CANADIAN RAILWAY HALL OF FAME

<u>COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS: 2006</u>

<u>Melville, Saskatchewan</u>

The quintessential prairie railway terminal.

Situated in eastern Saskatchewan and located on the Canadian National main line between Winnipeg and Edmonton, Melville has served as a railway divisional point since the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. Incorporated as a city in December 1908, Melville was named for Charles Melville Hays, President of the Grand Truck who perished in the Titanic disaster of 1912.

As an important railway terminal, Melville became home for train and engine service crews working west to Watrous, Saskatchewan, east to Rivers, Manitoba, south to Regina, and north to the Canora and Hudson Bay districts. In addition, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway built a large roundhouse and servicing facilities for its steam locomotive fleet at Melville. Today, rail car equipment continues to be maintained at Melville to service the needs of nearby Potash customers. Melville remains an important divisional point for CN, with technological advances now allowing crews to work "extended-runs" from Melville to Winnipeg and from Melville to Biggar, Saskatchewan. Each day, fast intermodal, coal, grain, potash, and merchandise trains pass through Melville led by modern fuel-efficient high horsepower locomotives. VIA Rail Canada also serves Melville with its famed western transcontinental train known as the "Canadian."

Visitors to Melville can learn about Melville's railway heritage at the Melville Railway Park that features the former Grand Trunk Railway depot from nearby Duff, Saskatchewan, and a CN "Pacific" type steam locomotive, number 5114.

Besides its role as an important railway center, this community of 4600 residents provides services for nearby mixed farming and potash operations.