

S.A.M.D.A. BUSINESS Success STORY



The Story

ROLLING WITH THE PUNCHES



Bill Wirch

BUSINESS NAME:

Coyote Enterprises

BUSINESS OWNER:

Bill Wirch

BUSINESS LOCATION:

Empress

BUSINESS SECTOR:

Oil & Gas Services

2009 is a pretty unconventional year for Bill Wirch of Empress. His company, Coyote Enterprises Inc., usually keeps busy with custom fencing for the oil patch. But the down turned economy has changed all of that.

"I didn't think there was too much of an up and down in it until this year when it really showed up."

Wirch started Coyote Enterprises ten years ago when drilling rigs came to the Bindloss area. He farmed for nearly three decades, but knew he needed to make a change.

"It doesn't seem right where you can have seven, eight hundred thousand dollars worth of farm machinery and everything, and you buy a ten thousand dollar post pounder and a ten thousand dollar truck and you can do way better at it...it wasn't adding up."

Wirch estimates his business has dropped seventy percent because of the slow down in the oil patch. That doesn't mean Wirch has slowed down, though. His phone still rings continuously, but the jobs are much more varied.

"We've done things this year that we have never done before."

Wirch and his crew are restoring the hardwood floor at the train station in Empress. They also shingled and painted a local church. Coyote Enterprises was even hired to tear down an old barn and build a shelter from it.

"We've usually got a couple of weeks of work booked and sometimes maybe up to a month...there is work there if you wanna look for it."

Hard work is something Wirch knows well. His thirty years of farming prepared him for the long hours outdoors, and varied tasks in his current profession. Wirch says one of the biggest challenges can be finding and keeping good staff. He currently has three other people on the payroll.

"It helps to have a good crew."

Wirch keeps looking to the future of his company. He hopes to get more involved in oil patch reclamation work, and wants to drum up winter business for his snowplow and steam truck.

Visit Us Online: WWW.SAMDA.CA

Located in Southeast Alberta, the SAMDA (Special Areas and MD of Acadia No. 34) Region offers affordable rural living and opportunities for entrepreneurs in our communities.

Village of Empress, Village of Cereal, Town of Oyen, Acadia Valley, MD of Acadia No.34 and the Special Areas.

