

Provincial Point of View April 17, 2014



Happy Easter!

Trish, Carter, Paige and I wish you and yours a very Happy Easter.



Happy Passover!

Trish, Carter, Paige and I also wish the Jewish community best wishes during this special time of Passover.

SASKATCHEWAN VOLUNTEER MEDALS PRESENTED

The Honourable Brad Wall was honoured to assist Lieutenant Governor Vaughn Solomon Schofield present Saskatchewan Volunteer medals to nine very deserving recipients. The Premier thanked the individuals for their great examples of Saskatchewan service and leadership.

Saskatchewan Volunteer Medals Presented Today

PROVINCIAL EDUCATION SECTOR STRATEGIC PLAN ANNOUNCED

Education Minister Don Morgan, along with Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) President Janet Foord, announced the historic Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) at the SSBA Spring Assembly. The ESSP is the first ever province-wide plan to be developed in cooperation with all education sector partners, approved by the 28 school boards and accepted by the Government of Saskatchewan.

"This is an exciting time for the education sector and I look forward to moving ahead with all

school boards on a unified approach to education in Saskatchewan," Morgan said. "This sector plan is the first of its kind in Saskatchewan, it aligns our province's shared goals while still recognizing local priorities and was designed to put the student first."

Provincial Education Sector Strategic Plan Announced

BUST A MOVE FOR BREAST HEALTH RAISES NEARLY \$200,000!





Congratulations to event chair Penney Murphy, the sponsors, organizers and participants of the first ever "Bust a Move" (BAM) held in Saskatoon this past weekend. The event has been held in other markets across Canada, but this was a first for Saskatoon and for Saskatchewan.

Bust a Move for Breast Health is a community fundraiser celebrating positive advancements for breast health. Participants signed up as singles or with a team and committed to raising funds and celebrate their accomplishments on event day which was held at the Saskatoon Field House on Saturday, April 12.

I am very proud of my wife Trish who served as an ambassador for Bust a Move. She personally raised over \$1,100. As many of you know, Trish is a breast cancer survivor and appreciates the opportunity to learn more about breast health as well as help others learn from her experience. Trish and many of the over 200 people attending got a chance to take part in six sessions throughout the day such as Zumba, belly dancing, yoga and a number of other aerobic activities. Massage Therapists were on site and many were treated to free manicures. The event encouraged people of all ages to come out and participate.

Bust a Move was a joint effort of the Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation and the Royal University Hospital Foundation. All proceeds raised will go toward the Breast Health Centre at Saskatoon City Hospital and to fund molecular imaging research to advance cancer care for patients at the

Royal University Hospital.Celebrity guests,

Hal Johnson and Joanne McLeod from television's Body Break were at the event.

Once again, "Saskatoon Shines" at this first and hopefully annual event!

PREMIER BRAD WALL WELCOMING NEW CANADIANS



As Canadians we are free to speak without fear, worship in our own way, oppose what we feel is wrong and choose who should govern us. These freedoms, which we often take for granted, were put in perspective recently as 47 people from 22 countries gathered at the Legislative Building in Regina. Premier Brad Wall was honoured to be present at the ceremony as they took the oath of citizenship, officially becoming Canadian citizens. These 47 people, now Canadians, can now claim all of these freedoms for themselves.

The ceremony gives us an understanding of what it might be like to learn a new language and culture. It was also an opportunity to see our country through the eyes of our grandparents, great grandparents and all others who came before us – a valuable experience for those born and raised here as we can sometimes lose touch with what it truly means to be Canadian.

With smiles on their faces and our national and provincial flags in their hands, our newest citizens took great pride pledging the oath of citizenship to our country, reminding us that our

greatest resource has always been our people and that our greatest currency will always be our freedom. With that freedom comes opportunity and, in Saskatchewan, there are many examples of how that opportunity continues to be realized each and every day.

It is encouraging to see newcomers to our country choose to build a better life in Saskatchewan. Their hope, optimism and hard work plays a vital role in maintaining our energy, building on our momentum, growing our population, our economy and, at the end of each day, leaving our province just a little bit better off than it was the day before.

SGI REMINDS SASKATCHEWAN RESIDENTS TRAFFIC SAFETY LAWS ARE CHANGING

The laws around impaired driving are getting a lot tougher in Saskatchewan beginning June 27, 2014. Instead of the current 30 day licence suspension, new drivers caught driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol will face a 60 day licence suspension and will have their vehicle seized for three days. That is just for a first offence – penalties increase based on the number of offences. Experienced drivers will also face longer licence suspensions and vehicle seizures.

These are some of the many changes resulting from recommendations made by the Special Committee on Traffic Safety. The committee was formed by government last year to address the high rate of injuries and fatalities on Saskatchewan's roads.

"Harsher penalties are aimed at deterring the unsafe choices some Saskatchewan drivers are making," Minister responsible for SGI Donna Harpauer said. "We want drivers to think twice before making a bad decision, like getting behind the wheel after drinking or texting while driving."

SGI Reminds Saskatchewan Residents Traffic Safety Laws are Changing

EARTH DAY - APRIL 22



Celebrated every year on April 22, Earth Day is the largest environmental event in the world. More than six million Canadians participate in an Earth Day activity in their communities.

It's the time of year every one of us makes a special effort to help the environment. A time to think about your household waste practices and energy use. A time to choose to live more sustainable lives. And a time to do something about climate change.

In support of Earth Day, the Saskatchewan Environmental Society and other community partners have organized a celebration. It will take place on April 22, at the Saskatoon Farmers' Market from 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm.

Food will be available from market vendors, while local volunteers and businesses will be organizing a number of activities.

All-ages activities will be held from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm, including ecocrafts and facepainting. Weather permitting, there will be an outdoor portion including a nature walk, yoga, hula hooping, and drumming.

The evening will be topped off with a concert featuring local musicians from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

For more information visit: www.saskatoon.ca

DISABILITY STRATEGY'S CITIZEN TEAM TO HOST PROVINCE-WIDE PUBLIC FORUMS

Members, friends, caregivers, supporters and families of the disability community, along with the general public, will soon be able to attend a Saskatchewan Disability Strategy forum near their

community. Public forums begin April 28 in Swift Current, and will take place province-wide until May 29.

"As set forth in the Plan for Growth, we are committed to making Saskatchewan the best place in Canada for persons with disabilities to live," Social Services Minister June Draude said. "These public forums will provide all Saskatchewan people the opportunity to play a vital role in shaping Saskatchewan's Disability Strategy."

Disability Strategy's Citizen Team to Host Province-Wide Public Forums

GOVERNMENT FUNDING SUPPORTS HOUSING AND SHELTER SERVICES BY THE LIGHTHOUSE IN SASKATOON



The Government of Saskatchewan is providing funding to support two initiatives by The Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. (Lighthouse) in Saskatoon. Lighthouse will be renovating existing supported living units, as well as developing an innovative shelter designed for homeless residents in the city.

Lighthouse operates the Dubé Lighthouse facility, which houses supported living units for some of the most vulnerable citizens in the community, including the working poor, people with physical or intellectual disabilities, and people with addictions. Part of the funding will be used to renovate 59 of these existing units that provide housing to close to 70 individuals.

The other part of the funding will be used to support an innovative emergency shelter and wellness centre. This shelter will provide an alternative shelter option for individuals not able to access other shelter services because they are intoxicated.

"We are pleased to work with the Lighthouse to ensure vulnerable individuals are safe," Social Services Minister and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Housing Corporation June Draude said. "We believe this shelter will take pressure off of existing detox facilities, hospitals and police cells, while keeping people safe, especially in our brutally cold winters. Our government is pleased to support Lighthouse in these two initiatives."

Government Funding Supports Housing and Shelter Services by the Lighthouse in Saskatoon

EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK IN SASKATCHEWAN

On April 14, Government Relations Minister Jim Reiter officially proclaimed April 13 to 19 as Emergency Telecommunicators Week in Saskatchewan to celebrate the people working on the front lines of telecommunications emergency dispatching.

"I am pleased to honour the vital work done by dispatchers across the province working with police, fire and Emergency Medical Services," Reiter said. "They represent the first point of contact when a citizen dials 9-1-1 and are often the first person we turn to when we call for help. As our province continues to grow, and with more people choosing to call Saskatchewan home, our emergency dispatchers continue to be a critical life-line for aid and assistance."

Emergency Telecommunications Week in Saskatchewan

FEBRUARY MANUFACTURING SALES NEARLY FOUR TIMES THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

Saskatchewan's manufacturers had a successful February, according to the latest report from Statistics Canada. The province saw a 12.8 per cent increase in sales over February 2013, totalling \$1.37 billion. This was the second highest year-over-year growth rate among the provinces (seasonally adjusted) and nearly quadruples the national average of 3.3 per cent.

"It says a lot about the state of the Saskatchewan economy when so many of our primary sectors are experiencing gains in the early part of 2014," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "Manufacturing is one of the key revenue generators in this province and when this sector expands, we all benefit."

February Manufacturing Sales Nearly Four Times the National Average

DID YOU KNOW...

- ... The Easter Bunny as a holiday deliverer of candy and eggs is thought to have started in Germany during the Middle Ages.
- ... Each year, candy manufacturers produce more than 90 million chocolate Easter bunnies for Easter.
- ... PARENTS! 75% of children are willing to do more chores in return for more Easter candy.
- ... Eggs were first exchanged long ago as a symbol of rebirth as a springtime custom.

JUST THE LINKS

April 16, 2014 - Crowns Meet the Challenges of Growth

April 16, 2014 - Government Invests in Career Development Opportunities for Youth

April 16, 2014 - Record First Quarter for Non-Residential Construction

April 16, 2014 - Funding Renewed for Grain Bag Recycling Program

April 15, 2014 - Record Customer Growth and Increased System Integrity Spending Highlight

SaskEnergy 2013 Annual Report

April 15, 2014 - RM Roads, Bridges Get \$25.5 Million Boost

April 15, 2014 - Applications Open for Francophone Community Infrastructure Funding

April 15, 2014 - Request for Nominations for the 2014 Council of the Federation Literacy Award

April 14, 2014 - 2013 Brought Record Investment, Demand for SaskPower

April 14, 2014 - Personal Care Home Inspection Results Now Available Online

April 14, 2014 - Environment Ministry Improves Wildlife Management Zone Boundaries

COMING EVENTS

Draggins Rod & Custom Car Show

Date: April 18 - 19

Where: Prairieland Park When: 10 am to 10 pm

Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra - Book Sale

Date: April 24 - May 3

Where: 408 20th Street West

When: View Here

Coffee with City Councillor Zach Jeffries

Date: April 26

Where: Starbucks in Safeway (McOrmond Drive)

When: 10 am - 12 pm

The Man Show

Date: April 25 - 27

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 4 pm - 10 pm; 11 am - 9 pm; 11 am - 5 pm

Silverspring Community Association Meeting

Date: April 29

Where: Silverspring School

When: 8 pm

Teen Aid - Love Waits Fundraiser and Silent Auction

Date: May 4

Where: St. Anne's Parish Hall

When: 5 pm

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"I have been impressed with the urgency of doing.

Knowing is not enough; we must apply.

Being willing is not enough; we must do."

~ Leonardo da Vinci

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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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