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To: CPU Executive

2009 was a great year for the sport within our province. We are continuing to grow the sport, with a total of 39 members, an increase of 5 from 2008, and once again a number of these are new members. We are continuing our work towards provincial recognition and are working hard on planning the 2011 World Junior Championship. 2009 was also a transition year, as Jeff Butt moved back home to Newfoundland. It could be said that Jeff is one of the biggest reasons the sport is where it is now in Saskatchewan, and Jeff will be missed.

Saskatchewan hosted 3 contests in 2009. As previously mentioned, Saskatchewan ran the 2009 National Championship in Moose Jaw. The Saskatchewan Provincials were held on October 24 in Esterhazy with Jesse Jamison hosting his very first contest. As well, the 4th Annual Last Chance contest was held in Weyburn on December 31. All three meets were very well run and were well attended by lifters, both new and old.

Saskatchewan had a slow year on the World Championship front, sending only Carter Balaberda to Sub-Junior Worlds in Ribeirao Preto-SP, Brazil. Carter finished with a gold in the squat and bench and fourth overall. Rhaea Fowler was also selected to compete at the World Games in Kaohsiung, Taiwan where she broke the Junior Bench Press record.

Saskatchewan currently has 1 National referee in Ryan Stinn. There are also four Provincial level referees, including Taunia Stevens, Dan Suberlak, Rhaea Fowler and Ryan Fowler. Continued growth in this area is expected in the coming years.

Saskatchewan Powerlifting is continuing to grow, both in numbers and in caliber of lifters. I am excited about the future of the sport in Saskatchewan and am looking forward to the opportunities that will arise to grow the sport in the province. We are also very excited about hosting the 2011 Junior World Championship and planning is well underway to make this a world class event.

Yours in Lifting,

Ryan Fowler
SPA President