



## From a Provincial Point of View April 15, 2011

### A SAD DAY IN SASKATOON AND THE ENTIRE PROVINCE

We mourn the death this week of Lisa Rendall. The popular former Saskatoon radio personality lost her battle with cancer.

Lisa was a dedicated warrior in the fight against breast cancer. She was an engaging speaker who brought audiences to laughter and tears as she told her compelling story of diagnosis and living with an incurable cancer.

Lisa fought a courageous and very public battle with cancer and inspired thousands of people by openly sharing her journey.

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak at the event where Lisa was named CTV Citizen of the Year. She touched us all that day as she was honoured with this award.

Lisa Rendall, through her tireless efforts was truly an inspiration to us all. Despite the challenges with her health, Lisa remained upbeat and showed us all what a difference a positive attitude can make in our lives.

Lisa's courage and volunteer spirit along with her fund raising initiatives for breast cancer research was astounding. Lisa has raised over 2.5 million dollars for Breast Cancer Research through her leadership with events such as the C95 Radio Marathon and the Lisa Rendall Golf Classic.

Along with my wife Trish, our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Lisa's husband Will, her family and many friends.

### CANADA WINS GOLD!

Team Canada, Skip, Jeff Stoughton, Third, John Hurlburt, Second, Reid Carruthers and Lead, Steve Gould defeated Team Scotland in the exciting gold-medal game of the world men's curling championship last Sunday.

Thousands of fans were treated to a fantastic week of great curling. The crowd embraced the spirit of the event and contributed to the excitement. Teams and guests from around the world



Team Canada Skip Jeff Stoughton, Ken

enjoying another wonderful “Saskatchewan” experience. As usual the more than five hundred volunteers showed their true Saskatchewan spirit and did an outstanding job hosting this world class event.

I had the honour of participating in the closing ceremonies, making a presentation to the silver medal team from Scotland.

## **SPRING IN SASKATCHEWAN**

It seems that spring has finally sprung across Saskatchewan. While we all welcome the return of warmer temperatures, the turn of the season also brings challenges. We received a record amount of snow last winter which is now beginning to melt, causing dugouts to fill up and creeks to overflow, flooding roads and fields. Our government began preparing for spring flooding by taking measures several months ago to minimize the potential damage to highways, roads and bridges across the province. Some of those measures include ordering extra equipment and supplies, such as water pumps, signage and barricades, stockpiling bridge replacement components, assembling emergency trailers throughout the province to respond to trouble spots and compiling a list of contractors and equipment in case we need extra help. On top of those precautions, we are currently clearing culverts, bridges and other drainage structures so they can handle this spring’s runoff. An aggressive surveillance program is also underway to flag trouble spots and provide immediate repairs where possible, as well as keeping the general public informed with the most up-to-date information through the Highway Hotline.

Before you head out on Saskatchewan roads, we are urging motorists to view the interactive highway conditions map online at <http://www.highways.gov.sk.ca/> or <http://roadinfo.telenium.ca/mobile.html> for hand-held devices. Motorists may also wish to call the Highway Hotline toll-free number at 1-888-335-7623 or \*ROAD on the SaskTel network.

Funding also continues to flow under the \$22 million Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program. Since the program was announced on February 22, there have been almost 600 requests for assistance through the program. Currently, engineering consultants are visiting communities to assist with initiatives such as constructing berms and diversions, clearing snow and ice from channels and culverts and sand bagging. Specific details about the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program are available at Saskatchewan Watershed Authority regional offices, and on the Authority's website at [www.swa.ca](http://www.swa.ca).



## **CONGRATULATIONS BLAINE LAKE – My Home Town**

The Blaine Lake Community Fund-Raising Organization received \$32,470 from the Community Vitality Program through the Community Initiatives Fund.

The Blaine Lake Skating Rink will receive energy-efficient lighting and Low-E Foil insulation which will lower the heating costs of the building.

The citizens and youth of the community will continue to enjoy the recreation this facility provides.

## **SENIORS RIDE FOR JUST \$10 IN MAY**

I encourage seniors 60+ to take advantage of a fantastic opportunity for the month of May to ride anywhere within the Saskatchewan Transportation Company's (STC) network for only \$10 one-way. I agree with the Minister responsible for STC Jim Reiter when he said, "This is a tremendous opportunity for seniors to experience the excellent service of STC while travelling our beautiful province for a very low cost."

STC reaches 290 communities with passenger and freight services. The extensive coverage STC provides affords Saskatchewan seniors province-wide access to this offer.

My Mom, Lucy Cheveldayoff has enjoyed riding the bus many times. She always commented on the friendliness and comfort of STC bus travel.

STC offered a similar promotion for seniors in both May and September of 2010. More than 20,000 seniors took part in the sale during the two months.

"This offer builds on the momentum of last year's promotions," Reiter said. "It is a way of reaching out to one of our major customer bases to promote the positive experience of bus travel."

Transport Canada reports bus travel as having the lowest social cost (air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, road congestion and accidents) per kilometer than any other form of transportation.

[Read more . . .](#)

## **CASINO REGINA FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT NORTH CENTRAL FAMILY CENTRE**



Twylla Meredith, President & CEO, Ken, Sandy Wankel, Director of the North Central Family Centre

I had the opportunity to participate in the announcement of a very special fundraiser that is coming to Casino Regina Show Lounge on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

This special event, "The Casino Regina Charity Royale" will raise funds in support of the North Central Family Centre. The most exciting component of the event is that all proceeds will benefit children and assist this non-profit charitable organization funds to deliver recreational, social and cultural activities to create a better community.

North Central Family Centre has a very positive impact in their community, addressing very real needs on a daily basis.

[Read more . . .](#)

## **I AM PLEASED TO SHARE SOME OF THE FOLLOWING LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS IN OUR PROVINCE:**

- Our population is now at an all time high, making Saskatchewan the second-fastest growing province in Canada. 1,052,050. It has grown by 15,078 people in the past year, making Saskatchewan the second-fastest growing province in Canada (+1.45 per cent). The province's population has now increased for 19 consecutive quarters, and in the past four years, Saskatchewan has grown by almost 60,000 people – the fastest and most sustained period of population growth in decades.
- There were employment increases in construction, transportation, warehousing and utilities, finance, insurance and real estate, services and public administration. We are seeing the second-highest level of employment on record for the month of March
- Saskatchewan's unemployment rate (seasonally-unadjusted) now stands at 5.7 per cent, the lowest rate in Canada (tied with Alberta and Manitoba) and well below the national rate of 8.2 percent.
- In March 2011, housing starts in Saskatchewan's urban centres were up by 57 per cent, compared to March 2010 (ranked second among the provinces in terms of percentage change). There were decreases in five provinces in this period, and the national average was up by 2 per cent. Multiple units (condos, apartments, etc.) were up by 219 per cent (from 26 units to 83 units), and single-family dwellings increased by 28 per cent (from 148 units to 190 units). In the same period, housing starts in Regina were down by 19 per cent, and up 144 per cent in Saskatoon.

## **THANK YOU!**

for



Thank you to Jack Brodsky and the entire coaching staff and Blades team once again providing their fans with outstanding entertainment throughout their season. Their display of sportsmanship and effort makes us all very proud.

winning

Not only do the Blades provide entertainment, their community involvement continues to be a major focus of the club. As owner Jack Brodsky said, "While on the ice is always our primary goal, we want our players and staff to understand the importance of being out in the community. We have such a great opportunity to make a difference in our city. We also see the community work as a great development opportunity for our players."

We look forward to great season next year!

## **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

"When we recall the past, we usually find that it is the simplest things, not the great occasions that in retrospect give off the greatest glow of happiness." Bob Hope

## **JUST THE HEADLINES – [www.gov.sk.ca/news](http://www.gov.sk.ca/news)**

Apr. 15, 2011 - [NEW LAW GOVERNING TICKET SALES TAKES EFFECT JUNE 1](#)

Apr. 15, 2011 - [CONSULTATIONS TO BEGIN ON TWO PROPOSED PROVINCIAL PARKS](#)

Apr. 14, 2011 - [YEAR OF THE ENTREPRENEUR PROCLAIMED IN SASKATCHEWAN](#)

Apr. 14, 2011 - [APRIL LAND SALE TOPS \\$100 MILLION](#)  
Apr. 13, 2011 - [MAIN STREET SASKATCHEWAN PROMOTES DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION ACROSS THE PROVINCE](#)  
Apr. 12, 2011 - [SGI WEATHERS STORMS OF 2010](#)  
Apr. 12, 2011 - [FIRST-EVER HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WOMEN BUILD UNDERWAY IN REGINA](#)  
Apr. 12, 2011 - [PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELLS AT RISK FOR CONTAMINATION DUE TO SPRING RUNOFF](#)  
Apr. 12, 2011 - [\\$100,000 IN INCREASED FUNDING FOR SOURCE WATER PROTECTION](#)  
Apr. 11, 2011 - [PROVINCE PROCLAIMS EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK](#)

## **DID YOU KNOW ? ? ?**

- 82% of Saskatchewan citizens live within the boundaries of urban governments.
- Saskatchewan has the lowest unemployment rate in the country at 5.3% and below the national average of 7.7%.
- 30% of Saskatchewan businesses plan to increase full-time employment in the next 3-4 months (20% nationally) and only 4% plan to decrease (11% nationally).

## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

I appreciate the many opportunities to make a positive difference in my constituency. Your phone calls, letters and emails make a big difference in keeping me informed on the issues that matter to you. If you would like to recognize anyone or have your event mentioned in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to call me.



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***“From a Provincial Point of View”*** is a weekly message from Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs. Your opinions are important and your letters, emails and phone calls on any issues relating to the provincial government are welcomed. Contact Ken by calling (306) 651-7100, emailing [ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net](mailto:ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net) or writing Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs, 1106A Central Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7N 2H1. **To subscribe or be removed from this newsletter, please send an email message.** This newsletter is produced with the assistance of the Saskatchewan Party Caucus Office.