

BLUE JEANS and Rubber boots

by Susan Schaefer



In September 2021 we decided to go on a road trip. I had not seen my family in almost two years. We felt that we had a small window of opportunity to make the trip out to Saskatchewan before the winter and before the CoVid numbers began to rise again.

At the same time we were working with a contractor to install new kitchen cabinets. Our master plan was, with the help of our neighbour, to demo the kitchen cupboards on the September long weekend, and leave shortly after that. While we were gone our contractor was given a key to our home so he could work on our kitchen cupboards in our absence.

Our mini aussie, Chace was not a fan of car rides. Day one was very rough, (should I say ruff) on Chace. He wined and pro-

tested for hours, until later that afternoon he was car sick. After that he settled down, poor boy.

I worried that this whole trip might be the end of him, as he is such a sensitive little guy. But by day three he seemed to settle in nicely, as he realized that he could lay in his bed and still be able to keep an eye on things, including us. He became a real trooper trying all sorts of things for the first time – like climbing stairs, going in an elevator and chasing cats on the farm.

I've always loved September, with it's warm days and spectacular fall colours. Driving through the rocky mountains seemed to be more pleasurable on this trip, as we stopped every hour or so to let the puppy out for a sniff and stroll, a stretch and a drink from a fresh water creek.



We took time in Medicine Hat, Alberta to visit the Saamis Tepee. It was originally constructed for the Calgary 1988 Winter Olympics and later

bought from the City of Calgary and moved to the site. It was a beautiful fall day, with warm winds blowing, and quite a sight to see. Now that's an image waiting to be painted.

We visited with friends and family, over coffee, a meal, a cocktail (or 2) and shared many stories and laughs. When we said our goodbyes, and started to head back west, I thought, boy this trip was just what I needed to renew my soul.



On our return to the island, we found our kitchen still wasn't finished. But it was nice to get home and relive our memories of our beautiful fall trip. Until next time...sweet prairies...



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