

Check out What's happening in Saskatoon Silver Springs and throughout the Province!



Provincial Point of View

December 5

**A TRIBUTE TO ROGER PARENT
MLA, SASKATOON MEEWASIN**

REMEMBERING AND MOURNING THE LOSS OF COLLEAGUE ROGER PARENT



It was with profound sadness and heavy hearts family and friends gathered Monday, December 5th to pay their last respects to Roger Parent, MLA for Saskatoon Meewasin. Roger passed away at the University Hospital last week at the age of 63. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Roger's

family. Roger was a good friend and colleague and his sudden passing is a huge shock to all of us that knew him. Roger served on a number of boards and committees over the years and his passing is indeed a great loss to our community. He was a dedicated family man and a passionate public servant.

On the final day of the fall sitting of the Saskatchewan Legislature, all members of the Assembly came together to remember him. In honour of Roger, his chair was draped with the Saskatchewan flag and his desk was decorated with a beautiful photo of Roger and his wife Sheila. His political family will miss him and will remember his dedication to his city and our province.

Our deepest condolences, thoughts and prayers to Roger's family," Premier Brad Wall said. "This is a huge shock to all of us. Roger was here in the Assembly carrying out his duties throughout most of the fall session and only learned he had cancer in the past couple of weeks. "This is a sad day and sudden loss for all of us who knew Roger."

Parent was first elected in 2011 and was re-elected in the provincial election earlier this year. Prior to his election, Roger was involved in several community initiatives including the Saskatoon Homelessness Initiative Partnership, Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority-Aboriginal Economic Development Committee and the Saskatchewan Committee on Aboriginal Procurement, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan. Flags at the Saskatchewan Legislature were lowered to half-staff in honour of Roger Parent.

The Premier's full tribute to Roger is available at: <https://youtu.be/Y7e0tB7z92w>



**FALL SITTING OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SAW OUR
GOVERNMENT WORK TO KEEP SASKATCHEWAN STRONG**



*The final day of the fall session of the legislature, flags flew at half-mast in memory of
Roger Parent, MLA, Saskatoon Meewasin*

The fall sitting of the Legislative Assembly saw our government deliver on key commitments to keep Saskatchewan strong, including legislation to fight impaired driving, expand workers' compensation coverage to workers experiencing psychological injuries, and increasing compassionate care leave.

Effective January 1, 2017, changes to *The Traffic Safety Act* include:

- Adding a three-day vehicle seizure for experienced drivers who are charged for the first time with having a blood alcohol content (BAC) over .04;
- Applying zero tolerance for drugs and alcohol to drivers 21 and under; and
- Strengthening ignition interlock laws to be the most effective in Canada, by extending mandatory ignition interlock to drivers who register a BAC over .16 or refuse to provide a breath sample (first offence - two years; second offence - five years; third and subsequent offence - 10 years).

The Workers' Compensation Act has been changed to:

- Establish a rebuttal presumption for all forms of psychological injuries, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder to ensure that workers will not have to prove their injury happened in the workplace; and
- Make Saskatchewan the first province in Canada to enact legislation that covers other forms of psychological injury that workers experience as a result of being exposed to traumatic events or situations at work.

We made a commitment to update provincial compassionate care provisions for families. While nothing can truly ease the stress of caring for a gravely ill loved one, we believe the last thing families need to worry about is how it will impact their job.

The passage of *The Extension of Compassionate Care Act, 2016*, ensures that compassionate care for Saskatchewan families caring for ailing relatives is harmonized with recent changes to federal Employment Insurance benefits. We believe these changes provide that peace of mind.

Government kept other key campaign commitments, including:

- Passing *The Patient Choice Medical Imaging Act*, fulfilling the campaign commitment to reduce wait lists for CT scans by allowing patients to pay for private CT scans under the two-for-one system already in place for MRI services; and

- **Expanding private liquor retailing in Saskatchewan to give consumers more choice, more convenience and more competitive pricing through the selection of 49 private retailers through a Request for Proposals conducted by the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority and KPMG.**

The Assembly also passed a motion supporting Premier Wall's strong stance against the federal government's unilateral decision to impose a national carbon tax on Saskatchewan.

This sitting of the Legislative Assembly also saw the introduction of The Pipelines Amendment Act, 2016 to enhance regulatory oversight of the oil and gas industry. The new legislation creates a legal framework for phased-in licensing for more than 80,000 flowlines which are currently exempt under previous legislation. It also establishes new inspection, investigation and compliance audit powers for ministry staff while updating and modernizing penalties.

A new committee of government MLAs has also been created with a focus on reducing crime rates in Saskatchewan.

The Caucus Committee on Crime Reduction will consult with municipalities, police agencies and other organizations to determine what the major issues are and what can be done to better address each. Particular areas of concern are rising property crime rates in rural areas and an increase in guns, gang activity and highly addictive and dangerous drugs such as fentanyl.

This new committee will focus on causes and make recommendations on what the province and our partners, like municipalities and police forces, can do to reduce crime.

HOPE FOR MALAWI LUNCHEON



Kevin Waugh, MP, Saskatoon Grasswood, Peter & Elaine Zakreski, myself

Mark Twain once said that "kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." For this reason, kindness has the ability to transcend language, cultures and borders. Through acts of kindness, hard work and understanding, "HOPE FOR MALAWI" continues to make a difference in the lives of many.

I was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan at the 7th annual fundraising brunch Sunday, December 4th. It was great to see so many gather in support of Hope for Malawi. The presence of many was an indication that kind-hearted and compassionate spirit lives among the people of Saskatchewan.

Through the language of this kindness, this foundation founded by Peter and Elaine Zakreski has

helped make such a difference in Malawian communities. Whether this difference lay in support of new schooling opportunities, or the building of community infrastructure, the successes achieved through Hope for Malawi proves the power of many people's strength.

As our province continues to welcome new citizens from around the world, it's our generosity that helps spread the language of kindness within our borders and beyond. Saskatchewan's motto "from many peoples' strength" is extremely fitting for events such as this.

Thank you to Peter and Elaine for this wonderful initiative that has changed so many lives. Please click [here](#) to find out more about events in support of Malawi.

SASKATOON PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION



It was a pleasure to meet with the Saskatoon Professional Firefighters Association (SPFFA) last week at the legislature. Following some meetings with various Cabinet Ministers the firefighters hosted a reception at Hotel Saskatchewan.

NEW LANDFILL PROGRAM TO RECYCLE USED BIKES IN THE COMMUNITY



The City is partnering with Bridge City Bicycle Co-op to divert approximately 2,000 bicycles from the Landfill each year. Many of the bicycles brought to the Landfill are in poor condition and not recoverable; however, some of the bicycles are recoverable for either their parts or for complete refurbishment.

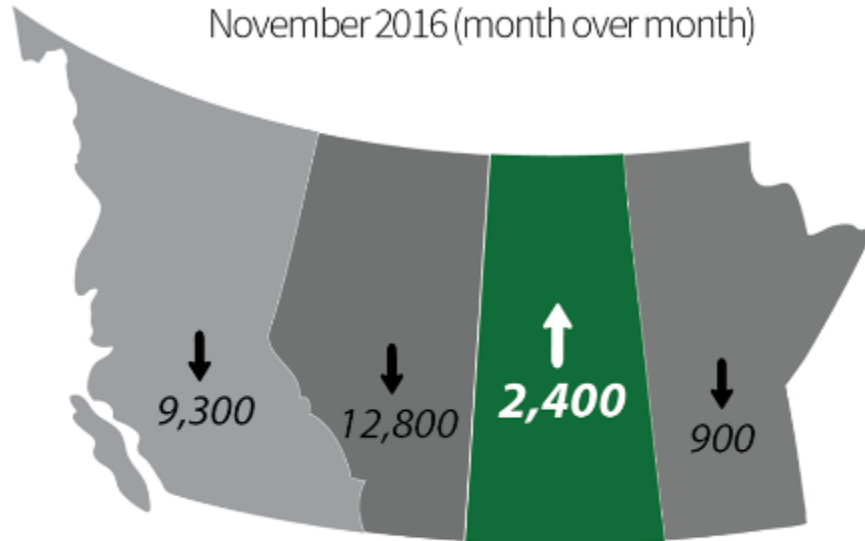
“The Co-op takes the bikes, they’re fixed and then gives them to people who need one,” says Russ Munro, Director of Water and Waste Stream. “It’s a great re-use of the material instead of it being scrapped.”

Read the City of Saskatoon news release [here](#).

2,400 NEW JOBS CREATED LAST MONTH

Western Canadian Job Growth

November 2016 (month over month)



2nd highest percentage increase in Canada

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, November 2016 (seasonally adjusted)

Saskatchewan

Premier Brad Wall, "Saskatchewan added 2,400 jobs since last month - the 2nd highest percentage increase in Canada. Thanks to you Saskatchewan, our economy continues to show signs of strength in a time of world resource price challenges."

"We are still seeing the impact of resource sector challenges on our labour market," Economy Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Over the last decade, 68,900 jobs were created in Saskatchewan which is a testament to the long-term strength of our economy."

Read the entire news release [here](#).

**SUPERIOR CABINETS WINS THE 2015 CME SASKATCHEWAN
MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR AWARD**



Andy Wolske, VP, Commercial Financial Services, RBC, The Hon. Don Morgan, Deputy Premier, Scott Hodson, President & CEO Superior Cabinets, Darryl Minty, Executive Director, Productivity & Innovation, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters and Rodelle Genoway, Director, Workforce Development, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

Congratulations to an outstanding business operating in Saskatoon! Superior Cabinets has been announced as the winner of the 2016 Canadian Manufacturing & Exporters (CME) Saskatchewan "Manufacturer of the Year" award. This award recognizes an outstanding Saskatchewan manufacturing company who has made invaluable contributions to innovation, leadership, export, and manufacturing practices. This award was presented to Scott Hodson, President and CEO of Superior Cabinets at the Minister's Manufacturing Dinner held in Regina, Saskatchewan. This event was in held in conjunction with Manufacturing Week (November 28th – December 2nd).

Superior Cabinets has been through a dramatic turnaround over the past 5 years. "To give you the magnitude of the turnaround of our company, the last time we produced 25 Kitchens per day was in 2008, which took 400 people and 16 weeks to get it installed into the house. Today it takes 250 people and we install it in 6 weeks guaranteed," said Scott Hodson, President and CEO of Superior Cabinets. "We are proud to manufacture our products in Saskatchewan, it's one of our biggest competitive advantages."

Click [here](#) to read more about Superior Cabinets and the many accolades they have earned.

**2017 CCMA AWARDS SHOW TICKETS ARE THE MUST-HAVE GIFT
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**



Tickets for Canadian country music's biggest night, the CCMA Awards Show, will be available just in time for the holiday season. The Canadian Country Music Association® (CCMA®) takes the 2017 CCMA Awards Show to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan this fall. Tickets for the nationally broadcast production, to be staged at SaskTel Centre on Sunday, September 10, go on sale Friday, December 9, at 10:00 a.m. CT.

Canada get ready for PotashCorp Country Music Week 2017! Saskatchewan has such amazing talent! **Jess Moskaluke**, [Amy Nelson](#), [Tenille Arts](#), [Alex Runions](#), [Chris Henderson](#), **Brody Siebert**, **Codie Prevost**, **Samara Yung**, **Colter Wall**, **The Dead South**, [Lisa Moen](#), [Elly Thorn](#), **Darlene Tuleta** and the list goes on and on! We can't forget those that paved the way, **Brad Johnner**, **Donny Parenteau**, **The Poverty Plainsmen**, **Melanie Laine** and so many more! Saskatoon and Saskatchewan is "Where Country Shines September 7th-10th, 2017!" Be part of the fun! Get your tickets for the amazing CCMA Awards Show on December 9th!

www.ticketmaster.ca. [Click here](#) for details

**CONGRATULATIONS - WILLOWGROVE SCHOOL RECEIVES
YOUTH IN PHILANTHROPY AWARD FOR WORK WITH
FRIENDSHIP INN!**



Photo by Dave Stobbe Photography

The contributions made by a group of Willowgrove School students and staff to the Friendship Inn have received special recognition.

Staff members Kristen Kobylak, Ryan Digneau and Katherine Luciuk, along with their students from the last two years, were recognized with a 2016 Youth in Philanthropy Award for their volunteer and donation efforts in support of the Friendship Inn.

The award, which was presented during Saskatoon's National Philanthropy Day celebration held Nov. 15, recognizes individuals or groups that demonstrate outstanding commitment in the area of volunteer time and/or fundraising in support of an organization.

Students in Grade 1 and their Grade 6 care partners worked together to contribute to the Friendship Inn and share in the experience of learning more about the community in which they live.

"The partnership proved to be the most committed, excited groups of kids to donate food and help out at the inn," according to the nomination from the Friendship Inn. "The positivity of the kids is contagious and brings joy to our guests and the openness to engage and learn about the community is amazing."

These staff members have created an amazing partnership with the Friendship Inn that has encouraged students to take on leadership roles in giving back to the community. This learning project further exemplifies our school's core values: citizenship, community, innovation, and excellence.

HIGHLY ENGAGED EMPLOYEES EARN INNOVATION PLACE BEST SMALL AND MEDIUM EMPLOYER DESIGNATION

Innovation Place has once again been recognized as a Best Small and Medium Employer in Canada by the 2017 Aon Best Employers Study. This is the eighth time in 12 years Innovation Place has received the designation.

Innovation Place was one of 28 companies to achieve Platinum Level Employer, the top designation. Innovation Place also received an impressive 87 per cent employee engagement score, the corporation's highest level of engagement to date. The average employee engagement score for Platinum Level Employers was 80 per cent.

Read the entire news release [here](#).

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www.readsaskatoon.com

***[CLICK HERE](#) TO READ SEVERAL ADDITIONAL
GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES!***

UPCOMING EVENTS

Be a Santa to Senior

When: Now!

Where: You can volunteer to wrap or deliver gifts at various times

Call Marina @ 306.931.4663 to volunteer yourself, your family, your team, neighbors, or employees or co-workers or click [here](#) for dates and times to volunteer



BHP Billiton Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour

When: November 19 - January 7

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park

Click [here](#) for details



10th Annual Jingle Bell Lunch

When: Thursday, December 8, 2016

Where: Saskatoon Travelodge

Student Tradeshow at 11:00AM

Meal & Program Begin at 11:45 AM

Information: www.picatic.com/JBLsaskatoon or by calling the JA office at 306.955.5267



Handel's Messiah - Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra

When: December 9, 7:30 pm

Where: Knox United Church, 838 Spadina Crescent E

Click [here](#) for information and tickets



The Mega Snow Christmas Show

When: December 10, 10 am - 5 pm

Where: Prairieland Park, 503 Ruth Street W

Click [here](#) for information



Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Featuring Minister of Finance, Kevin

Doherty

When: December 16

Where: Sheraton Cavalier Hotel

Click [here](#) for information or [here](#) to purchase tickets



Kayden Kot Steak Night Benefit

When: January 28, 5 - 8 pm

Where: the Thirsty Scholar, Grosvenor Park Centre, 2105 8 St E

**For tickets or information or to donate to the silent auction, please contact dkdube@sasktel.net
or smfortier@hotmail.com**



This spot is being held for your event! Please let us know if you have an event you would like in our newsletter!

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

- In Saskatchewan, a drinking driver is involved in 4 out of every 10 fatal collisions
- The only truly safe BAC is 0
- 25% of alcohol-related fatalities involve drivers with BAC levels lower than .08
- 39% of alcohol-related collisions involve drivers with BAC levels lower than .08
- Impaired driving is 100% preventable

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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 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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