

Provincial Point of View

January 11, 2018

A DECADE OF SOLID JOB GROWTH AND STRONG GROWTH IN DECEMBER



December's job numbers show Saskatchewan had the second highest percentage employment growth rate among the provinces between 2007 and 2017 and added 5,000 jobs in December, starting the year from a position of strength.

There have been 62,700 jobs created over the last decade in Saskatchewan, a 12.4 per cent increase, well above the national rate of 9.8 per cent.

Among the provinces, Saskatchewan had the fifth lowest annual average unemployment rate in 2017 at 6.3 per cent. Nationally, the annual average unemployment rate was 6.3 per cent.

To see additional 2017 highlights, click here.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 8215 RAISES AND INCREDIBLE \$90,000 FOR THE JIM PATTISON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



The Knights of Columbus held their 4th Annual Celebrity Dinner presented by Les & Irene Dube in support of Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation. They raised an incredible \$90,000! All funds raised will support maternal care in Saskatchewan.

Mark your calendars for this year's event scheduled to be held October 27th, 2018 at Holy Family Cathedral in Saskatoon!

STEAK NIGHT BENEFIT FOR A YOUNG SASKATOON WILLOWGROVE CONSTITUENT, KAYDEN KOT!



I'm pleased to share information about a very special benefit fundraiser for Kayden Kot in this newsletter. I encourage you to make every effort to attend the benefit steak night Saturday, February 3rd, 2018 at the Sutherland Bar, Central Avenue is Saskatoon.

Kayden is the 6 year old son of Peter and Sylvie Kot and a little brother of Edyn. He was born with complicated medical issues. In October, 2017, genetic testing resulted in a diagnosis of a very rare genetic disorder, Cardio-Facial-Cutaneous Syndrome. The Kots face an uncertain future and there is no definitive prognosis for Kayden's health.

This event will help raise funds for the intensive therapies Kayden needs to reach his potential. This special young boy in our constituency has stolen the hearts of many. This is your opportunity to attend a fundraiser, contribute to the silent auction or make a financial contribution. The Kots are very thankful for the generosity and support they have received in the past. They could not have paid for the numerous therapies, equipment, specialized whole food diet, daily supplements and out of country medical trips without the help of the community.

We hope you will consider contributing to Kayden's health fund so that his family can provide him with the best quality of life possible. All thoughts and prayers are also appreciated.

Tickets are going fast so don't delay! To purchase tickets, please contact:

Sylvie Fortier-Kot at: smfortier@hotmail.com or ps.kot@sasktel.net or call/text 306-381-8873

OR contact Donna Dube at dkdube@sasktel.net or call 306.270.8577.

If you would like to donate but cannot attend the event, donations can be made on the following website (no tax receipts will be issued): https://www.gofundme.com/kaydenkotfund
For additional information please go to: https://www.gofundme.com/steak-night-for-kayden

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES CONTINUED FIVE YEAR FUNDING FOR SASKATOON PRAIRIELAND PARK



January 8th, during the first day of this year's Western Canadian Crop Production Show, Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart announced a new \$125,000 agreement for Saskatoon Prairieland Park Corporation.

This five year sponsorship provides the same level of funding as the agreement that expired on December 31, 2017.

The sponsorship will support agriculture-related events, such as the Crop Production Show, AG-EXperience for Students, Junior Ag Showcase, Youth Leadership Conference and the Saskatchewan Beef Expo.

"Saskatoon Prairieland Park is an important hub for the agriculture community, hosting events that are integral to the industry," Stewart said. "For the past 35 years, Crop Production Show has attracted producers from across the prairies with information on the latest practices, services, products and technology. We are happy to provide our continued support for these valuable programs."

More than 220,000 people visit Prairieland Park each year for agriculture-related events, which provides significant investment into the Saskatoon and area economy, as well as the provincial economy.

"Prairieland Park is proud to host and showcase some of the best agriculture programming on the prairies," Saskatoon Prairieland Park CEO Mark Regier said. "This ongoing support allows us to

improve and expand our agriculture programming and we look forward to a continued partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture."

Agriculture continues to be one of the most important parts of Saskatchewan's diversified economy. In 2016, agri-food exports totalled \$14.4 billion.

The Government of Saskatchewan continues to support agriculture, with goals to increase crop production to 36.6 million tonnes and agri-food exports to \$15 billion by 2020.



DON'T POCKET DIAL

Don't pocket dial!

In an emergency, smart phones can save lives. But accidental calls to 911 caused by pocket dialing or testing your phone's emergency features can tie up valuable resources.

To avoid accidentally dialing 911, do not preprogram this number into your phone.

If you do accidentally phone 911, stay on the line so you can tell the operator that there isn't a real emergency.

CANNABIS TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE RETAILERS, REGULATED BY SLGA

Cannabis Wholesaling & Retailing



Wholesaling and retailing of cannabis will be conducted by the private sector and regulated by the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority.



Approximately 60 cannabis retail permits in up to 40 eligible municipalities/First Nation communities (population of 2,500 or larger).

(Communities will be able to opt out)



Cannabis retail stores must be standalone businesses, selling only cannabis, cannabis accessories and ancillary items.



The Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) will issue approximately 60 cannabis retail permits to private operators in as many as 40 Saskatchewan municipalities and First Nation communities.

"The federal government has established very aggressive timelines for the legalization of cannabis," Minister Responsible for SLGA Gene Makowsky said. "Our government is being diligent to ensure the sale and regulation of cannabis in Saskatchewan strikes a balance between public safety and access for consumers. It's also important to our government that the 40 municipalities and First Nations selected for retail locations have the opportunity to decide whether they want cannabis retail stores in their community."

The initial allocation of retail store permits will be in municipalities and First Nations with populations of at least 2,500, with larger communities being allocated additional permits. Eligible First Nations and municipalities will have the option to opt out of having a retail cannabis store in their community if they choose. The final number of retail permits will depend on the number of community leaders that decide to opt out.

Read the entire news release here.

REMINDER ... APPLY FOR A SEASONAL CAMPSITE!



If you are interested in applying for a seasonal campsite in a Saskatchewan Provincial Park this summer, applications are now being accepted online.

Deadline to apply is February 1, 2018. Click <u>here</u> for additional information on campsite reservation service.

GOVERNMENTS INVEST \$7.7 MILLION IN CROP RESEARCH



January 9th, Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness on behalf of Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart announced \$7.7 million in funding for 30 crop-related research projects through Saskatchewan's Agriculture Development Fund (ADF).

In addition, the governments are committing \$6.25 million in operating funds through the ADF to the Crop Development Centre (CDC) at the University of Saskatchewan over five years.

"Investments in agricultural research are critical to ensuring continued progress and increased efficiency for farmers," said Goodale. "That's why the Government of Canada strongly supports crop research, like these cost-shared projects in Saskatchewan that will help support the continued growth and innovation of Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector."

"Investing in innovative, crop-related projects and supporting research organizations like the CDC not only provides Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers with the very latest in research and development, but also allows our province to be competitive on the world stage and helps attract some of the best researchers in the industry," Stewart said. "We're very proud of our investments through ADF. They create future growth opportunities and help improve the bottom line for producers and food processors." Continue reading here.

FROM THE NATIONAL POST: NEW YORK TIMES LISTS SASKATOON AMONG TOP TRAVEL DESTINATIONS FOR 2018



The New York Times has published an interactive feature listing the top 52 places in the world to visit in 2018, and the lone Canadian destination to make the list is Saskatoon. Click <u>here</u> to read the article in the National Post.

The feature selected the Saskatchewan city primarily because of the new Remai Modern Museum and its 8,000-work collection.

"Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque and other heavyweight 20th-century artists now have a home in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan, thanks to the Remai Modern Art Gallery of Saskatchewan," reads the article.

It calls the museum "a centerpiece of Saskatoon's redeveloping riverfront" sporting world-class modernist architecture.

The article adds that art fans flying to the city will arrive at the "recently expanded and refurbished (and award-winning) airport and can soon stay in style near the museum at the 15-story Alt Hotel."

Saskatoon Mayor Charlie Clark trumpeted the article on his Twitter feed, writing "Welcome World! Come for the art, stay for the people."

The article's top five places to visit in 2018 are New Orleans; Colombia; Basilicata, Italy; the Caribbean; and Vierwaldstattersee, Switzerland.

OPTIMIST HILL CAMPAIGN!



TUBE SPONSORSHIP NOW AVAILABLE!!

The Optimist Hill will be a reality in 2018! Be part of the fun! When you sponsor a tube, your brand/logo will travel up and down the hill hundreds of times a month! Have community members access your tube for years to come and build your brand with Saskatoon's premiere outdoor fun Centre!

Don't miss out! Only 160 tubes available for sponsorship!

Please contact Robert Letts: robletts@ifsgroup.ca to inquire!

For information, to watch the video or to donate @build the hill, click here.

CALL THE HEALTHLINE AT 811 FOR PROFESSIONAL HEALTH ADVICE

Do you have a health concern and need advice?

Call HealthLine 811



- HealthLine is confidential, free and available 24/7.
- Translation is available in over 100 languages (28 Indigenous).

HealthLine also provides mental health and addictions crisis support, information and connection to services.

You can reach HealthLine at 811 or 1-877-800-0002.



BUILDING PERMITS MAKE YEAR-TO-YEAR GAINS

November building permits in Saskatchewan were up 17.3 per cent (seasonally adjusted) over November 2016, the third highest percentage increase among the provinces. That's well ahead of the 1.3 per cent posted nationally.

The total value of building permits issued in Saskatchewan in November was \$181 million.

"Stronger building permit numbers is a good sign for the province's construction sector and overall economy," Economy Minister Steven Bonk said. "Compared to the national average of only 1.3 per cent, Saskatchewan is showing it's continued strength at 17.3 per cent."

The majority of the growth was in non-residential permits which increased by 49.3 per cent.



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- Saskatchewan agricultural producers sequestered over 11 million tonnes of carbon in 2014.
- In 2017, eHealth Saskatchewan mailed health card renewal packages to more than 689,000 households in the province.
- Following the April launch of the ACU on 7th Medicine, St. Paul's Hospital, the length of stay
 is currently 12.2% below the previous average. In Regina, there was a 15% decrease in
 length of stay reported on Unit 4A at the Pasqua Hospital. In the Medical Surveillance Unit at
 the Pasqua, 105% more patients received specialized care.
- Prairie Resilience: A Made-in-Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy is a plan to reduce
 emissions in key sectors, provide flexible options for emitters, and protect the province from
 a changing climate -- without a carbon tax.

COLD WEATHER PRECAUTIONS



Freezing temperatures, chilling winds, ice storms and snow can cause serious health problems including frostbite and hypothermia (abnormally low body temperature).

Precautions

- Wear several layers of loose-fitting clothing, mittens, a hat and a face cover when outdoors.
- Stay dry.
- Be extra cautious in the wind. A strong wind, even in only moderately cold weather, can cause a wind chill far below freezing.
- At the first signs of possible frostbite redness or pain in any skin area get out of the cold or protect any exposed skin.
- Watch for hypothermia symptoms.
 - Confusion, drowsiness, slurred speech, a drop in blood pressure, shallow breathing and a pinkish tint to the skin.
 - Anyone with hypothermia symptoms is in immediate danger and should receive medical help right away.
- Check on elderly or sick people, especially if they live alone or in isolated areas.

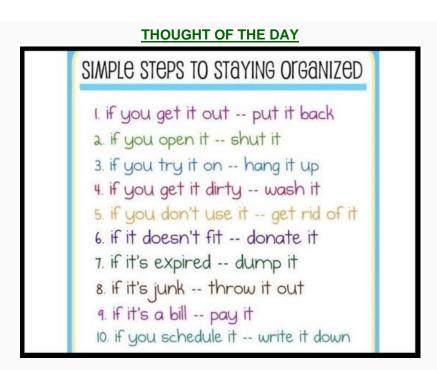
DO YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN HIGHLIGHTED IN OUR NEWSLETTER?



I am always pleased to highlight important occasions or accomplishments, significant birthdays, anniversaries or items of general interest. If you have a story or an event you would like to see featured in this newsletter, please let me know.

Do you have a family member celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary? Our office will co-ordinate messages from officials to mark the special occasion.

Contact my office at 306.657.7100 or email ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net. I look forward to hearing from you!



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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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