

With 8yrs of the Portage Potato festival behind us we thought this may be an ideal time to provide a bit of a history lesson on the festival, just so that everyone can see where the festival began and where it is at today. From what we know the idea of the festival came from a request that city council had made of the chamber of commerce. It seems that city council at the time felt that there was a need for a community festival to take place during the month of August as at that time the Strawberry Festival had ceased to exist. This is how the Potato Festival came to be, as for the name itself one can only assume that due to the Central Plains area being known for potatoes thing to do was name it the Portage Potato Festival.

Things have changed a little over the years, the organizing committee itself has now evolved into 14 members, all who are simply community oriented people. We have one member who is an original committee member, whereas the remaining 13 of us have come on within the last year or two. None of us are chamber members, or are members of city council, we are simply people who live in this community and have a passion for it. We gain nothing out of this other than the pride of knowing that we are able to keep this event alive for the citizens of Portage la Prairie and its surrounding communities.

