

# Cabinet Minister Transfers Courthouse to Town

by Stephen Scriver

A visit to Wolseley by the Hon. Nancy Heppner, Saskatchewan's Minister of Central Services has put the town's courthouse revitalization project into motion. Minister Heppner officially handed over the courthouse keys to Mayor Dennis Fjestad in a ceremony yesterday on the steps of this heritage building, the province's oldest existing courthouse, built in 1894-95.

At a meeting at the town hall before the transfer of ownership, Minister Heppner commended the town of Wolseley, and in particular the Wolseley Heritage Foundation and Main Street Wolseley, for their evident dedication to the preservation of the town's history. She emphasized the government's commitment to participate in initiatives,

which encourage economic activity, leading to the creation of new businesses and new jobs.

Mayor Dennis Fjestad then took the podium, beginning by saying, "This is a great day for Wolseley, when we leave behind the past of our courthouse." He detailed some of the past uses of the building, including its short time as a courthouse, then as a boys' detention centre, an annex to the nursing home, a laundry, and a storage facility. He also mentioned the town's ardent support of the rebuilding of the swinging bridge, with the courthouse as a logical extension of that project. Mention was also made of the invaluable contributions of Main Street Coordinator Ed Attridge and local activist Allen Gurtler, for getting the initial proposal off the ground and into a presentable form.



Mayor Dennis Fjestad, the Hon. Nancy Heppner, Saskatchewan's Minister of Central Services and Moosomin Constituency MIA Don Tath