherwell Homestead: Reliving the past

A new season is upon us and we are excited to begin! Just like the farmers of today, I imagine W.R. Motherwell and his hired men getting "antsy" for the fields to dry up enough to get the teams ready for ploughing!

For those of you reading this missive and who have never been to this historic site, you are certainly welcome to discover this beautiful homestead. As William Richard Motherwell came from the Perth area of Ontario in 1882, his idea of a dream home reflected upon the architectural styles that were familiar to him.

Thus we are proud to share with you the beautifully restored stone house of the Italianate design, built in 1897. It is fully furnished with both original artifacts, owned by the family, as well as many other items of particular interest.

This 8.3 acres site is an example of the homestead of a successful farmer/politician who was very proud of his home. The barn built in 1907 is a sight to behold! Come and visit with the hired men and girls; guides dressed in period costumes who will stop their daily chores to invite you into their world. This site is a living museum and we have examples of various livestock, with demonstration farming, using heavy horses. Our large vegetable garden is always generous.

Mr. Motherwell was recognized as an eminent Canadian for his dedication to the farmers of the prairies. He was the first Commissioner of Agriculture when Saskatchewan became a province in 1905, and later served on the federal level under Prime Minister Mackenzie King. Later in life he was known as The Grand Old Man of Canadian Agriculture. He is well known for contributing to the scientific research; instrumental in the

creation of the College of Agriculture in Saskatoon, as well as his earlier accomplishments. The site commemorates the man and his many achievements, the architecture, and examples of early shelterbelts.

Our Special Events Dates are as follows:

- The site opens May 17 when you are invited to book a table for the Empire Day Tea; following with
- Canada Day, July 1;
- Equine Extravaganza July 18;
- Binding & Stooking Aug. 23;
- Threshing Day Sept. 6.
- Our last day is Sept. 7.

Besides the Special Events' Days, you are welcome to come seven days of the week from 9 am to 5 pm.

Motherwell Homestead offers unique two-day camp experiences for children ages six to 12 years (spaces are limited). Would you like to know more? Groups are welcome as well.

The Friends of the Motherwell Homestead Café and gift shop are under new management and it has been redecorated! It is beautiful! There will be Sunday brunches every Sunday except for Special Event days. Phone for more information.

The site is located three kilometres south of Abernethy. Watch for the signs. There is free parking, a picnic area, washrooms, and motorized scooters are available upon request.

For more information about this historic site, as well as the family of parks and sites in Saskatchewan and Canada check the website at [www.pc.gc.ca/motherwell](http://www.pc.gc.ca/motherwell) or call us at (306) 333-2116.

Newcomers, welcome! To our old friends, welcome back!



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GAME ROOM