

# Prince Albert Model Forest Association Inc.



## ***Prince Albert Model Forest Partnering with Sweden***



The Aboriginal partners of the Prince Albert Model Forest have joined into a cooperative agreement with one of the world's newest Model Forests, the Vilhelmina Model Forest in Sweden. Sweden has recently become the first European country to join the International Model Forest Network. The Prince Albert Model Forest attended this historic event to share its experience in Aboriginal perspectives on forestry, land management, land claims and land-use conflict resolution emphasizing partnerships, integrated planning and the importance of traditional knowledge.

Among the key partners of the Vilhelmina Model Forest are the 2,500 indigenous Saami reindeer herders. The Saami people depend on reindeer for their livelihood yet the forestlands where the reindeer winter, belong mostly to private landowners. This has led to frequent conflicts. Sweden's National Board of Forestry became interested in the Model Forest approach to resolving such land-use conflicts in 2002. Now as partners in the new Vilhelmina Model Forest, the Saami people and other Swedish forest stakeholders are working together to resolve their land use concerns. The formal agreement between our two Model Forests ensures the continuing exchange of people, ideas, and experiences. A delegation from the Swedish Model Forest will be touring the Prince Albert Model Forest on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Canadian Model Forests integrate social, ecological and economic aspects with the unique perspectives of its Aboriginal partners. The Prince Albert Model Forest's Aboriginal partners include the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Montreal Lake Cree Nation, Prince Albert Grand Council, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

# Prince Albert Model Forest Association Inc.

For more information, please contact:  
Prince Albert Model Forest Association  
Phone 306.922.1944 [www.pamodelforest.sk.ca](http://www.pamodelforest.sk.ca)

– 30 –

**Information:**

Clinton Mauthe  
President  
Prince Albert Model Forest  
Ph. 306.929.2236

Gene Kimbley  
General Manager  
Prince Albert Model Forest  
Ph. 306.922.1944