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DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD) Published under the authority of The Honourable Dan D'Autremont Speaker

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Kinsmen Telemiracle

Mr. Forbes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Regina this weekend, Telemiracle, the Kinsmen Foundation held their 38th annual fundraiser. The event brought people from across Saskatchewan together to raise money for those struggling with mental and physical disabilities. Telemiracle has been hosting on-air events to raise money to meet the medical needs of Saskatchewan people since 1977. Their first telethon was held in the Centennial Auditorium in Saskatoon and raised nearly \$1 million in its very first year.

Saskatchewan is a generous province, and I am pleased that we have again demonstrated our support for Telemiracle's initiatives. This weekend's event raised almost \$5.2 million in its annual 20-hour telethon. The event got under way at Regina's Conexus Arts Centre on Saturday night and finished at 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The funds raised, Mr. Speaker, will help assist families with medical expenses, equipment, and travel costs. In recent years, money raised has also been donated to children's hospitals and the Wascana Rehab Centre to help with equipment upgrades. After 38 years, the partnership between Telemiracle and Saskatchewan citizens has raised over \$100 million.

This achievement wouldn't have been possible without Saskatchewan people showcasing their generosity and kindness. I ask all members to join me in thanking all those who've donated their time, money, and energies to make this year's Kinsmen Telemiracle another success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.