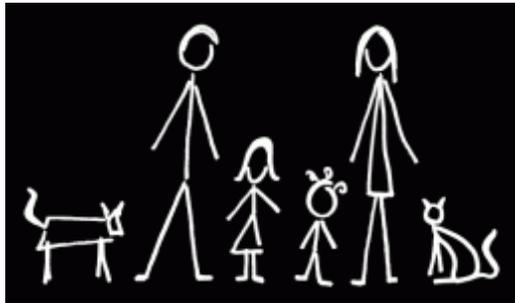




Provincial Point of View February 15, 2013

HAPPY FAMILY DAY!



"When you look at your life, the greatest happinesses, are family happinesses."

Joyce Brothers

SASKATCHEWAN REMAINS ON TRACK FOR BALANCED BUDGET

Saskatchewan has maintained its enviable position through the first three quarters of this fiscal year, remaining the only province in Canada on track for a balanced budget.

The government's Third Quarter Financial Report, released today, projects the province will finish 2012-13 with a pre-transfer surplus of \$8.8 million in its General Revenue Fund (GRF).

"Given the current world economy, preserving a balanced budget is challenging," Finance Minister Ken Krawetz said. "While Saskatchewan's economy is strong, resource revenue is down because of falling prices. This decline is offset somewhat by record investment and revenue from a growing tax base, which has expanded thanks to higher employment and population growth."

GRF expense is now projected to finish the year at \$11.39 billion – up \$190.4 million or 1.7 per cent from budget, largely due to higher than expected usage of certain government services and

unforeseen weather events, like flooding.

[Saskatchewan Remains On Track for Balanced Budget](#)

MULTI-MATERIAL RECYCLING PROGRAM AIMED AT REDUCING LANDFILL HOUSEHOLD WASTE BY 40 PER CENT

With the approval of the Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations, our government has set the foundation for a province-wide multi-material recycling program. The MMRP will provide the framework to fund the collection and recycling of household materials including printed paper, newsprint, cardboard, plastic, metal and glass packaging in the province. With the regulations now in place, Multi-Material Stewardship Western Inc. (MMSW), representing industry, will work with municipalities and other stakeholders to develop the recycling program. MMSW is similar to those organizations that have been developed for waste paint, used oil, scrap tires and e-waste. Industry has the legal responsibility under the regulations to manage and fund the MMRP.

As noted in my quote in the News Release issued by the Ministry of Environment February 11, “As Saskatchewan communities continue to grow, reducing the amount of waste going to local landfills will help us maintain the quality of life we enjoy in the province. It is estimated that more than 40 per cent of the household waste going to landfills today can be diverted into recycled products, improving our environment while creating new business and employment opportunities. That amount is equivalent to about 112,000 tonnes or 52,700 pick-up trucks.”

[Multi-Material Recycling Program Aimed at Reducing Landfill Household Waste by 40 Per Cent](#)

SASKATCHEWAN CELEBRATES TEACHER AND STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

In recognition of Saskatchewan teachers and support staff, Education Minister Russ Marchuk announced Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week on Monday, February 11.

“We have phenomenal teachers working here in Saskatchewan. I have seen great things happening in classrooms across the province and heard impressive stories about teachers who really are making a difference in the lives of students,” Marchuk said. “We need to take opportunities like Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week to highlight and thank our teachers and support staff for their hard work and dedication. They all play integral roles in the success of our students.”

Thank you to all of our teachers and support staff we appreciate the commitment you have shown

toward helping our children grow in all facets of their lives.

[Saskatchewan Celebrates Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week](#)

11TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL RADIOTHON A GREAT SUCCESS



\$505,826 was raised during another successful Children's Hospital Radiothon! Once again, Saskatchewan volunteerism and generosity was evident throughout the radiothon. A very special thank you to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause through volunteering or donating to funds that will go to child-friendly health care such as equipment, research, and education.

HOUSING STARTS IN 2012 STRONGEST IN FOUR DECADES

Saskatchewan's construction sector was busy in 2012, recording the highest number of housing starts since the 1970s. According to the latest Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) report, urban and rural housing starts in the province totaled 9,968 units.

"With the strength of our economy and a surge in our population, 2012 is going down as one of our strongest years for housing starts in decades," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "With this pace of economic growth, Saskatchewan can expect to see an increased demand for housing and a buoyant construction sector creating jobs and continued prosperity."

[Housing Starts in 2012 Strongest in Four Decades](#)

SASKATCHEWAN ADVANTAGE SCHOLARSHIP TO SUPPORT MORE THAN 8,000 SASKATCHEWAN STUDENTS

Thousands of Saskatchewan students are benefiting from the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship.

“To date we have helped 4,475 students with their post-secondary education by providing over \$2.2 million in scholarships,” Advanced Education Minister Don Morgan said. “By the end of this fiscal year, we are expecting that more than 8,000 students will receive the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship at a value of over \$4 million.”

[Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship to Support More Than 8,000 Saskatchewan Students](#)

WATER SECURITY AGENCY RELEASES FEBRUARY RUNOFF FORECAST

On February 12, the Water Security Agency released the February forecast and first outlook of the spring runoff and with the snowfall received this winter, an above normal runoff is expected.

As Minister responsible for the Water Security Agency, I noted in the news release , "The spring runoff is impacted by a variety of factors like moisture conditions in the fall, snow accumulation in the winter as well as the rate of melt and amount of rainfall in the spring. The Water Security Agency is paying close attention to these factors and will assess the situation as we approach spring.”

[Water Security Agency Releases February Runoff Forecast](#)

SASKATCHEWAN BUSINESS MAGAZINE'S 2013 WOMEN OF INFLUENCE

Recognized in Saskatchewan Business Magazine this month were Saskatchewan's "Women of Influence". This is the 12th year that Saskatchewan Business Magazine has recognized the women in our community that have shown great leadership.

Congratulations to Tracy Arno, Peggy Koenig, Bev Johnson, Corrina Mitchell-Beaudin, Penney Murphy, Vicki Newmeyer, Barb Laing, Daphne Taras, Laura Soparlo, and my wife, Trish Cheveldayoff. All of these women have had a positive impact in our communities.

I encourage you to purchase the January/February 2013 edition of the Saskatchewan Business Magazine and read more about how each of these women have influenced our community.

SASKJOBS NETS MORE THAN 1 MILLION VISITS IN JANUARY

Saskjobs.ca started the year strong with 1,098,651 visits to the website in January 2013, up 17.96 per cent over January 2012.

“New and exciting employment opportunities are available each and every day throughout this growing province,” Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. “Saskjobs continues to be the foremost portal for connecting job seekers to employers in Saskatchewan.”

[Saskjobs Nets More Than 1 Million Visits in January](#)

WANUSKEWIN WINTER CELEBRATION



On February 16, beginning at 1:00 pm, Wanuskewin Heritage Park is hosting a free event called the Winter Celebration. Wanuskewin is welcoming you to share in First Nations storytelling with your family. They also offer snowshoeing, kids crafts, beading workshops, as well as access to the art galleries and hiking trails free of charge.

The Winter Celebration at Wanuskewin Heritage park would be a great way to celebrate the Family Day weekend.

CELEBRATE MUSIC WITH RAJATON

RAJATON



On March 6, the Saskatchewan Choral Federation presents Finnish sensation, Rajaton. The group has released 13 albums including platinum, triple platinum, and Top World/Folk Album award winners.

The name Rajaton, translates to "boundless" - a word that accurately describes the way that this six-voice ensemble approaches music. Rajaton exposes audiences to the kind of diversity of repertoire, singing style, and stage presentation that has made them a phenomenon on the world stage.

The concert will take place at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Rd. beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$35 for students and are available at McNally Robinson, the University of Saskatchewan Bookstore, and online at www.saskchoral.ca. I hope you will be able to share in this celebration of unique music.

DID YOU KNOW THESE FACTS ABOUT THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY?

- Approximately 7,000,000,000L of fuel are purchased yearly for trucking purposes.
- One truck and trailer raises up to \$55,000 a year in provincial taxes and fees.
- Trucking is one of the top jobs in Canada, with over 227,000 truckers in the country.
- The trucking industry in Saskatchewan brings in \$300 million in gross profit a year.

- Over 200,000 trucks cross the boarder from Saskatchewan into the United States every year.
- Saskatchewan exports \$5.35 billion to the United States.
- Saskatchewan imports \$6.38 billion from the United States

JUST THE LINKS

- February 11, 2013 - [Record Funding and Coverage for the 2013 Crop Insurance Program](#)
- February 11, 2013 - [Global Transportation Hub New Home to Recycler](#)
- February 13, 2013 - [Saskatchewan Communities Benefit From \\$1.2 Million in Gaming Grants](#)
- February 14, 2013 - [Saskatchewan Agri-Food Exports Continue to Lead the Nation](#)
- February 14, 2013 - [Royal Saskatchewan Museum to Operate T.Rex Discovery Centre](#)
- February 15, 2013 - [Government of Saskatchewan Proclaims Heritage Week in Our Province](#)
- February 15, 2013 - [Province Sees Record Manufacturing Shipments in December](#)
- February 15, 2013 - [New Commissioners for Oaths Act, 2012 and Regulations](#)
- February 15, 2013 - [Saskatchewan Transportation Company \(STC\) Implementing Route Adjustments](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

2013 Speedo Western Canadian Swimming Championship

Date: February 14 to February 17

Where: Shaw Centre

Time: Visit [Swimming Canada](#) for event schedule

Wounded Warriors Presents "The Heart of Country" Fundraiser Concert

Date: February 15

When: 8:00 pm

Where: Broadway Theater

<http://www.picatic.com/theheartofcountry>

Cameco Family Day Skating Party

Date: February 18

When: All Day

Where: Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink at PotashCorp Plaza

Saskatoon Blue Jays Baseball Open House for Ages 5 to 10

Date: February 24

When: 1:15 pm to 4:15 pm

Where: SaskTel Sports Centre

Must register online. For registration click [here](#)

Saskatoon Blues Festival

Date: February 25 to March 3

When: Various times

Where: Various Venues

For a full schedule of events please visit www.saskatoonbluessociety.ca

WUHCA Soccer and Softball Registration

Date: February 28

When: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Where: Centennial Collegiate

Saskatoon Sports and Leisure Show

Date: February 28 to March 3

When: February 28th - 6:00pm - 10:00pm, March 1st - 12:00pm - 9:00pm, March 2nd - 10:00am - 9:00pm, March 3rd - 10:00am - 5:00pm

Where: Prairieland Park

EACCA Spring Registration

Date: March 4

When: 7:00 pm

Where: Dr. John G. Egnatoff School

Registration for Kindersport, Soccer, Softball, and Tennis

Rajaton & Friends in Concert

Date: March 6

When: 7:30 pm

Where: Cathedral of the Holy Family

Tickets are \$45 for adults and \$35 for students, available at McNally Robinson, U of S Bookstore, or online at www.saskchoral.ca

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

" When a true genius appears in the world you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him."

Jonathan Swift

[friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

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 me to recognize anyone or have your event mentioned in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

"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.

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