

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



Provincial Point of View

February 5, 2015

PROVINCE INTRODUCES TEST OF SASKALERT EMERGENCY SYSTEM

January 29, Emergency Management and Fire Safety Commissioner Duane McKay announced that testing of an emergency public alerting program known as SaskAlert will begin on February 1, 2015 within the western third of the province.

“SaskAlert is a valuable tool which will enable participating municipalities, government agencies and other trained stakeholders to share vital information directly with residents when an emergency strikes,” Government Relations Minister Jim Reiter said. “The upcoming testing phase will be tremendously valuable for program developers to assess the capacity of the SaskAlert program.”

[Province Introduces Test of SaskAlert Emergency System](#)

Children's Hospital
RADIOTHON
Presented by **SaskEnergy**

February 4-6, 2015
The Centre Mall, Saskatoon

Funds up to **\$250,000** matched
by **Clint and Carole Forster**

Media Partners
SASKATOON MEDIA GROUP 98 COOL FM CJWW 500 THE BULL

The 13th Annual Children's Hospital Radiothon is underway! February 4-6, for almost 36 hours, the Radiothon will be broadcast live on 600 CJWW, 98COOL FM, and 92.9 The Bull.

This fantastic fundraiser features inspiring stories from Saskatchewan children, parents, supporters and pediatric medical community members.

This year's Radiothon will raise funds for urgent pediatric medical equipment needs and the new Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan, which began construction in September 2014.

TO MAKE A DONATION CALL 1-888-808-KIDS(5437)

REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATURE

As we work to finalize the budget, our government is focused on controlling spending and keeping taxes low while continuing to invest in infrastructure that keeps Saskatchewan strong. Notwithstanding the global price of oil, we're committed to the cornerstone of our Growth Plan – fiscal responsibility, balanced budgets and a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people.

Building a better quality of life starts with a strong foundation. This can be challenging for those living with disabilities, individuals on fixed-income and families with low-income. To that end, we are making changes that will help those most in need with access to housing they can afford.

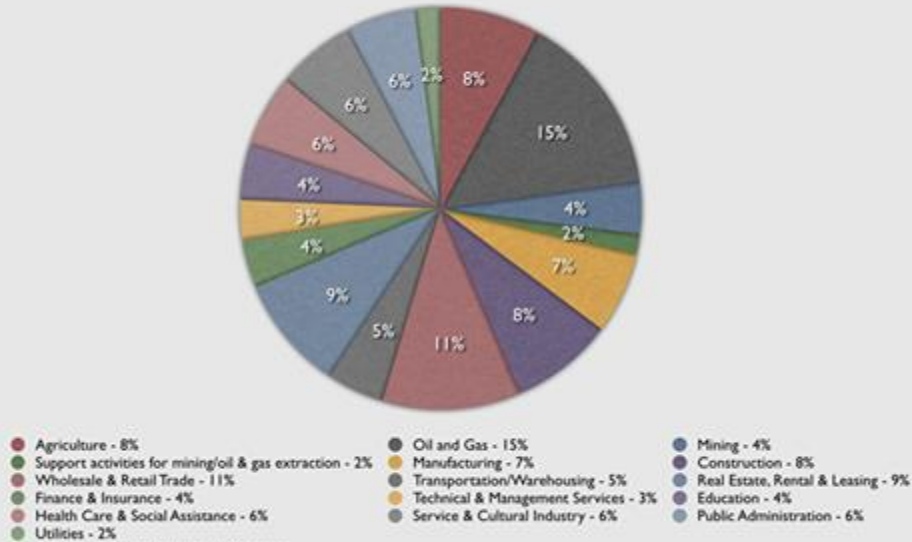
Our government has decided to transition the Affordable Housing Program into the Social Housing Program in Saskatchewan's largest centres. This means, effective March 1, 2015, anyone who applies for government-owned rental housing in urban centres will only be eligible for the province's Social Housing Program, where rent is based on 30 per cent of income.

Existing tenants under the Affordable Housing Program will have the opportunity to transition to the Social Housing Program and, based on their income, almost 1,300 low-income households will immediately benefit from a rent decrease. Other tenants who remain in the Affordable Housing Program will pay a lower market rent, but these rents will increase over time. It just makes sense to have one housing program that makes it easier and more affordable for households in real need.

It is important to clarify the facts of this transition. First of all, there will not be less housing. Not only will we have the same amount, but the rents will be structured in a way that those with the lowest income pay only what they can afford. In fact, this transition will add up to 2,700 social housing units for people who need them most. This is both a responsible use of taxpayer dollars and a sustainable way to add more safe, quality housing for our most vulnerable citizens. As we move to one program, no tenants will be required to move. Their rent will change as their circumstances do but, if they want to stay, they can. All current affordable housing tenants will have the option to either transition into social housing, stay in affordable housing, or move into a very healthy private market. Moving to one program is simpler, not more complex and will end up reducing rent for low-income tenants who need it the most.

Saskatchewan's Diversified Economy

(% of 2013 GDP by sector)



Saskatchewan

Premier Brad Wall acknowledged the falling oil price will be a challenge, but our economy is more diversified than ever and well-positioned to meet this challenge.

Over the past seven years, our government has used additional revenues from our diversified economy to:

- Pay off \$3 billion of debt left behind by previous governments, reducing interest costs by hundreds of millions of dollars a year.
- Deliver record income and education property tax cuts to Saskatchewan residents.
- Invest \$6.6 billion in much needed infrastructure, like highways, schools, hospitals and long-term care homes - more than double what the past government invested in the previous seven years.

As we meet the challenge of a \$600 million to \$800 million oil revenue shortfall this year, our government will use the same priorities to protect Saskatchewan's economy.

ALL SENIORS CARE LAUNCHES ITS SIXTH ANNUAL SENIORS' GAMES!

I am looking forward to attending the closing ceremonies of the All Seniors' Games Friday, February 6.

Year six and still SMILING! The staff and residents at twenty three All Seniors Care Living Centres Retirement Residences across the Canada are having a great week at the 6th annual ASC Seniors Games, Feb. 2-6, 2015. This year they have added venues in Calgary, Regina and Edmonton to build on the success of the previous Seniors Games in Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina, Brandon, Winnipeg, Stratford and Ottawa/Gatineau.

All Seniors Care Living Centres will again host this innovative way to stay active for thousands of seniors who will be walking and “Wii-ing”, playing bocce, billiards, shuffleboard, board games, and lots of card games in an environment of friendly competition while staying healthy and having fun during the winter months!

[All Seniors Care Launches its Sixth Annual Seniors' Games](#)

CITY OF SASKATOON ANNOUNCES NEW PROGRAM TO ADDRESS NEIGHBOURHOOD SPEEDING CONCERNS



The City of Saskatoon and Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) are responding to growing concerns about speeding in residential neighbourhoods with the introduction of a Residential Speed Management Program.

“We have been hearing from citizens that residential speeding is increasingly becoming an issue,” says Angela Gardiner, Director of Transportation. “It is of particular concern, given these roadways are often shared with pedestrians and cyclists, and are in close proximity to community gathering points such as schools and parks.”

Note: Initial neighbourhoods to be prioritized include Willogrove. For full news release, see link below:

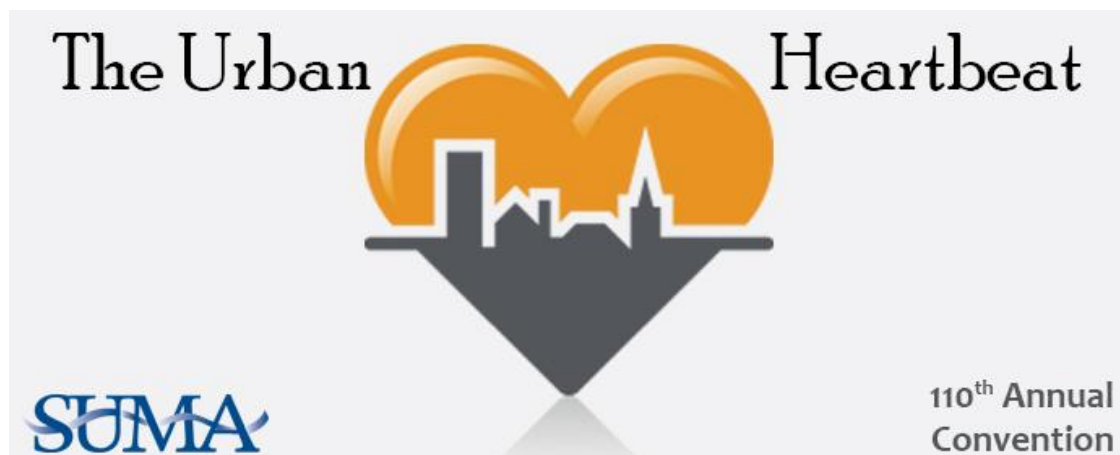
[New Program to Address Neighbourhood Speeding Concerns](#)

REMINDER: NOMINATIONS OPEN UNTIL FEB. 17 FOR PREMIER'S SERVICE CLUB AWARD

Nominations are open until Tuesday, February 17 for the second year of the Premier's Service Club Award.

“Service clubs and fraternal organizations make our communities better places, which improves the quality of life for all Saskatchewan residents,” Premier Brad Wall said. “I encourage all citizens to nominate one of these dedicated organizations which are so deserving of our gratitude for the work they do.”

[Reminder: Nominations Open Until Feb. 17 for Premier's Service Club Award](#)



Saskatoon was a hub of activity this week as representatives from across the province gathered for the 110th Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) Convention.

SUMA plays a significant role in the growth of Saskatchewan and our government appreciates the working relationship we have with the members. It was a pleasure to join Premier Brad Wall and colleagues at the convention.

There was excellent representation by outstanding leaders from several Saskatchewan towns and cities. It was evident that these caring leaders work hard to represent their communities, making our province the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Congratulations to everyone involved for their tremendous effort in planning another successful convention.

DID YOU KNOW?

... This week is Burn Awareness Week ... the Saskatoon Fire Department reminds parents and those responsible for young children that a child's skin is especially susceptible to burns and scalds and extra precautions should be taken to protect them.

... February is Heart Month. The Heart and Stroke Foundation uses the month of February to raise awareness of how to be heart and healthy conscience. The Heart and Stroke Foundation is dedicated to helping all Canadians live longer, fuller, healthier lives.

JUST THE LINKS

February 5, 2015 - [First Land Sale of 2015 Brings in \\$17.5 Million](#)

February 5, 2015 - [Government of Saskatchewan Orders Removal of RM of Sherwood Reeve](#)

January 29, 2015 - **Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan Announce the First Canada Job Grant Recipient in Saskatchewan**

January 29, 2015 - [Wall Sets Priorities for Premiers' Meeting](#)

January 29, 2015 - [World Traveller Returns Home to be 2015 Saskatchewaner](#)

COMING EVENTS

The MOM Show

Date: today, February 5, 2015

When: 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Holy Family Cathedral, 123 Nelson Road

Royal University Hospital Foundation's Greek Gourmet Feast

Date: March 11, 2015

Where: Manos Restaurant on 8th Street

[Click here for additional information](#)

NSBA Business Builder Awards

Date: March 19, 2015

Where: Prairieland Park - Hall B

[Click here for additional information](#)

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together." Vincent Van Gogh

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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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Phone: [306-651-7100](tel:306-651-7100)

Fax: [306-651-6008](tel:306-651-6008)

Email:

ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net