

Check out what's happening in Saskatoon Willowgrove and throughout the Province!



Provincial Point of View

December 31, 2016
Happy New Year!

BEST WISHES FOR A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!



SASKATOON KICKS OFF CANADA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY -
LOTS OF FAMILY FUN!

Saskatoon celebrates **CANADA 150**

Celebrations to bring in the New Year begin today! An outdoor winter party is being held to kick-start celebrations of this special year that will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation across Canada. There are several free festivities in downtown Saskatoon today! Experience this epic moment in history and join together to launch the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Confederation. In Saskatoon, there are several activities planned for your families including:

- a skating party at the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink - nothing conjures up more nostalgic childhood memories than outdoor skating. Noon - midnight!



- Jump on sleigh rides as they cruise up and down Spadina Crescent
- Visit the Inuksuk Park and build your own inuksuk with ice
- Create a special maple leaf candle for Canada's giant snow birthday cake
- Sleigh rides - if you're looking for a memorable way to enjoy the magic of winter, take a relaxing sleigh ride! 5 - 8 pm



- **Warm up by the Canada 150 bonfire or at various other warming stations with photo booths**
- **First Nations story-telling and a wishing tree where people can express wishes for Canada's future on a red ribbon**
- **Music and culture performances on the outdoor main stage will host various entertainers/ cultural performances. Don't miss it! 5 - 7:30 pm.**
- **Fireworks at exactly 2017 hours today (8:17 pm) - a pyrotechnics show like never before will be launched from the Broadway Bridge. Turn up the volume on your transistor radio to enjoy music on radio News Talk 650.**



- **Craft something special at the Remai Modern Art Caravan in the Delta Bessborough Hotel Lobby**
- **Grab a complimentary cup of coffee or hot chocolate from Tims Coffee Truck**
- **Visit the food trucks and downtown businesses for a special treat**
- **So much to do check it out and enjoy ringing in 2017!!**

Getting there: Saskatoon transit is providing free bus service throughout Saskatoon starting at 5 pm (courtesy of SGI). Read the City of Saskatoon news release [here](#).

**LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC 2017 IN THIS GREAT CITY
OF SASKATOON!**



**SASKATCHEWAN TAXPAYERS WILL SAVE \$9.0 MILLION
THROUGH INDEXATION IN 2017**






Saskatchewan income tax brackets and tax credit amounts will once again be indexed in 2017, saving taxpayers an estimated \$9.0 million. The level of indexation in 2017 will be 1.4 per cent, matching the national rate of inflation.

“Indexation helps keep taxes in Saskatchewan low by protecting Saskatchewan people from ‘bracket creep’,” Finance Minister Kevin Doherty said. “Our government is committed to keeping Saskatchewan’s tax system fair and competitive, and yearly indexation is part of an array of measures aimed at accomplishing just that.”

Click [here](#) to read the entire news release.

[NEW IMPAIRED DRIVING LAWS TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 1](#)

Zero tolerance for alcohol and drugs		
	New law	Zero tolerance for alcohol or drugs for drivers 21 and under and for all new drivers ¹ (60-day licence suspension on 1st offence still applies)
	Current law	Zero tolerance for drivers under the age of 19 and all new drivers ¹ (60-day licence suspension on 1st offence)
Vehicle seizures for .04-.08 blood alcohol content (BAC) offences		
	New law	3-day vehicle seizure for experienced drivers with .04-.08 BAC on a first offence
	Current law	No vehicle seizure for experienced drivers with .04-.08 BAC on a first offence
Ignition interlock duration		
	Current law	<p>.08 BAC and above, impaired or refuse breath sample</p> <p>1st offence – 1 year</p> <p>2nd offence – 2 years</p> <p>3rd and subsequent offences – 5 years</p>
	New law	<p>.08 - .159 BAC or impaired</p> <p>1st offence – 1 year</p> <p>2nd offence – 3 years</p> <p>3rd and subsequent offences – 10 years</p> <p>.16 BAC or greater and refuse breath sample</p> <p>1st offence – 2 years</p> <p>2nd offence – 5 years</p> <p>3rd and subsequent offences – 10 years</p>
		<p>New drivers¹ and drivers under 19 – Zero BAC</p> <p>3rd offence – voluntary ignition interlock for 365 days, after 90-day suspension</p>
		<p>New drivers¹ and drivers 21 and under – Zero BAC</p> <p>3rd offence – mandatory ignition interlock for 365 days, after 365-day suspension</p>

Cellphone Law Also Changing

SGI is reminding Saskatchewan residents that impaired driving laws are changing in the new year. Tougher legislation was passed earlier this fall, with strengthened laws taking effect January 1, 2017.

“These changes reinforce that driving when you’ve been drinking is the wrong decision,” Minister responsible for SGI Joe Hargrave said. “Tougher consequences around vehicle seizures, licence suspensions and mandatory ignition interlock drive home the point that you risk not only your life but the lives of everyone else on the road when you choose to drive impaired. Don’t risk it. Make a New Year’s resolution to plan a sober ride – every time – so you and others get home safely.”

Changes build on laws implemented in 2014 to strengthen impaired driving legislation in

Saskatchewan.

Please read about changes starting January 1 [here](#).

GET HOME SAFE CARDS



Get Home Safe Cards - Bonny and Craig Stevenson thank to everyone who has helped get these cards into pubs/lounges/restaurants. Below is a list of places who are displaying these cards. Please be safe! If you can afford to drink you can afford a safe ride home! Congress Beer House,
Montana's on McOrmond,
Rock Creek Tap and Grill - Willowgrove,
Chili's Texas... Grill,
Milestones Grill and Bar,
Tony Roma's - both locations,
Bell'n Whistle Bar and Bistro,

Piggy's Pub & Grill,
Snooker Shack Billiard Room,
Saboroso Brazilian Steak House,
Hudson's Canada's Pub,
Winston's English Pub & Grill,
The Hose and Hydrant,
The Red Zone Premium Sports Bar, [#prayforquinn](#) [#sgi](#) [#madd](#)

FITNESS CONTRACTS CAN BE EXPENSIVE



New Year's resolutions are just around the corner and that means it's a popular time to sign up for gym memberships and work off all those holiday calories. Too often, consumers run into trouble by not asking the right questions before signing up for a gym membership.

The Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority (FCAA) sees a number of common complaints about gym memberships every year. These complaints are usually related to misunderstandings about what is included in the membership package, cancellation processes if programs or instructors change, and unexpected fees for ad hoc programs or services.

Consumers also have a right to cancel their contract within seven days of receiving a paper copy and they may also cancel if they get too sick or move more than 30 km away from the gym.

Fitness contracts are regulated under the Personal Development Services Contracts regulations of The Consumer Protection and Business Practices Act. Consumers unable to resolve a dispute with their gym may be able to get help from the FCAA Consumer Protection Division.

Contact Consumer Protection Division: If you are having problems with your fitness contracts,

contact us toll free at 1-877-880-5550 or by email at consumerprotection@gov.sk.ca.

2017 CHRISTMAS TREE DROP-OFF LOCATIONS



Every year the City provides temporary drop-off sites for natural Christmas trees from December 26 to January 31. Residents are encouraged to recycle live Christmas trees at the following locations from December 26, 2016 to January 31, 2017:

- Primrose Drive Recycling Depot (next to Lawson Civic Centre)
- Lowe Road Recycling Depot (Attridge Drive & Lowe Road)
- Wildwood Golf Course parking lot (8th Street East)
- George Ward Pool parking lot (1915 5th Street East)
- Doukhobor Cultural Society of Saskatchewan parking lot (525 Avenue I South at 17th Street))
- Meadowgreen Recycling Depot (Witney Avenue & 22nd Street)

The City will not pick up Christmas trees from back lanes, street fronts, black garbage or blue recycling carts.

What you can do:

- Please drop off your trees at a drop-off site unwrapped and unbound.
- Remove all decorations, ornaments, and plastic bags before dropping off your tree.

- **Sell, donate or take your artificial tree to the Landfill.**

For more information about recycling and waste handling, visit www.saskatoon.ca/christmastree

JUST FOR FUN - ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO ...

- The average life expectancy for men was 47 years
- Fuel for cars was only sold in drug stores
- only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub
- only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone
- the maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph
- the five leading causes of death were Pneumonia and influenza, Tuberculosis, Diarrhea, Heart Attack and Stroke
- 2 out of every 10 adults could not read or write
- coffee was 15 cents a pound
- most women only washed their hair once a month. Borax or egg yolks were used for shampoo
- sugar cost 4 cents a pound

***CLICK HERE TO READ SEVERAL ADDITIONAL
GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES!***

THOUGHT OF THE DAY



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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 Willowgrove. 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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