

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



## Provincial Point of View

January 29, 2015

### KEEPING SASKATCHEWAN STRONG AND GROWING

Our government is focused on keeping Saskatchewan strong and growing – even when faced with volatile oil prices and lower-than-expected revenues. We are working to meet this challenge through sound fiscal management, a commitment to continued investment in important infrastructure projects, and tax incentives for new growth and job creation.

The good news is that our economy is increasingly diversified and a slowdown in one sector can be offset by growth in other areas. Our thriving manufacturing sector and record wholesale trade values – just the latest examples – are among the many reasons Saskatchewan enjoys the second strongest rate of job creation and the lowest rate of unemployment in Canada.

While these figures, together with economic forecasts, paint a positive picture of our diversified economic strength, the most encouraging endorsement of a strong and growing Saskatchewan comes from our children and grandchildren. They are forever changing the course of our province by choosing to stay here, start their careers and raise their families.

### MORE HOMEGROWN PHYSICIANS PRACTISING IN SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan is making progress keeping more locally-trained family medicine graduates in the province.

The retention rate of family medicine graduates trained at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) has jumped by 11 per cent over the past year. The increase - from 58 per cent to 69 per cent - means that more locally-trained medical graduates are deciding to stay and practice medicine in Saskatchewan.

“Physicians that are newly-trained in Saskatchewan play a key role in the health care system,” Rural and Remote Health Minister Greg Ottenbreit said. “We want patients right here in Saskatchewan to benefit from their expert training and homegrown leadership. Our government will continue to look for new ways to make sure that Saskatchewan is where these valued health providers want to practice.”

[MORE HOMEGROWN PHYSICIANS PRACTISING IN SASKATCHEWAN](#)

## **SWINGING WITH THE STARS A HUGE SUCCESS**



I was in attendance with about 850 people at Swinging with the Stars held at TCU Place in Saskatoon on January 24, 2015. The event featured local celebrities dancing with their partners in front of a sellout crowd. It was a high energy evening filled with enthusiasm and talent with proceeds going toward a great cause. Everyone attending had a fantastic time. The heartfelt evening was dedicated to raising money for Hopes' Home, a non-profit organization that works hard to provide respite care to local families with medically fragile children.

Congratulations to everyone involved. The organizers, judges, emcees, dancers and sponsors all did an incredible job to make the evening an outstanding success.

I thought all the performances were absolutely fantastic. Of course, I was very proud of my wife

Trish. She may not have brought home a trophy but said it was a phenomenal experience to have the opportunity to work with such a great group of people. She was truly honoured to participate and play a part in raising money for Hopes' Home.

Be sure to mark this event on your calendar next year. Plans are already underway to make next year's Swinging with the Stars the place to be!

## **ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION CAMPAIGN OFFERS HOPE TO SASKATCHEWAN FAMILIES**

During the fall legislative session, our government introduced a bill to update Saskatchewan's organ and tissue donation legislation and allow more timely regulatory changes. That legislation is expected to pass in the spring. I encourage you to talk to your family about your decision to donate, so they can honour your wishes. Currently, there are about 90 Saskatchewan people waiting for a kidney transplant and a similar number waiting for corneas. Many more people in our province require life-saving heart, lung or liver transplants. The decision to donate could save or improve someone's life.

I had the pleasure of joining the Honourable Dustin Duncan at the Pylpchuk Hall at St. Paul's Hospital Tuesday, January 17 as he spoke to an appreciative crowd about the Organ and Tissue Campaign.

Heart transplant recipient Cheryl Olson calls her organ donor her heart hero.

"She saved my life, so she's my hero," Olson said about the woman who made possible her heart transplant in 2008. "Without organ donation - without someone having said yes - I wouldn't be here today. My family would not be complete. My donor not only saved my life, she saved my family."

A wife and mother of two who loves to volunteer and travel, Olson is one of six people affected by organ and tissue donation who are taking part in a provincial campaign to raise awareness about the impact organ and tissue donations can have.

The Offer Hope campaign was launched at Saskatoon's St. Paul's Hospital to help individuals, families and their communities learn about the importance of talking to their loved ones about organ and tissue donation. Families who have talked about their decision to donate are more likely to honour the wishes of their loved ones should organ and tissue donation be possible after death.

“This campaign is a reminder of the lifesaving and life-enhancing benefits of organ and tissue donation,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “One organ donor can save up to eight lives, and one tissue donor can improve the lives of more than 75 people. Everyone is a potential donor, and supporting donation is something we should all consider.”

[ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION CAMPAIGN OFFERS HOPE TO SASKATCHEWAN FAMILIES](#)

## **PROVINCE AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUPPORT TWO SASKATOON FAMILIES TO BECOME HOMEOWNERS**

Two families in Saskatoon have now achieved their dream of home ownership, thanks to a partnership between the Government of Saskatchewan and Habitat for Humanity.

The province, through Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, provided \$100,000 to help build the two homes. Additional funding was provided by Mosaic Potash Corporation (up to \$25,000), the City of Saskatoon (approximately \$31,000 from its Innovative Housing Incentive Program and the Vacant Lot and Adaptive Reuse Strategy), along with the Midtown Plaza and the Rotary Club of Saskatoon.

Saskatoon Eastview MLA Corey Tochor attended a key presentation today on behalf of Social Services Minister and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Donna Harpauer.

“Our government remains focused on keeping Saskatchewan strong,” Tochor said. “Investing in Habitat for Humanity initiatives makes a real difference in the day-to-day lives of Saskatchewan people and continues to build stronger communities for future generations. We are proud that two more families will be able to enjoy the benefits of living in a safe, quality home that meets their needs.”

[PROVINCE AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUPPORT TWO SASKATOON FAMILIES TO BECOME HOMEOWNERS](#)

## **SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL PARKS ANNOUNCE DATES FOR CAMPSITE RESERVATION LAUNCH**

Campers who want to spend their summer vacations in Saskatchewan's provincial parks will be able to start making campsite reservations on Monday, March 2, 2015.

"Camping in Saskatchewan Provincial Parks is exceptionally popular," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Mark Docherty said. "In fact, it is so popular that in past years the campsite reservation system hasn't been able to keep up with demand. The experience of our visitors is very important to us, and we have made some important changes to our reservation system this year."

[SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL PARKS ANNOUNCE DATES FOR CAMPSITE RESERVATION LAUNCH](#)

## **PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, SEIU-WEST AND HEALTH REGIONS SIGN PARTNERSHIP**

Health Minister Dustin Duncan, Service Employees International Union-West (SEIU-West) and four health regions – Saskatoon, Heartland, Five Hills and Cypress – are working together in a new partnership, as part of a shared commitment to patient first care and health system transformation.

"This new partnership provides a great opportunity to work together to further our shared goal of a quality, patient-centred health care system," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. "Saskatchewan's health care workers are vital partners in bringing about the transformation we're seeing in our health system."

[PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, SEIU-WEST AND HEALTH REGIONS SIGN PARTNERSHIP](#)

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **PotashCorp WinterShines**

**Date:** January 24 to February 1

**When:** Various Times

**Where:** River Landing

**Info:** Visit the [website](#) to find out more.

### **Preston Early Learning Preschool at Willowgrove School**

**When:** February 3

**When: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

**Where: Erindale Alliance Church**

**AND**

**When: February 4**

**When: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

**Where: Holy Family Cathedral**

### **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

**"if you haven't got charity in your heart, you've got the worst kind of heart trouble." Bob Hope**

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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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