

Sound Advice

Great Gifts

By Rod Tyler, CFP, R.F.P., CLU



Ada Staples Library, Oxbow, Saskatchewan

Ada Staples was born in 1887 to parents William & Susan Staples. In 1884, the Staples had first settled in 3 tents on their homestead South of Oxbow, Saskatchewan. Ada was born in their first house, a log cabin they called "Prairie Home".

Ada was home schooled by her mother, a former school teacher, and went on to attend high school in Oxbow and then Normal School in Regina. She then taught school herself for a few years before attending the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. She completed a B.A. and an M.A. in 1921. She subsequently taught school in numerous locations around the province including Arcola, Oxbow

and Carnduff. You can see from this short history that Ada Staples had a lifelong passion for learning and education.

In 1981, thanks to a significant financial gift from Ada Staples, the brand new Oxbow Library was able to open its doors. Anyone visiting this library will see the plaque acknowledging the gift from Ada that made its construction possible, and will instantly recognize what a tremendous contribution this gift has made to the town and district of Oxbow. It is even more amazing to realize that Ada was able to leave this legacy by saving money on a teacher's salary.

It also reminds us that ordinary people can make an extraordinary difference donating a gift to something they truly value. Ada Staples valued education.



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