



Medicine Hat Clay Industries
National Historic District

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Media Release

For Immediate Release

4th Annual Altaglass Auction a Success for Friends of Medalta and Historical Society

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Medicine Hat – Over 70 people from Alberta, Saskatchewan and BC visited the Medalta Potteries National Historic Site on Saturday, October 18 to bid on over 250 lots of original Altaglass product. The fourth annual fundraiser was a success as it raised over \$12,000 to be shared evenly between the Historic Clay District and the Historical Society of Medicine Hat & Area.

The amount of money brought in represents a significant increase over last year, when just over \$9,000 was raised. Part of that increase was due in part to the fact that some new items were auctioned off for the first time. According to Allan Jensen, President of the Historical Society, “we tried – for the first time this year – to auction off some miniature pieces which were very well appreciated and snapped up by many collectors.”

The highest seller of the day was a pair of cobalt blue beavers, which sold for \$205. The colour is a dark blue and is very rare among Altaglass items. In addition, the items had been engraved, further increasing their value.

The Historic Clay District is a 150 acre area in Medicine Hat's North Flats Neighbourhood. In addition to the Medalta Potteries National Historic Site, the District also includes the Hycroft China complex and the last remaining beehive kiln (both Provincial Historic Resources) from the massive Alberta Clay Products plant that burnt to the ground in 1961. It is operated by the Friends of Medalta Society.

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