

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



Provincial Point of View

May 2, 2017
Remember the City Wide
Food Drive Saturday!

BREAKING GROUND ON MERLIS BELSHER PLACE!



It was indeed an honour to attend and participate in the sod turning ceremony of Merlis Belsher Place. Merlis is a Saskatoon Willowgrove constituent and has contributed to our community, city and province in many incredible ways. I encourage you to click on the Saskatoon StarPhoenix link [here](#) to read the story about this selfless individual ..."From tragedy comes sense of community, giving back". Merlis is, and will always be an inspiration to many. I'm proud to call him not only my neighbour, but my friend.



Donors and officials used personalized shovels with hockey stick handles for the sod turning of Merlis Belsher Place on April 28, 2017.

Story and Photo Credit: 650 CKOM, by Chris Vandembreekel // April 28, 2017:

The sod is turned and now the University of Saskatchewan is looking to turn a new leaf with a modern arena.

Over 100 people attended a ground-breaking ceremony for Merlis Belsher Place Friday afternoon, the first step in the construction of the facility.

It'll be located south of the Huskies field house, off of Field House Road.

The arena's namesake was on-hand with a hockey-stick-handled shovel after donating \$12.25 million to the rink, the largest single donation ever received by the U of S.

"It's sort of like a dream," Merlis Belsher told reporters after the ceremony.

Tim Hodgson and Dave King, who co-chaired a Home Ice Campaign that raised over \$28 million for the arena, were unable to attend.

The arena plans to feature two ice pads - a main sheet for Huskie hockey with 3,437 seats and a second ice pad for minor hockey and other community uses.

It will also house a double gymnasium and dressing rooms for the university's soccer teams.

If the arena stays on schedule the university plans to open it in time for the 2018-19 hockey season, replacing the now 88-year-old Rutherford Rink.

"In 18 months and three days... grab a pair of skates, some Halloween candy, and join us for the first festivities," Belsher told the crowd who gathered for the ceremony.

The city is contributing a total of \$4 million - \$1 million through a grant program for the construction of a city-use sheet of ice, and \$3 million to help speed construction.

The start of construction comes just four days after Saskatoon city councillor Darren Hill withdrew a motion to reconsider the additional \$3 million.

"I know it was not a simple decision to make," U of S President Peter Stoicheff said to councillors in attendance. "I know that you made it and stayed with it, and I guarantee the citizens of Saskatoon will be proud of the results."

Read the entire article [here](#).

GOVERNMENT WILL USE NOTWITHSTANDING CLAUSE TO PROTECT SCHOOL CHOICE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS



Move Will Set Aside Recent Court of Queen's Bench Ruling

Premier Brad Wall announced the government will protect school choice in Saskatchewan by invoking the notwithstanding clause of *The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

The move comes in response to a recent Court of Queen's Bench ruling that, if allowed to stand, would force about 10,000 non-Catholic students out of Catholic schools. The ruling could also risk provincial funding of 26 other faith-based schools including Luther College, Regina Christian School, Saskatoon Christian School and Huda School.

"We support school choice including public, separate and faith-based schools," Wall said. "We will defend school choice for students and parents. By invoking the notwithstanding clause we are protecting the rights of parents and students to choose the schools that work best for their families, regardless of their religious faith."

Section 33 of *The Charter of Rights and Freedoms* gives provincial legislatures the authority to override certain portions of the Charter for a five year term. Invoking the notwithstanding clause requires an Act of the Legislative Assembly.

"I have asked the Ministers of Education and Justice to begin preparing legislation to invoke the notwithstanding clause to protect choice in our school system," Wall said. "We wanted to announce

this now to provide clarity and provide parents with the assurance that they will be able to continue to choose the kind of school they want their children to attend.”

The government’s action is in response to an April 20 Court of Queen’s Bench ruling on a legal challenge by the Good Spirit School Division of Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools’ right to receive provincial funding for non-Catholic students. The Court ruled that the government must stop funding non-minority faith students to attend separate schools.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FUNDRAISER HELD LAST WEEKEND



Pictured with me are colleagues MLA, Eric Olauson and MLA, David Buckingham with President and CEO of the Children's Hospital Foundation, Brynn Boback Lane.

It was a pleasure to attend The Children’s Hospital Jeans & Jewels Gala, presented by Mosaic last Friday. The gala was filled with delicious dining, incredible live and silent auction packages, and the fantastic music of CCMA-nominee Tenille Arts! Funds raised through this amazing event will go

towards urgent pediatric equipment needs and the new Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan which reached 50% completion on March 9!

REMEMBER THE CITY WIDE FOOD DRIVE THIS SATURDAY!

CITY WIDE FOOD DRIVE

#CWFD2017

Saturday, May 6th, 10 am - 2 pm

WATCH YOUR MAILBOX

Your donation bag will be delivered to your mail box in late April



FILL YOUR BAG!

With healthy non-perishable food items

ON MAY 6TH...

Set your bag on your doorstep by **10 am**



COLLECTION

Volunteers will collect from your doorstep from 10 am - 2 pm

IF YOU LIVE IN A CONDO/ APT

or if your bag is accidentally missed, please bring it to your nearest grocery store



SASKATOON PRAYER BREAKFAST



Trish and I had the pleasure of attending the Saskatoon Prayer Breakfast Saturday, April 26th. It was emotional to meet Mr. & Mrs. Jason Caldwell and hear the story of losing their twin 17-year-old boys in a tragic accident last year at Canada Olympic Park in Calgary. Jason shared his story about hope in the face of tragedy.

Also in attendance were colleagues, MLA Eric Olauson and MLA David Buckingham, MP's Kelly Block, Brad Trost and Kevin Waugh, along with Mayor Charlie Clark.

Brad Johner and the Johner Boys provided outstanding entertainment with their musical talent. The prayer breakfast was, as always, an inspirational and enjoyable annual event.

PROVINCIAL HABITAT DAY IS MAY 5H



A Habitat Day Celebration at the Forestry Farm Park Gazebo will be held this Friday, May 5th. Habitat for Humanity, Saskatoon invites you to join them for a free barbeque beginning at 5 pm. There will be hamburgers and hotdogs by donation. "Singing with Sylvia" will be doing a free concert at 6:30 pm. What a great opportunity for families to enjoy a beautiful spring evening at the Forestry Farm!

For more information, click [here](#).

[DONATION TO HOPE'S HOME IN SASKATOON](#)



Myself, Laurie Boen from Hope's Home and Jason Dunn, Board Member from LaRoche McDonald Agencies

Hope's Home creates opportunities through support for children with complex medical needs, typically developing children and their families in our community. Their employees are passionate about providing a safe, inclusive and developmentally appropriate environment for children where early learning is enhanced, children's full potential is attained and family's dreams become a reality. All children are loved and accepted members of their communities, regardless of any medical or developmental needs they may have.

I was pleased to be selected as a winner of one of 25 blankets to be donated to the charity of my choice. I chose to donate the blanket, sponsored by Insurance Broker's of Saskatchewan, to Hope's Home in Saskatoon. It was an awesome opportunity to visit Hope's Home and congratulate them on the great work they do as I made the donation of the blanket. Sincere thanks to the Insurance Brokers of Canada for their support.

GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE SASKATCHEWAN'S SCRAP TIRE RECYCLING PROGRAM



The Ministry of Environment plans to develop new scrap tire recycling regulations to reflect changing industry needs in Saskatchewan and address increasing public expectations for governance, accountability and transparency.

The new regulations will ensure Saskatchewan continues to have an effective scrap tire collection program that further promotes a sustainable recycling industry within the province.

“This is a very important recycling program for the people of Saskatchewan,” Environment Minister Scott Moe said. “The review of the program showed there are areas where we need to make improvements to ensure the continued recycling of tires and an effective program overall for the industry.”

Read the entire news release [here](#).

RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO UPDATE THEIR ADDRESS TO MAINTAIN HEALTH COVERAGE



One of the most valuable cards in your wallet is being renewed this fall.

All Saskatchewan residents with provincial health coverage will be receiving Health Card Renewal Packages in September. eHealth Saskatchewan will be sending packages containing stickers that renew health cards for a three year period, to December 31, 2020.

To help ensure packages are received before health cards expire, any resident with a change of address or family composition (married, divorced, separated, deceased) within the last three years are asked to update that information with eHealth Saskatchewan. “Our priority is to ensure that you and your family maintain health coverage, which is why we want to confirm ahead of time that your renewal package will be mailed to the correct address,” Health Minister Jim Reiter said. “We encourage all citizens with provincial health coverage to contact eHealth Saskatchewan if you have moved or changed addresses in the past three years.”

Click [here](#) to read more.

DAY OF MOURNING LAST WEEK REMEMBERED WORKERS KILLED OR INJURED ON THE JOB



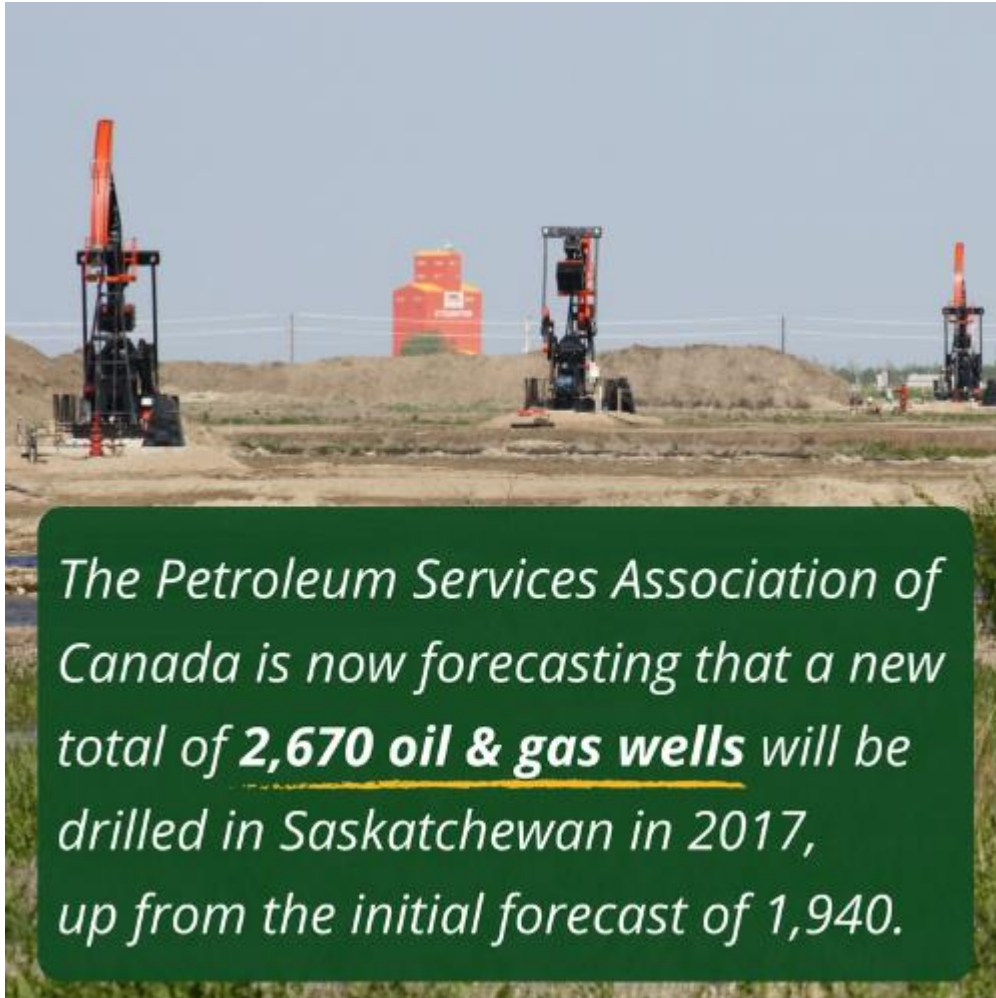
On April 28 individuals, groups and communities across Canada honoured fallen workers by holding vigils, lighting candles, wearing armbands or observing a moment of silence.

The National Day of Mourning is a day to remember workers killed or injured on the job. In 2016, 31 people died in Saskatchewan from a workplace-related injury or illness. Nearly 30,000 workplace injuries were reported to the Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board (WCB).

“My deepest condolences to the family and friends who have been impacted by the loss of a loved one,” Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. “Every loss of life is a tragedy, and workplace deaths are especially impactful because they are unexpected and avoidable.”

Click [here](#) to read the entire news release.

MAJOR INCREASE IN 2017 OIL DRILLING FORCAST



*The Petroleum Services Association of Canada is now forecasting that a new total of **2,670 oil & gas wells** will be drilled in Saskatchewan in 2017, up from the initial forecast of 1,940.*

In a revision to expected drilling totals for 2017, the Petroleum Services Association of Canada (PSAC) is forecasting a major increase in oil and gas activity in Saskatchewan.

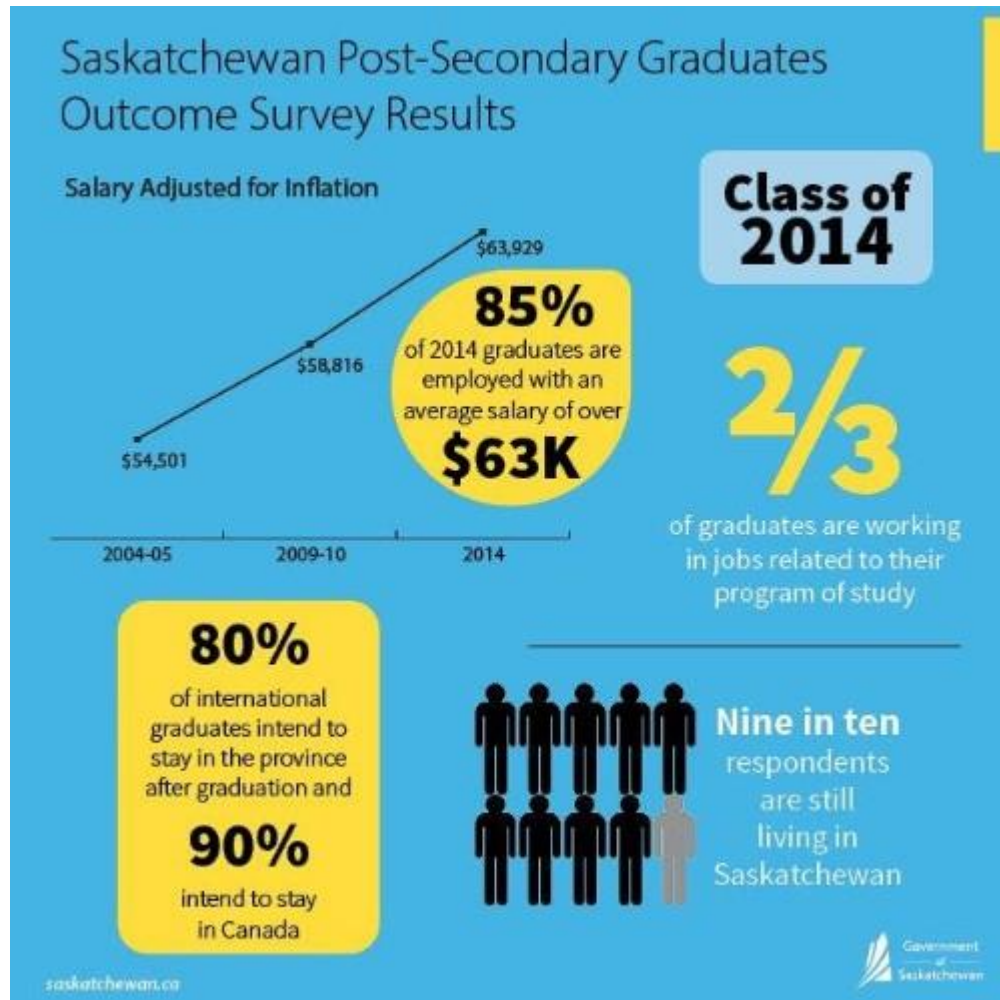
April 28th's update to the PSAC drilling activity forecast includes a significant increase in the estimated number of wells drilled in the province to a new total of 2,670 wells, up from 1,940 wells in the original forecast.

“This announcement is a clear sign of renewed operations in Saskatchewan, in part because of our province’s stable and competitive operating environment,” Energy and Resources Minister Dustin Duncan said. “After an extended period of cost management and reductions, this industry is showing us once again the kind of resiliency and efficiency that makes it one of our most dynamic

economic sectors and a major contributor to Saskatchewan's economic growth."

Read more [here](#).

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES FIND SUCCESS IN SASKATCHEWAN



The recently completed Saskatchewan Graduate Outcomes Survey indicates that post-secondary education in Saskatchewan continues to lead to positive outcomes for students.

"Saskatchewan is a great place to live and work," Advanced Education Minister Bronwyn Eyre said. "The results of this survey show that more than 90 per cent of Saskatchewan students are staying in the province and 80 per cent of international students say they intend to stay after graduation."

The survey identifies that a majority of graduates see significant benefits from their post-secondary

programs including improved employment opportunities, better income and the necessary skills and knowledge for their career. And, nearly two thirds of graduates indicate their jobs were highly related to their program of study.

Read more [here](#).

SASKATCHEWAN'S 2017 BIG GAME DRAW OPENS ONLINE MAY 1



Saskatchewan's big game draw opens May 1, and hunters have until midnight on May 25 to submit their online applications.

The big game draw is a transparent and equitable method of allocating a limited number of hunting licences to Saskatchewan residents. This year's draw includes licences for elk, moose, pronghorn, either-sex mule deer and antlerless mule deer.

"The big game draw continues to be popular, and remains important to the hunting community," Environment Minister Scott Moe said. "The number of hunters applying for Saskatchewan's most favourable hunting opportunities has increased significantly over the last number of years. I encourage all hunters to apply early and wish all applicants good luck in this year's draw."

For additional information, click [here](#).

MAY 2017 IS MISSING CHILDREN'S MONTH



May 2017 has been proclaimed Missing Children’s Month in Saskatchewan. This month coincides with Child Find Saskatchewan’s Annual Green Ribbon of Hope Campaign, an initiative that began 26 years ago as a way for the students and faculty at Kristen French’s secondary school in St. Catharines, Ontario to honour her memory.

“Wearing a Green Ribbon of Hope during the month of May is a way to show your concern for missing children and their families, and to support the good work of Child Find Saskatchewan,” Social Services Minister Tina Beaudry-Mellor said. “A missing child is everyone’s responsibility, and proclaiming May as Missing Children’s Month is an excellent reminder of this fact.”

“Child Find Saskatchewan is a valued partner, and they play an important role in assisting law enforcement agencies and other partners to locate missing children,” Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant said. “We are pleased to support them in their community education and awareness efforts.”

Click [here](#) to read this important news release.

LEGISLATIVE DOME RECEIVES NORTH AMERICAN COPPER AWARD



The restoration of the dome of the Legislative building received international acclaim for its excellence in copper craftsmanship. The project was chosen by a panel of industry experts to receive a North American Copper in Architecture Award which was awarded on April 27.

“The work here stands shoulder to shoulder with the most highly regarded copper architecture projects across North America,” Central Services Minister Christine Tell said. “The beautifully restored dome of our province’s Legislative building is a fitting match for the strength and ingenuity of the people who call Saskatchewan home.”

Read the entire news release [here](#).

SASKATCHEWAN CELEBRATES EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MONTH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR APRECIATION DAY



The Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed May as Early Childhood Education Month and May 15 as Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day.

“Giving Saskatchewan children a good start in life is incredibly important to their future, so let’s all take some time this month to thank those who dedicate their careers to providing quality early learning experiences in our province,” Deputy Premier and Education Minister Don Morgan said. “I encourage all parents of young children, and those expecting, to learn about how they can support healthy development for their child at home and access provincial programs and services available to them.”

To read the entire news release, click [here](#).

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Huskie Dogs' Breakfast

When: May 4

Where: Prairieland Park

[Click here](#) for Ticket Information



Holy Family 2nd Annual Bingo

When: Friday, May 5

Where: Holy Family School Gym

Please email hfsfundraising@hotmail.com for more information.



City Wide Food Drive

When: Saturday, May 6th

Where: all across the city

Click [here](#) to volunteer or for additional details



WUHCA Yard Sale

When: May 11, 12 & 13

For information or to participate, click [here](#)

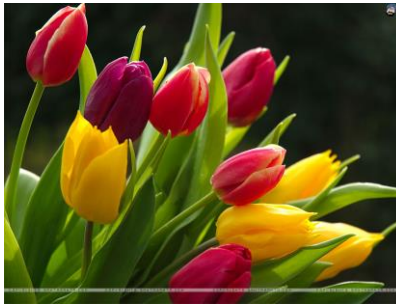
COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Evergreen Community Association Spring Trade Show

When: Saturday, May 13

Evergreen Community Association is seeking vendors, volunteer and entertainment

For more information contact Helen at hel_125@hotmail.com



The Edwards School of Business Leadership Conference

When: May 18

Where: TCU Place

Click [here](#) for information



Silverspring Community Association Annual Garage and Trunk Sale

When: Saturday, May 27 from 9 am - 3 pm

Where: Silverspring Community

For information or to register, [click here](#)

Note: you must register your house address by May 24 to be included on the office garage sale map!



Race for Kids

When: Saturday, May 27

Where: Rotary Park, 10 am start

"Support of Boys and Girls Clubs"

Click [here](#) for details



The Teddy Bear Picnic 2017

When: May 27

Where: Deifenbaker Park

Click [here](#) for details



Team Naomi Get Well Now 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Save the Date!

When: June 3

Where: Greenbryre Golf and Country Club

For information contact teamnaomigetwellnow@gmail.com and watch this newsletter for more details



20th Annual Zoogala - Save the Date

When: June 16

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm and Zoo

Click [here](#) for information on sponsorship and tickets



Canadian Country Music Association Awards

When: September 10

Tickets on Sale Now, click [here](#) for details



[CLICK HERE TO READ ADDITIONAL](#)
GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES

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 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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