

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



Provincial Point of View

November 27
The Christmas Festivities
are beginning!

FATHER / DAUGHTER GALA

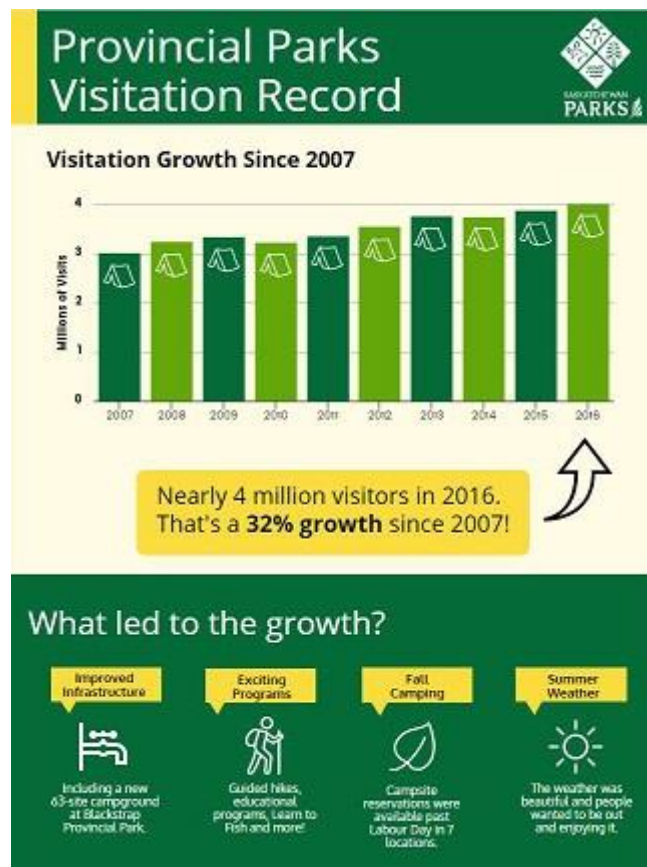


It was indeed an honour to escort my daughter Paige to "A Secret Garden" , the annual Father/Daughter Gala November 22. Paige and I have been going to this special event for the past TEN years! I was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of SaskTel, Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan. The Father / Daughter Gala is always a highlight of our year as we join other proud fathers and daughters.

The gala is part of the Festival of Trees festivities. This community festival runs for a week each year and during the week guests enjoyed view dozens of decorated Christmas trees,

amazing Gingerbread Lane displays and special events each evening. Festival of Trees is a not-for-profit organization. Funds raised support projects at Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation. This year funds will be designated to the Equip for Excellence campaign - ensuring medical staff have the equipment they need to provide excellent care for patients.

PROVINCIAL PARKS SET VISITATION RECORD SECOND YEAR IN A ROW



Saskatchewan's provincial parks and recreation sites hit a new attendance record of nearly four million visits in 2016. This is an increase of 108,000 visits over the 2015 record. Visitation to provincial parks has grown 32 per cent since 2007.

"Saskatchewan Provincial Parks continue to gain popularity each year and it's not hard to see why," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Ken Cheveldayoff said. "Our parks are great places for families to enjoy the high quality of life we have in the province."

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

THANK YOU DOUG KELLN FOR YOUR CAPABLE AND STRONG LEADERSHIP!



I'm pleased to pay special tribute to SaskEnergy President and CEO Doug Kelln who will be retiring after 34 outstanding years of service! I had the pleasure of working with Doug when I was Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy. His professionalism, leadership and friendship were appreciated and will be long remembered. I express sincere thanks and gratitude to Doug for his dedication to the people of our province.

“Under Doug Kelln, SaskEnergy has become an industry leader in safety, an innovator in service delivery, and a vital part of the solid foundation upon which our growing economy has been built,” Premier Brad Wall said in a statement. “Doug’s legacy is a responsive, efficient and reliable utility its customers can count on.”

[FAILING TO READ CONTRACT PUTS CONSUMERS AT RISK](#)



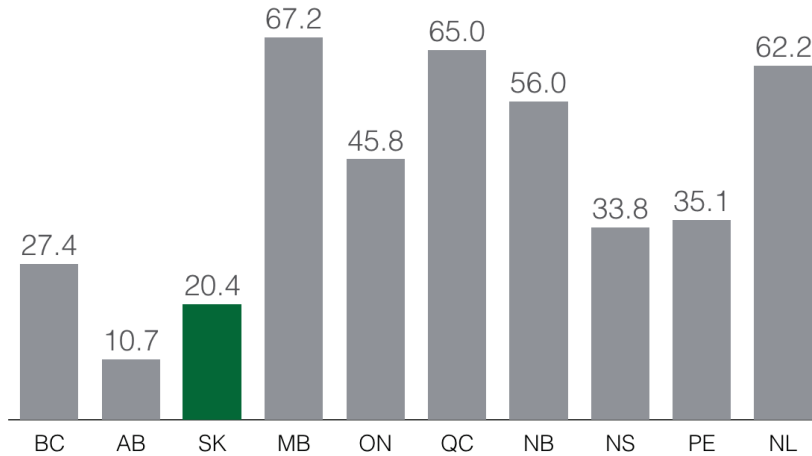
November is Financial Literacy Month and the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority (FCAA) wants consumers to read contracts in full before signing on the bottom line.

From cell phones to renovations, booking trips or downloading music and apps, we are regularly asked to wade through mountains of legal jargon before the purchase is made. It can be exhausting, and as a result many consumers simply sign or click “agree” without reading the terms and conditions and that’s when they get into trouble.

Find out ways to protect yourself [here](#).

THE 2016-17 MID-YEAR BUDGET REPORT HAS BEEN RELEASED
FALLING TAX REVENUE INCREASES DEFICIT

Provincial Total Debt to GDP (%)



Source: Saskatchewan 2016-17 Mid-Year Budget Report

Restraint Measures Include Public Sector Hiring Freeze To Control Labour Costs

A \$400 million drop in provincial tax revenue has pushed the forecast deficit to \$806 million, according to the 2016-17 Mid-Year Financial Report released today by Finance Minister Kevin Doherty.

“Continued low oil and potash prices are having a greater impact on revenue than expected,” Doherty said. “It has now been two full years since the oil price started to drop in the fall of 2014, and we are seeing a much greater effect on corporate and personal income tax and the Provincial Sales Tax.

“To start moving the provincial budget back to balance, significant restraint measures are needed. Measures will be implemented now, with more to follow in next year’s budget.”

For full details, click [here](#).

DID YOU KNOW:

While Saskatchewan's economy is showing signs of strength, lower than expected potash, uranium and continued low oil prices have hit government finances hard.

The shortfall in government revenues for 2016-17 is now at \$806 million. So we are taking significant restraint measures to start getting the budget back to balance.

Since coming to office, our government has paid off about 1/3 of Saskatchewan's operating debt.

That means we have the fiscal capacity to manage through challenging times. Interest costs are down from over \$1 billion annually in 1994-95 to \$292 million today.

Saskatchewan also has the second lowest debt to GDP ratio among provinces and a Aaa credit rating, showing our solid financial footing.

We will protect Saskatchewan's fiscal position. So as we move past this challenging time, our economy and province will be stronger than ever.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONFEDERATION IN 2017: SASKATCHEWAN WILL BE AT THE HEART OF THE CELEBRATION!



I was pleased to join the Honourable Ralph Goodale Friday for the funding announcement for the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

The Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness and Member of Parliament (Regina–Wascana), November 25 announced funding for a series of community projects in Saskatchewan that will help mark the 150th anniversary of Confederation in

2017. Minister Goodale made this announcement on behalf of the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage.

The Government of Canada is providing funding for these projects through the Canada 150 Fund, which is designed to help *Canadians across the country take part in local, regional and national celebrations for the 150th anniversary.*

Minister Goodale took the opportunity to remind everyone that the period of celebration for Canada's 150th will begin on December 31, 2016, with festivities all across the country. Nineteen urban centres—including Regina and Saskatoon—will usher in 2017 in grand style. Thousands of Canadians will have a chance to gather together in their community to take part in memorable celebrations.

Click [here](#) for information

PRIVATE LIQUOR RETAILERS SELECTED

Successful proponents were selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for the province's 50 available retail liquor store opportunities.

“The successful proponents range from independent businesses and entrepreneurs to larger established chains as well as six locations that will be owned and operated by affected government liquor store employees,” Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority Jeremy Harrison said. “Overall, we received more proposals than originally anticipated so we're very happy with the response.”

Read more [here](#).

TEXT WITH 911 NOW AVAILABLE FOR SASKATCHEWAN RESIDENTS WHO ARE HEARING OR SPEECH IMPAIRED



Government Relations Minister Donna Harpauer announced the launch of Text With 911, a service where residents who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired can register their cellphone so they can communicate with Sask911 operators via text message.

“I am pleased to announce that residents who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired now have improved access to Sask911, and can more easily request emergency assistance from police, fire and emergency medical services,” Harpauer said. “I encourage these residents to contact their wireless service provider and register for Text With 911.”

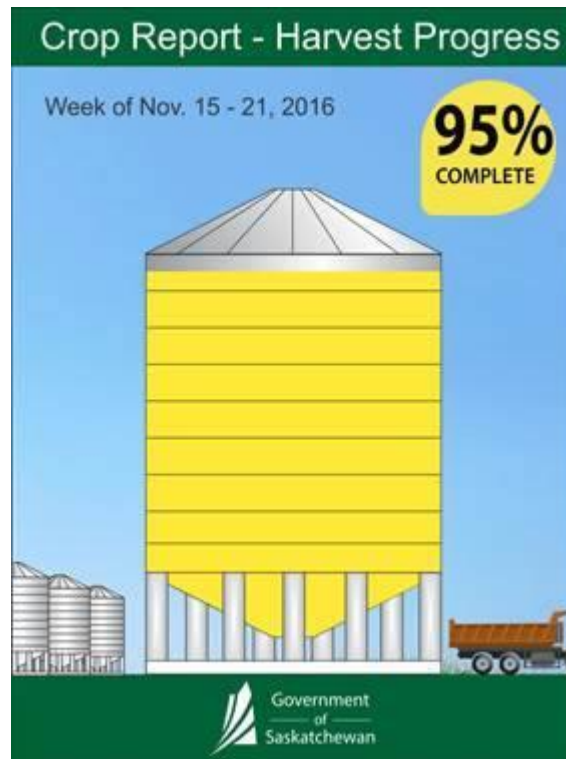
Read the entire news release [here](#).

CAROL SING-A-LONG IN OUR CONSTITUENCY



Invite your neighbours and friends to the Erindale Alliance Church Sunday, December 4 to sing Christmas Carols and enjoy good fellowship. Click [here](#) for additional details.

CROP REPORT



Despite many challenges this fall, Saskatchewan producers now have 95 per cent of the crop combined. Harvest continues in many parts of the province as weather and field conditions permit. Producers are hopeful that much of the remaining crop will be taken off prior to winter, although there are indications that some crop will likely be left out until the spring.

Find out more [here](#).

RESPECT PRIVATE LAND - ALWAYS ASK PERMISSION BEFORE YOU HUNT

Respect private land

Since most hunting in Saskatchewan takes place on private land, respecting private landowners is an important part of good hunter ethics. Hunters are always encouraged to ask permission to hunt on unposted land and must have permission to hunt on posted land.

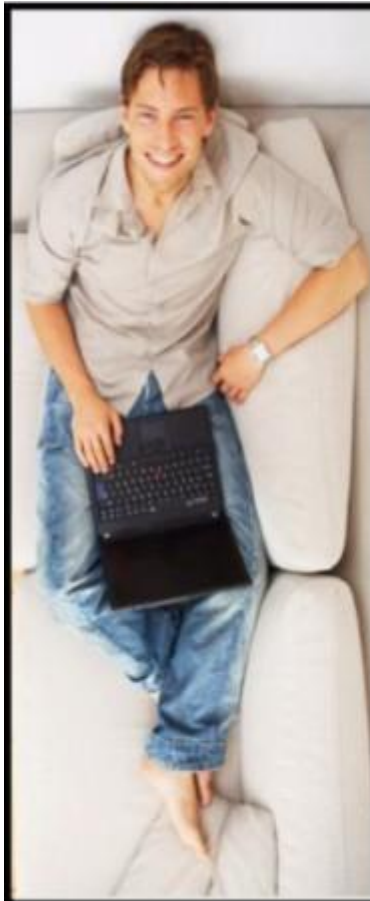
**If you see a hunting violation, call the
TIP line, 24 hours day, at 1-800-667-7561
or from a SaskTel cell phone at #5555.**



Since most hunting in Saskatchewan takes place on private land, respecting private landowners is an important part of good hunter ethics.

Historically, there has been a strong relationship between landowners and hunters. In order to maintain that relationship, hunters are encouraged to continue asking for landowner approval before hunting on unposted land.

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



*Are you between 18-30?
Thinking of starting a business?*

Praxis School of Entrepreneurship's *startSMART Program* provides the training and mentorship you need.

Starting JANUARY 9, 2017

*12 weeks in-class business training

*26 weeks business coaching
during startup

You may be eligible for government funding for tuition and receive a living allowance during training & startup.

306-664-0500

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



Be a Santa to Senior

When: Beginning now!

Where: You can volunteer to wrap or deliver gifts at various times

Call Marina @ 306.931.4663 to volunteer yourself, your family, your team, neighbors, or employees or co-workers or click [here](#) for dates and times to volunteer



BHP Billiton Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour

When: November 19 - January 7

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park

Click [here](#) for details



Small Business Luncheon in Support of Ronald McDonald Charities in Saskatchewan

When: December 2, 11:30 am

Where: Hilton Garden Inn

More info on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1813577398884932/>



10th Annual Jingle Bell Lunch

When: Thursday, December 8, 2016

Where: Saskatoon Travelodge

Student Tradeshow at 11:00AM

Meal & Program Begin at 11:45 AM

Information: www.picatic.com/JBLSaskatoon or by calling the JA office at 306.955.5267



Handel's Messiah - Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra

When: December 9, 7:30 pm

Where: Knox United Church, 838 Spadina Crescent E

Click [here](#) for information and tickets



The Mega Snow Christmas Show

When: December 10, 10 am - 5 pm

Where: Prairieland Park, 503 Ruth Street W

Click [here](#) for information



Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Featuring Minister of Finance, Kevin Doherty

When: December 16

Where: Sheraton Cavalier Hotel

Click [here](#) for information or [here](#) to purchase tickets



Kayden Kot Steak Night Benefit

When: January 28, 5 - 8 pm

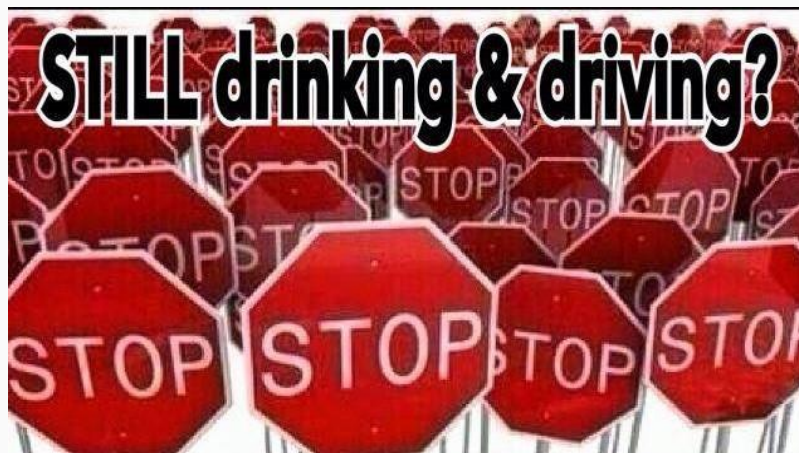
Where: the Thirsty Scholar, Grosvenor Park Centre, 2105 8 St E

For tickets or information or to donate to the silent auction, please contact dkdube@sasktel.net or smfortier@hotmail.com



This spot is being held for your event! Please let us know if you have an event you would like in our newsletter!

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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