

Plan integral to realizing dreams: singer

By David McIver
of The Rosetown Eagle

A young country music performer told youth at Plenty last week what young people must do to pursue their dreams.

"The biggest thing is the plan. It doesn't matter what you want to do. You've got to have a plan," said Codie Prevost, the keynote presenter at the Life Long Learning day at North West Central School on Nov. 10.

That lesson was the reason for his being in Plenty.

Prevost took out a small business loan through the Community Futures program to finance his first record. It required a 10-year business plan.

The thought and learning he had to do to make that plan has been very beneficial. Yet it should be obvious, as he related.

"The other day I was thinking about it," Prevost, originally from Archerwill, told students. "If you plan to meet someone somewhere, you've got to let them know beforehand."

In 2008, Community Fu-



Codie Prevost

tures officials asked him about partnering with them in travelling to schools. Often, they accompany him. "If anyone has any questions, they can plug them in on what they need to pursue their dreams after high school," he said.

The 24-year-old singer-songwriter based in Saskatoon began to teach himself

to play the guitar at 14. At 20, he went full time into a music career.

In the past, Prevost would have tried to get a contract with a major recording company. He doesn't need that now, he explained.

"Technology and the internet brought in a lot of downloading and lots of online stores. People can listen

to whatever they want," he said. "For us who don't have a big record deal, who are independent and have our own companies, we can actually make a go of it."

That "go" has got busy, Prevost said, with "non-stop" touring and, this month, starting a fan club called the Codie Roadies.

Prevost is based in Saskatoon rather than a larger centre: "Less traffic hours. It works out for the best sometimes."

He recorded his first two CDs in Nashville and is working on his third in Vancouver. He still goes to Nashville for one or two months at a time "to keep the connections going because you need both places."

One of his songs, Good Livin', was co-written in Nashville with fellow Canadian country singer Jason Blaine.

Another composition, There's a Lot to be Said for Leaving, is partly based on his own life, being the only son of a farm family who decides to do something other than farm.

Prevost also performed some country classics, such as Folsom Prison Blues and Ring of Fire and Fishing in the Dark, and even some "countrified rock."

Students got up and danced during several selections. Event organizer Erin Swan and student Zach Van Basten joined him on vocals at different times.

Youth Making Changes and Relationships, an NWCS student group, sponsors the day-long event which included 12 other presentations.

They included Motivation in Motion by Sue Speir, card making by Karen Peters, cake decoration by Coral Nakonechny, auto body repair by Lloyd Giles, motocross by Allan Bacon, emergency medical technician work by Miranda Endicott, the RCMP by a Kerrobert detachment member, Hilltops football by Hilltop director Don Necker, BodyTalk by massage therapist Christina Kennon, reiki by Jeni McCaslin, Arbonne make-up by Susie McShannock and art by Carol Schmolld.