

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

Provincial Point of View

May 1, 2014



This is just a friendly reminder that the annual City-Wide Food Drive is taking place on Saturday, May 3.

I encourage you to fill a bag with healthy non-perishable foods for the Food Bank. Please place the bag on your front doorstep by 10 am on Saturday morning for the volunteers to pick up.

Your participation in this worthy cause will help the Food Bank provide so much to the families in need in Saskatoon.

SASKATCHEWAN WAGES AMONG BEST IN CANADA

New data from Statistics Canada released today shows average weekly earnings in Saskatchewan were \$961.90 in February 2014, third highest in Canada. Nationally, the average was \$924.83.

“Saskatchewan’s economy continues to make gains, and that’s sustaining wages at one of the highest levels in the country,” Economy Minister Bill Boyd said.

On a month-over-month basis, Saskatchewan's average weekly earnings increased by 1.8 per cent (\$16.68) compared to the previous month, ranking highest among the provinces, and above the national increase of 0.3 per cent.

“Higher wages offered here in Saskatchewan show employers are remaining competitive with other jurisdictions,” Boyd said.

[Saskatchewan Wages Among Best in Canada](#)

RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO KEEP IMMUNIZATIONS UP-TO-DATE

National Immunization Awareness Week

Health officials are encouraging Saskatchewan residents to get immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases, particularly in light of recent measles outbreaks in Canada. National Immunization Awareness Week is April 26 – May 3.

“This awareness week gives us an opportunity to remind our residents about the importance of immunization,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “We want to ensure that people stay healthy and safe.”

“We strongly encourage parents to make sure their children’s immunizations are up-to-date,” Saskatchewan’s Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Denise Werker said. “Immunization is the most effective way to protect your family and yourself against flu, measles, and other vaccine-preventable diseases.”

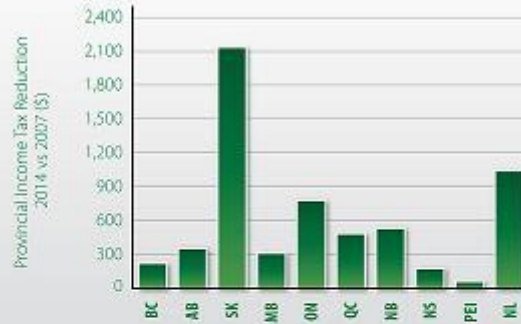
[Residents Encouraged to Keep Immunizations Up-To-Date](#)

SASKATCHEWAN PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM GROWTH PLAN COMMITMENT TO LOWER TAXES

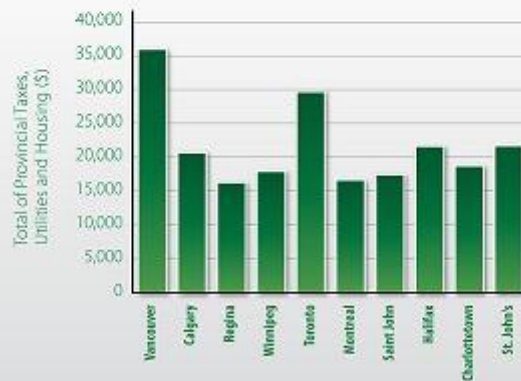
BACKGROUND

Provincial tax savings since 2007

Provincial Income Tax Reductions Since 2007 for Family of Four at \$50,000



2014 Intercity Comparison of Provincial Taxes, Utilities and Housing
Family of Four at \$50,000 Total Income



www.finance.gov.sk.ca

Government
of
Saskatchewan

As another tax season comes to a close, the Government of Saskatchewan remains committed to controlling spending and keeping taxes low.

“Since 2007, our government has delivered the largest income tax cuts and the largest education property tax cuts in Saskatchewan history,” Finance Minister Ken Krawetz said. “Lower taxes are a big part of our government’s Plan for Growth and are helping to keep life affordable for Saskatchewan people.”

[Saskatchewan People Benefit From Growth Plan Commitment to Lower Taxes](#)

SASKATCHEWAN TO COVER NEW MS DRUG

Saskatchewan multiple sclerosis (MS) patients will soon have access to a new oral medication. Beginning May 1, 2014, the province will provide coverage of Tecfidera (dimethyl fumarate) to treat adult MS patients with relapsing-remitting MS who meet certain criteria.

“MS patients and specialists have been asking for coverage of this medication and our government is pleased to make it more accessible to those who need it,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “This option does not require injections, and has the potential to improve the quality of life for MS patients by reducing the number of relapses they experience and slowing the progression of the disease.”

[Saskatchewan to Cover New MS Drug](#)

SASKATCHEWAN WORKERS HONOURED ON DAY OF MOURNING

Members of the Legislative Assembly honoured 35 people who died in 2013 as a result of workplace injuries with a moment of silence.

April 28 marks the National Day of Mourning, a day to remember those who lost their lives due to workplace injuries or illnesses. In 2013, more than 37,000 workplace injuries were reported to the Workers' Compensation Board.

“I offer my condolences to those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one as a result of a workplace injury or illness,” Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. “Today is a day to honour the men and women who have lost their lives on the job and a reminder that workplace safety is the responsibility of everyone.”

“Our most sincere sympathy to the families and loved ones of the people we are remembering today on the Day of Mourning,” Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board Chairperson Gord Dobrowolsky said. “It is indeed a day to mourn these lives that were ended too soon. This is a day for all of us to recommit ourselves to Mission: Zero and to preventing needless suffering in the future.”

[Saskatchewan Workers Honoured on Day of Mourning](#)

THE SASKATCHEWAN EMPLOYMENT ACT PROCLAIMED

Saskatchewan's consolidated labour legislation and the associated regulations are now in effect.

“We are committed to supporting a competitive and productive employment environment by encouraging healthy, safe and fair workplaces, and by ensuring that our labour legislation provides flexibility to the modern workplace,” Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. “This legislation and the associated regulations came from working collaboratively with our stakeholders and we believe the result is legislation that supports the needs of stakeholders in Saskatchewan – putting the safety and interests of working people first.”

For more information on these changes, how they affect Saskatchewan workers and employers, or a complete copy of The Saskatchewan Employment Act and the associated regulations, visit www.saskatchewan.ca/work.

[The Saskatchewan Employment Act Proclaimed](#)

DID YOU KNOW...

- ... Since its inception in 1995, 166 people have received the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal.
- ... Seniors took more than 10,000 trips during the spring Senior Seat Sale in 2013.
- ... Average weekly earnings in Saskatchewan were \$961.90 in February 2014, ahead of the national average \$924.83.
- ... A Saskatchewan family of four with \$50,000 in annual income will pay just \$166 in provincial income tax in 2014. In terms of all provincial taxes, that same family will pay \$608 this year.

JUST THE LINKS

May 1, 2014 - [Improved Farm Stewardship Program for Producers](#)

May 1, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Increasing Measles Response](#)

May 1, 2014 - [May 2014 Proclaimed as Missing Children's Month](#)

May 1, 2014 - [Changes to the Fisheries Regulations to Promote and Protect Angling in Saskatchewan](#)

April 30, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Wins Oilseed Trade Challenge Against Quebec](#)

April 30, 2014 - [Saskatchewan's 2014 Big Game Draw Opens May 1](#)

April 29, 2014 - [Province Reminds Public to Exercise Caution Around Tracks and Trains](#)

April 29, 2014 - [Exhibit Recognizing the Women of Government House Opens](#)

April 28, 2014 - [Child Welfare Legislation Review Engagements Begin](#)

April 25, 2014 - [Statement from Premier Brad Wall](#)

COMING EVENTS

Broadway Artfest

Date: May 3

Where: Broadway Avenue

When: 10 am - 5 pm

Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra - Book Sale

Date: April 24 - May 3

Where: 408 20th Street West

When: [View Here](#)

Teen Aid - Love Waits Fundraiser and Silent Auction

Date: May 4

Where: St. Anne's Parish Hall

When: 5 pm

Holy Family School Playground Meeting

Date: May 8

Where: St. Volodymyr School Library

When: 7:30 pm

Vesna Festival

Date: May 10

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 6 pm - 1 am

NatureCity Festival

Date: May 25 - 31

Where: Throughout Saskatoon

When: [View Here](#)

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

**“A strong man stands up for himself,
a stronger man stands up for others.”**

~ Author Unknown

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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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