



INSURANCE BROKERS' ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

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For Immediate Release

Insurance Brokers Help KidSport in a Big Way

The Insurance Brokers' Association of Saskatchewan (IBAS) scored a touchdown for KidSport by teaming up with Don Narcisse, one of the greatest wide receivers ever to play for the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

IBAS held an auction featuring Narcisse and some of his memorabilia at its recent annual convention and managed to raise a whopping \$21,000 for KidSport, a children's charity dedicated to assisting children in community sports programs.

Ernie Gaschler, Executive Director of IBAS, said its members have actively supported programs oriented toward kids, with IBAS being one of the main sponsors of the child safety restraint clinics held throughout the province and with junior golf.

When the opportunity came along to support KidSport, Gaschler said it was a natural fit and Narcisse was a big hit.

"He really captured the spirit of what being a pro sports hero in this province is all about. He left a lasting impression between him and us and KidSport, no matter what we do going forward," said Gaschler about Narcisse at the auction. "Whether we'll have an ongoing relationship with KidSport is unknown but certainly our initial experience was gratifying."

The idea for the IBAS auction was sparked when Barry Seaborn, a member of the IBAS board of director's, purchased some Narcisse memorabilia through an online auction where the proceeds went to KidSport.

Along with the winning bid came the opportunity to host Narcisse for dinner, so Seaborn invited 30 guests to his Moose Jaw home for the big event, as long as they made a donation to KidSport. He also approached Narcisse to be part of the IBAS auction which he gladly accepted.

"I wanted to make it a win-win for him as well," said Seaborn, who initially had a goal of raising a few thousand dollars at the auction. "That just shows the spirit of independent insurance brokers in this province and how generous they are."

Narcisse is retired from football, but he left a lasting legacy after creating the concept "Catch for KidSport" in 1998.

The concept led to future fundraising opportunities and a 12-year partnership between SaskEnergy and KidSport that generated more than \$700,000 in Saskatchewan and helped more than 7,000 children take part in sports.

The Insurance Brokers' Association of Saskatchewan is a voluntary organization of professional

independent insurance brokers. It represents 380 insurance brokerage offices and more than 2,500 individuals throughout the province.

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