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



# Provincial Point of View MAY 17, 2016 ENJOY A SAFE AND RELAXING LONG WEEKEND!

# OPENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

I am honoured to join Premier Brad Wall and my colleagues as work hard to serve the people of this great province!



I am looking forward to the beginning of the 2016 Spring Legislative Session. I am truly honoured and humbled to have the opportunity to represent the people of Saskatoon Willowgrove.

Lieutenant Governor Vaughn Solomon Schofield formally opened the First Session of the Twenty-Eighth Legislature with the Speech from the Throne today in the Assembly Chamber of the Saskatchewan Legislative Building.

"The ceremonial aspects of the opening of the Legislature are meaningful and signify the value we place on our democracy," Solomon Schofield said. "The demands of public office are enormous, and I am grateful to all who will serve in Saskatchewan's Twenty-Eighth Legislature."

Read the news release by click here.

# THRONE SPEECH OUTLINES GOVERNMENT'S AGENDA TO KEEP SASKATCHEWAN STRONG

The first session of the new Legislative Assembly opened today with a Throne Speech that closely resembled the government's platform in the recent election campaign.

"We didn't make a lot of election promises but we made one significant commitment – to keep Saskatchewan strong," Premier Brad Wall said. "We will do that in three key areas. We will work to keep the economy strong, to keep the province's finances strong, and to keep Saskatchewan's place in Canada strong by always standing up for Saskatchewan's interests."

Wall said Bill 1 of the new legislative session will be an amendment to remove the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority from *The Crown Corporations Public Ownership Act*.

"This will allow our government to move forward on our campaign commitment to convert 40 government-owned liquor stores to private stores, create 12 new private stores and offer consumers more choice, more convenience and more competitive prices," Wall said.

Wall said during the session, the government will also keep its other election promises, including:

- Fixing more highways through an increase in highways maintenance funding;
- Continuing to make major investments in much-needed infrastructure projects, like hospitals, schools, long-term care facilities and the Regina Bypass;
- Introducing a new "patent box" tax incentive the first of its kind in North America to create jobs and investment through the commercialization of patents and intellectual property in Saskatchewan;
- Changing regulations to allow home-based food businesses to sell products produced in the home directly to consumers and retailers;
- Expanding the "two-for-one" model recently introduced for MRI scans to also include CT scans;
- Expanding an innovative remote technology health care pilot project in Pelican Narrows to other northern communities;
- Amending The Saskatchewan Employment Act to ensure that those caring for a family member in the final stages of life will be eligible for 28 weeks of leave per year;
- Reducing heath region administration costs by \$7.5 million per year and re-directing that savings toward front-line seniors' care; and
- Extending SaskPower's net metering program for solar power for another two years.

As well, an all-party legislative committee will be asked to look at ways to increase the rate of organ donations in Saskatchewan.

"Organ donations save lives," Wall said. "Unfortunately, the rates of organ donation in Saskatchewan and Canada are much lower than the rates in the United States and many countries in Europe.

"This is certainly not a partisan issue, so it makes sense to have the Human Services Committee, made up of both government and opposition members, look at best practices in other jurisdictions and report back with their findings and recommendations."

The Throne Speech debate will last about two weeks and will be followed by the introduction of the 2016-17 provincial budget on June 1.

# THANK YOU TO THE MANY PEOPLE THAT JOINED US AT THE SWEARING IN CEREMONY MAY 16!



Yesterday, May 16, the 61 people who won seats in the Provincial election held April 4 were officially sworn in as members of the legislative assembly.

It is indeed a humbling experience. Premier Wall urged us to conduct ourselves with humility and integrity. I look forward to doing just that and working with my colleagues to keep Saskatchewan strong.

Special thanks to my supportive family and friends that were in attendance and those that could not attend but sent their best wishes. Your presence and kind words meant a great deal to me.

Once again, I thank the constituents of Saskatoon Willowgrove for allowing me to serve as their representative in the legislature.

# SASKATOON EASTVIEW MLA COREY TOCHOR ELECTED SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



Congratulations to Saskatoon Eastview MLA Corey Tochor on his election as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Special thanks to Cannington MLA Dan D'Autremont for his outstanding service as Speaker.

**CURTAIN DROPS, LEGISLATIVE DOME TAKES SPOTLIGHT** 



The Regina cityscape took on a more reflective appearance, following the unveiling of the restored dome of the Saskatchewan Legislative building.

Our magnificent Legislative Building is a source of great pride for the people of Saskatchewan," Lieutenant Governor Vaughn Solomon Schofield said. "I am grateful to the Government of Saskatchewan for choosing to restore and preserve it for generations to come."

"This restoration project honours the legacy of Saskatchewan's first premier, Walter Scott, and all those who worked with him to lay the foundation of modern Saskatchewan," Premier Brad Wall said. "Premier Scott insisted that Saskatchewan should have a legislature that represented the character and ambition of its people. The dome shone brightly when the building opened in 1912, a symbol of the optimism, hope and high expectations that animated Saskatchewan in the early days. Today, the dome shines again, in a province where the future shines as brightly as it did a century ago, as brightly as it ever has."

Read the entire news release here.

# SGI LAUNCHING NEW IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

SGI is launching a new, emotionally-charged multi-media advertising campaign to raise awareness about impaired driving.

The campaign shows the void, literally, that is left behind when a friend or loved one is killed by an impaired driver. The absence of that person leaves a hole in the lives of those left behind, demonstrating the campaign slogan that "impaired driving impacts lives, families, everything."

"Too many people are being killed in our province because someone chose to drive while impaired," Minister responsible for SGI Don McMorris said. "SGI's new ad calls on all drivers to remember that at any time, any one of us could lose someone we care about due to impaired driving. We owe it to ourselves, our loved ones and all other road users to never drive if we're impaired by alcohol or drugs."

Read the entire news release here.

# DON'T BE THAT DRIVER - DRIVE SAFE IN HIGHWAY WORK ZONES



The Government of Saskatchewan urges motorists to take work zone safety seriously.

"The safety of construction crews and the travelling public is our number one priority," Highways and Infrastructure Minister Nancy Heppner said. "Innovation, along with public education and enforcement, is at the forefront of our efforts to improve work zone safety."

Click here to read more.

# DREAM OF HOMEOWNERSHIP TO COME TRUE FOR MULTIPLE SASKATOON FAMILIES

The Government of Saskatchewan is partnering with Habitat for Humanity Saskatoon (Habitat) to help a local family achieve their dream of homeownership.

The province, through Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC), will provide \$65,000 to make this dream a reality. In addition, the City of Saskatoon has approximately \$259,000 in grants and tax abatements invested in this project. A ground-breaking ceremony for the 12-unit project was held today at 211 Slimmon Road.

"Owning a home is a life-changer," Education Minister and Saskatoon Southeast MLA Don Morgan said on behalf of Social Services Minister and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Donna Harpauer. "It represents security, a sense of belonging and pride of ownership. Our government is committed to keeping Saskatchewan strong by working with partners like Habitat to bring affordable housing within reach for Saskatchewan families in need, and making their dreams come true."

Click here to read the news release.

# SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL PARKS OPENING MAY LONG WEEKEND



Saskatchewan Provincial Parks will officially open for the season on Thursday, May 19, 2016. Visitation to provincial parks set a record in 2015, with nearly 3.9 million visits.

"Saskatchewan's provincial parks are where people go to make memories, enjoy recreational activities, and connect with nature," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Mark Docherty said. "With stunning natural features, fantastic amenities and high-quality programming, it's no surprise that our parks continue to grow in popularity."

For more information and to read the entire news release, click here.

# GOOD LUCK TO THE SASKATCHEWAN RUSH LACROSSE TEAM!



Tourism Saskatoon is hosting a big lunchtime celebration Friday for the Saskatchewan Rush before their first home playoff game in Saskatoon. Show your support and join the fun Friday, May 20 at noon downtown on 21st Street between 3rd and 4th Avenue. You'll have a chance to hear some great music and meet some members of the Saskatchewan Rush.

The Rush began defense of their champion's cup reign in fine fashion as they beat the Calgary Roughnecks in game one of the NLL West Division Final last weekend. Game two of this Western Final three-game series will take place in Saskatoon at SaskTel Centre on Saturday, May 21. There are less than 1000 tickets left for Saturday night; fans can secure their tickets at saskrush.com. In the event the series is tied after two games, a ten-minute third game will take place immediately following game two at SaskTel Centre to determine a winner of the series. GO RUSH!!

## DEPUTY MINISTER TO THE PREMIER TO STEP DOWN AT THE END OF JUNE

Premier Brad Wall announced last week that Doug Moen, Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary, is stepping down after seven years in that role and 14 years as a Deputy Minister.

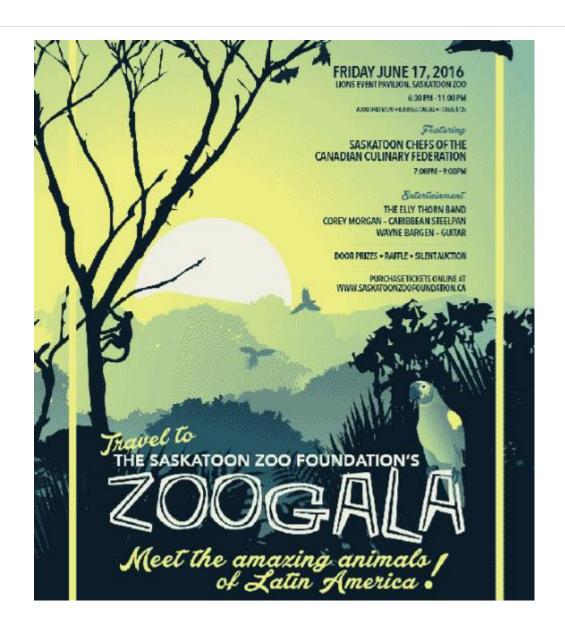
Moen's last day as Deputy Minster is June 30. A new Deputy Minister to the Premier will be announced in the coming weeks.

"Doug Moen has been an extremely strong leader of Saskatchewan's public service over the past several years, as well as an invaluable advisor and good friend," Wall said. "I know he will continue to make a significant contribution to Saskatchewan in whatever role he decides to take on in the future. I will miss his honest, wise counsel and his sense of humor."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Premier and leading and helping renew the public service," Moen said. "Now it is time to see new leadership take over and it is also time for me take on a less demanding role."

Moen said he plans to take some time off and will take on other responsibilities in the fall of this year.

**19TH ANNUAL ZOOGALA JUNE 17!** 



## **JUST THE LINKS**

CHARLES KNIGHT YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM BRINGS NORTHERN STUDENTS TO CAPITAL

SASKPARKS AND TENTREE TO REFOREST LAC LA RONGE PROVINCIAL PARK

**CHANGES TO FEES AND CHARGES 2016-17** 

**TACKLING DEBT IN THREE STEPS** 

**CELEBRATING SASKATCHEWAN'S PUBLIC WORKS PROFESSIONALS** 

**HEALTH REGIONS TO LIFT VISITING HOUR RESTRICTIONS IN FACILITIES** 

## **COMING EVENTS**

## **Celebrate Success**

When: May 19

Where: Saskatoon Prairieland Park

Click here for information

## **Childfind Charity Breakfast**

When: May 25, 7 am - 8:30 am

Where: Hilton Garden Inn, downtown Saskatoon

Call 306.955.0070 for more information

## **Luncheon Featuring Kevin Doherty (NSBA)**

Topic: Post-Budget Address When: June 3, 11:30 - 1 pm

Where: Travelodge Hotel, Galaxy A

**Click Here for More Information** 

## **Autism Annual Walk**

When: June 12, 10 am

Where: Wanuskewin Heritage Park Click here for additional information

## **Zoogala**

When: June 17

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm and Zoo

Click here for details

## 2016 Abex Awards

When: October 22 Where: TCU Place

For information, click www.saskchamber.com.

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY



friend on Facebook | forward to a friend

## **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 Willogrove. 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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