



If you haven't already heard, Flaman Group of Companies (Flaman Sales) has been selected as one of the Top 100 Small to Medium Enterprises (SME) in Canada. This is a big accomplishment to have our company recognized in this category as it is considered the most competitive, 80% of all applications fall into this category. Small to medium sized businesses make up 99% of all enterprises, and 90% of private employees work for SME's, so you can see how the competition gets thick.

**The winners are chosen based on eight criteria points**

**Physical workplace  
Work atmosphere and social  
Health, financial & family benefits  
Vacation and time off  
Employee communications  
Performance management  
Training and skill development  
Community involvement**

**Winning this award, gives us a chance show the rest of Canada the kind of place Flaman is to work and be proud of the culture all of us help to create.**

Read the official press release:  
[canadastop100.com/temp/sme2015.pdf](http://canadastop100.com/temp/sme2015.pdf)

**EDITION 11 – SPRING 2015**

# The Flaman Link

How far we've come!

*In the early 80's, Rudy and I took over the business on the farm in Southey. We had one phone line and a one room office attached to the house. Prior to that we were on a party line, which is a phone line shared by 3 or 4 neighbours.*

*This was before we had computers, email, cell phones, fax machines, digital cameras or debit cards. Communication with our customers was simple; you either spoke in person or on the phone. Advertising was easy, we placed an ad in the western producer, and that was it! Taking payment was easy too, the options were cash or cheque.*

*In 1984, our photocopier sales representative brought out a fax machine. He explained the magical capabilities of this device and it was on sale for only \$4000.00! We thought it was a great idea except for we didn't know anyone else who owned one. Who would we send a fax to? Soon after, we bought it, as did most of our suppliers and some customers too.*

*The 90's brought computers, cell phones, credit cards and leasing; followed by internet, websites, smartphones, debit cards and employee benefits. Technology over the past 30 years has brought many changes to the way we do business, and we can only imagine what is coming next!*

*The only thing that has remained the same is that our customers still expect great service, and I believe that our culture and our attention to our customers is the most important factor in our company's success.*

To all of you who have helped this company grow and prosper, Thank you, and keep up the great work!

– Don Flaman



**FLAMAN**  
Group of Companies

# GALA 2015

By Charlene Swanton



**A huge congratulations to all of those who worked so hard to make this gala such a huge success.**



**Answer the question below to be entered to win 1 of 5 \$10 Tim Horton's Gift Cards**

How many kids does Frank Flaman have?

Text 780-233-7734 with your name, store and answer. All correct answers will be put into a draw. Answers must be received by 12:00 midnight MST on May 8, 2015. Winners will be contacted shortly after and sent their prizes.

**Good luck everyone!**

**The Westin in Edmonton on March 27th was definitely the place to be. Flaman employees, corporate sponsors and many loyal supporters filled the Ball room to take part in the 9th Annual Frank Flaman Foundation Gala.**

What the Frank Flaman Foundation does, not only locally, but world wide is truly amazing. From donating to local schools and charities to building schools in third world countries to teaching men, women and children to live more fulfilled lives, the efforts of the foundation are vast and these are just a few of the wonderful things this foundation does. But none of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of the many people who give countless hours and funds to this foundation and what it stands for.



The evening began with cocktails at 6, entertainment to get everyone into a Hawaiian state of mind and a chance for all attendees to look over and start bidding on some amazing items on the silent auction tables. Dinner was served by Westin staff; we heard comments from some of those involved in making the evening such a huge success, and, of course, we were privileged enough to hear a few words from Frank himself. He commended his foundation workers for all of their many hours dedicated to his dream and let it be known that his main purpose was to make more money -- so that he could give more money away! In the past 10 years the Frank Flaman Foundation has donated over \$10,000,000.

Danny Hooper was our Emcee for the evening, making sure everyone had a great time and lots of laughs. A slide show of Frank and his family following the years was one of the highlights of the evening. As well as Emcee, Danny also played the part of auctioneer with everything from Sporting event tickets to a trip to Hawaii up for auction.

Lewis Lavoie, an artist renowned for painting and donating a large portion of time and artwork for charity, painted a gorgeous picture on site, which was also auctioned during the live auction. Myself, as well as all that I have spoken with who attended, agree that it was an amazing evening and we can't wait for next year's event.



Flaman has been busy across Canada, attending tradeshows and getting our name and products out to the public. Some divisions have even traveled out of Canada to attend different tradeshows to learn about new products so we can better serve our customers in the future. Here is just a few of the Flaman displays and some feedback from our team members' travels:



## Rental Division

**Wayne B, Mike M, Matt S, Shawn M, Jocelyn C, Dave C, Seth R.**

The Rental division took team members to the World of Concrete trade show in Las Vegas in February. They were accompanied by a long time Flaman customer from Yorkton. After attending the tradeshow they were able to get some sightseeing in – and traveled to the Hoover Dam. Pictured here, they are all under the new suspension bridge over the Grand Canyon.

Flaman received this thank you from Dave Collingridge after the trip.

*"I'm Dave Collingridge, owner of Collingridge Construction here in Yorkton and I've been renting and buying equipment from Flaman for some time now. This year, Flaman invited my wife and I to the World of Concrete trade show in Las Vegas. Vegas was bright lights and good times! I enjoyed the concrete show more than anything; it was like going to the fair as a kid. There was even power trowel races, and I raced on one! All and all as usual I owe it to Flaman for knowing how to truly treat their customers best. To Flaman, from myself and Jocelyn, it has been a good ride."*



**Jeff Basset, Ryan MacIsaac, Clint Pratch, Michael Neumeier, Steve Brown, Kevin Attrill, Mike Logan, Ryan Van Eijnsbergen**

Los Angeles. The show boasts participants from over 70 countries who experience a world-class exhibition of products and services from the leading manufacturers and providers in the fitness industry. They also met with representatives from Tuff Stuff Fitness and were able to tour their manufacturing plant in Pomona, California. They also attended an exclusive event hosted by Sports Art Fitness that featured product information, company direction from their CEO, and world renowned motivational speakers. The day ended with an awards ceremony where Flaman Fitness was awarded one of the Top Sports Art Dealers in North America.

Shawn Klisowsky, Ryan MacIsaac and Jeff Basset were also able to attend the TaiSPO tradeshow in Taipei, Taiwan in March. This three day event showcased over 360 manufacturers from both Taiwan and China. While attending the show they are always on the lookout for any new products that can either improve or add to the product lines Flaman Fitness offers. This show is a great place to get an early look at products coming out for the next season and to help plan the product line. This trip was an overwhelming success and the fitness leaders are excited to add some products to an already impressive selection.

## Fitness Division

In March, Flaman Fitness sent Commercial Fitness reps from all over Canada to attend the IHRSA (International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association) tradeshow in

Hearing stories about how Flaman employees go above and beyond makes us all smile. Good job Flaman Moosomin!



Hello,

*I'd like to first introduce myself. My name is Sergeant Dan Hansen. I work for the Canadian Forces Military Police. I'm currently moving from Petawawa, ON too Cold Lake, AB. This will be my latest posting with the CF.*

*While traveling through Manitoba and reaching Saskatchewan, my rear piece of my small utility trailer fell off. Mostly due to road conditions, the bolts just came out. Staying in Moosomin, SK on Sunday, I got up early on Monday looking for a place to help. The first place was a truck and trailer place and they were not helpful at all. It actually felt like I was a burden to even walk through the doors. When I left there, I pulled into your sales and rental store. The staff was awesome. Shawn and Kyle took great care of me and fixed the trailer in 15 mins. My trailer, unfortunately, is not a Flaman product either and they still helped.*

*This was an incredible stress reliever as I still had 1100 km to go. Please know that I will sing your praises to anyone that will listen. Thank you for the great employees you have in Moosomin.*

*You have made this soldier's day.*

**Dan**



## Regina Fitness Store



The Regina fitness store recently finished a new renovation! *Here are a few pictures to get a taste of what it looks like, but if you are ever in Regina stop by and see the store for yourself!*



## Consumer's Choice



Flaman Fitness is very proud to announce that our London, Ontario store was this year's winner of the Consumer's Choice Award for fitness equipment. Congrats to the team in London. Store manager Brian Bonell and Ontario GM Steve Brown picked up the award at a gala in London recently.

If you want to see Ontario general manager Steve Brown at the awards ceremony and hear his talk about the kind of home fitness equipment we offer and how our staff can help you find the right equipment for your needs – Go to <http://youtu.be/qxexKZsbKfs> watch the video.

*Congrats again to the team in London!*

## New Store in B.C.



Our Kitsilano store celebrated its Grand Opening in January and they dedicated the weekend to Canadian Diabetes Association by collecting donations and donating 25% of sales from the weekend to the association.

Kenny from Jack FM (a local radio station) spent 5 hours straight on the LifeSpan Treadmill Desk while broadcasting live! He walked 11.44 miles, burnt 1,315 calories, and took 23,340 steps! He also raised a lot of money for the Canadian Diabetes association.

*Looks like the opening was a HUGE success, Congrats to the team in Kitsilano!*



For fitness tips follow us on:



@flamanfitness

## Clint Pratch featured on KelownaNow.com

**Flaman Kelowna's Very Own Clint Pratch was featured on KelownaNow.com in their In Focus section. Here is part of the interview. To read the rest, check out the Flaman Group of Companies or Flaman Fitness Facebook page.**

**What do you always find yourself saying?**

That's Awesome  
Hey Goofnuts  
Laughing is hilarious

**What has been your favourite day of your life, up to this point?**

Too many to say one is my favorite to be honest, I had one day in Hawaii that was pretty good. Surfing with dolphins, turtles and then a huge party on the beach with friends. (my birthday)

**Where is your favourite place to dine in Kelowna? What do you like about it?**

West Sakura Sushi. My friend that owns it and the food is the best.

**What is your mission?**

I have a lot of missions I really want to be your fitness friend. If that means kicking your butt in a workout or finding the coolest piece of fitness equipment to help you with your business or home fitness goals.

**If you could achieve one thing within your field, what would it be?**

It would be known all over (all most there!) as the person to help you with your fitness goals whether it be a trainer or a participant.





## Introducing Craig Hubick, from Southey Sk



### Tell me about what you do at Flaman? How long have you worked at Flaman?

I am the yard foreman and I have been with Flaman for 19 years.

### What did you do before you joined the Flaman team?

Before I started at Flaman I worked at Andrews & Sons Drilling doing water wells.

### What is your favorite part of the Job?

There are many reasons why I enjoy working at Flaman; one of my favorite things is that every day is different. Some days I'm unloading / loading carts and the next day unloading/loading treadmills or delivering product and helping out our customer's. I also like working here because of the Flaman family atmosphere. I grew up in Southey just like a lot of our staff so my co-workers are people I grew up with, friends of mine. Other benefits like having flexible hours, being a minute away from home, having popcorn Thursdays and burger Fridays is pretty good too!

### When you're not at work what do you like to do?

Spending time with my family; my wife Shauna and I have 3 kids Jacob (6), Matthew (4) and Julia (1). We like to go camping in the summer. Also our boys are into sports so that keeps us busy. I like going to concerts and just hanging out with family and friends.

## JP Blenke Featured in the Edmonton Journal

*By Erin Mitchell*



I am fortunate to get to work with an amazing group of people here at the Flaman Nisku store. We are all kind of like one big, crazy, supportive family. It makes coming to work everyday enjoyable because I know that at some point today I will get the chance to talk to one of my co-workers and learn something from them or share a laugh.

With the position that I have here (Marketing Coordinator), I get to work closely with almost everyone here at some point in time during the year. Some people are graced with my presence in their office more often than not. JP is one of those lucky people.

JP and I work together on a weekly basis keeping the Ag Clearance site up to date. He was recently featured in an article in the Edmonton Journal about his accomplishments and how he has adapted to life after

a childhood accident took both of his arms. Check out the full article on the Flaman Group of Companies Facebook page.

*We are trying our best to keep his ego down from his newfound celebrity status, but it's difficult. Congrats on your recognition JP!*



## Around the Water Cooler

*Flaman employees were asked:*

### What are you most looking forward to about summer?

The heat!

– Maria Treacy

I'm looking forward to playing outdoor soccer then going out on the boat to relax the muscles ... Oh ya and outdoor bootcamps !!

– Clint Pratch

Drumheller Tough Mudder and Golf!

– Scott Sangster

BBQ Lunches with the family. :)

– Jeremy Pacula

Football season! Go Riders!

– Jennifer Thompson

I am most looking forward to getting his boat back on the lake and catching some big fish!!

– Dale Simpson

I can't wait for when its disgustingly hot and I'm driving around doing errands with my Mom with the windows down blasting the Judd's, singing at the top of our lungs drinking Slurpee's!

– Joeleen Rasmussen

Meeting the newest addition to my family...due in June and I can't wait to meet him/her

– Kayly Peacock

Camping in elk water with family and time off from work.

– Murdo MacKenzie

I am looking forward to the hot weather, Bar-B-Q's and being able to go outside without having to wear a coat. Summer is the best season because you can also do whatever activities you want without being cold.

– Lorna Mutch

Ohhh what's that cold blue can of bud light doing in my golf cart , in 30 degree heat. Booom!!

– Will Porter

My Trip to Cyprus, with the whole family there, from Australia, Cyprus, France, and of Course Canada. Fresh Seafood, local Beer, temperatures up in the mid late 30's, and the pool in the garden. What more could you ask for.

– Ben Wood

## Towing Safety

It's that time of year again when we all start to deliver equipment to our customers (sales or rentals) and we have to make sure we are doing it safely!

Here are some things to remember;

1. Any piece of equipment being towed must have working or flashing lights, day or night.
2. Trailers and construction equipment must have 2 safety chains, Agriculture equipment only requires one (adequately sized).
3. For towing Ag equipment, the truck needs to have flashing light(s) on the cab.
4. If the piece being towed weighs over 10,000lbs(trailer and cargo) the driver must be over 18 and have a class 1 driver's license, in Manitoba you need a class 3 (FYI, most Wishek discs we have weigh over 10K!).
5. Most of our Agriculture equipment isn't wide enough (in transport position) to require a pilot vehicle or over dimension permit, if in doubt check!

*So wear your high visibility clothing, plan ahead for a safe trip and a safe busy season!*

## Flaman Service Page got a Facelift

Our Flaman Service page had some work done to it and now it looks pretty good. Check it out at [flaman.com/trailers/service](http://flaman.com/trailers/service)



## Our Newest Team Members



**Saskatoon, SK**  
**Edwin Oscaris**  
Service Technician



**Southey, SK**  
**Eugene Frank**  
Sales



**Moosomin, SK**  
**Kyle Hogarth**  
Yard/Shop Support



**Nisku, AB**  
**Scott Sangster**  
Parts



**Nisku, AB**  
**Peter Steblyk**  
Business Development Manager



**Lethbridge, AB**  
**Kevin Stettner**  
Service



**Edmonton, AB**  
**Ujjawal Kumar**  
Shipping & Receiving



**Edmonton, AB**  
**Michal Mielnik**  
Shipping & Receiving



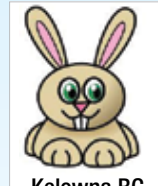
**Edmonton, AB**  
**Jade Dye**  
Delivery Driver



**Langley, BC**  
**Rob Spencer**  
Sales



**Langley, BC**  
**Josh Hanson-Torwalt**  
Delivery Driver



**Kelowna BC**  
**Kevin Kellerman**  
Delivery



**Kelowna BC**  
**Bill Friesen**  
Delivery & Service



**Abbotsford, BC**  
**Hanna Marks**  
Sales



**Saskatoon, SK**  
**Aaron Kernaghan**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



**Prince Albert, SK**  
**Amy Sutherland**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



**Prince Albert, SK**  
**Heather Federuik**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



**Prince Albert, SK**  
**Chantal Prokopie**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



**Moose Jaw, SK**  
**Jacob Murray**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



**Moose Jaw, SK**  
**Karli Amundrud**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



**Moose Jaw, SK**  
**Jarred Smith**  
Express Wireless  
Customer Solutions Rep



### Do you have a great idea for the next newsletter?

Any ideas, questions or stories can be emailed to either

**[pam.schaan@flaman.com](mailto:pam.schaan@flaman.com)** or  
**[erin.mitchell@flaman.com](mailto:erin.mitchell@flaman.com)**



### Flaman is on Facebook?

You can check out the pages by visiting [www.facebook.com/flamanfitness](http://www.facebook.com/flamanfitness) or [www.facebook.com/flamangroupofcompanies](http://www.facebook.com/flamangroupofcompanies).

Have any Facebook suggestions?

Send them to **[pam.schaan@flaman.com](mailto:pam.schaan@flaman.com)** or **[erin.mitchell@flaman.com](mailto:erin.mitchell@flaman.com)**