



## From a Provincial Point of View

February 11, 2011

### Improving Affordable Housing

Our government is continuing to take action to address the challenge of providing affordable housing. We recently announced the development of a comprehensive housing strategy to be completed by the end of June 2011. The goal of the strategy is to make immediate improvements that will strengthen Saskatchewan's affordable housing system as well as ensure a well-functioning system into the future. It will also help us find innovative solutions so that we can support a growing population and ensure that housing is accessible to all people and families in Saskatchewan. The strategy will be developed by the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation in coordination with stakeholders in the housing industry, including rural and urban municipalities, home builders and developers, real estate organizations, chambers of commerce, and community-based organizations across the province. Once completed, the strategy will help bring clarity to all levels of government, and others involved, on the roles each of us can play in delivering housing solutions.

Since 2007, our government has taken various measures to improve affordable housing in Saskatchewan. We invested \$80 million to open over 860 additional affordable housing units across the province. Plus, there are over 1100 more affordable housing units in various stages of development. Our government has also assisted over 360 low-income households achieve homeownership and over 2900 more improve the health, safety and energy efficiency of their homes. We increased shelter rates and the Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement and indexed both to the cost of living. We know there is still more to do, but our government will continue to work for and with you so we can move our province forward.

There are many advantages to living in Saskatchewan today. A government that is working toward solutions to provide more affordable housing is just one of them. We are a growing, prosperous province which has finally taken its rightful place as one of Canada's economic leaders. But, the Saskatchewan advantage is about more than just numbers. It is about quality of life – a place where people still say good morning and know their neighbours by first name. It is because of people all across our great province who believe that it is no longer a question of whether Saskatchewan is next year country or this year country, because we are now both.

### Community Service



One day a florist goes to a barber for a haircut. After the cut he asked about his bill and the barber replies, "I can't accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week." The florist was pleased and left the Shop.

When the barber opens the next morning there's a thank You card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.

Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill,

the Barber again replies, "I can't accept money, I'm doing Community Service this week." The cop is happy and leaves the shop.

The next morning there is another thank you card and this time a dozen donuts waiting for him.

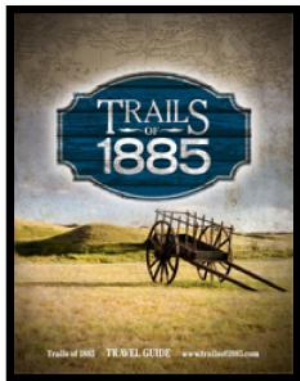
Later that day, a college professor comes in for a haircut, and when he tries

to pay his bill, the barber again replies, "I can't accept money from you. and again explains why. The professor is very Happy and leaves the shop.

The next morning when the barber opens his shop, there is a 'thank you' card And a dozen different books, such as "How to Improve Your Business" and "Becoming More Successful."

Today, an MLA comes in for a haircut, and when he goes to pay his bill The barber again replies, "I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing Community service this week." The MLA is very happy and leaves the Shop. The next morning when the barber goes to open up, there are a dozen MLA's lined up waiting for a free haircut

## 2011 Trails of 1885 Input Conference



Come and hear the Trails of 1885 ideas and vision for the upcoming year at an exciting and unique conference.

The Conference will be held in Lloydminster, AB February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at the West Harvest Inn on Hwy #16

The 2011 Trails of 1885 Input Conference will include guest speakers, an evening mixer and reception, 2010 event discussion and informative discussions.

The 2010 Trails of 1885 project ends March 31, 2011. There is an opportunity to move forward and they would like to hear about their project overview, direction, future event and partnership.

Registration cutoff is Monday February 14, 2011. For more information please contact 306-933-6250, email [colleen@trailsof1885.com](mailto:colleen@trailsof1885.com).

## The City of Saskatoon Once Again Receives AAA Credit Rating From Standard & Poor's Report



Standard & Poor's (S&P) once again reaffirmed the City of Saskatoon's AAA Credit Rating for 2009. The City of Saskatoon is one of only three Canadian cities—Brampton and Mississauga being the others—rated by S&P to receive a AAA rating for 2009.

Annually, S&P, an international bond-rating agency, reviews the City of Saskatoon's financial position and then releases a report that provides a credit rating for the City. According to S&P's 2009 report: "The ratings on Saskatoon reflect Standard & Poor's assessment of the City's generally strong operating performance, strong economy, and excellent cash and investment levels that exceed its debt."

[Click here to read more...](#)

## **59<sup>th</sup> Annual Luther Invitational Basketball Tournament**



Luther College President Bryan Hillen

I was honoured to bring greetings to the students at Luther College for the 59<sup>th</sup> annual Luther Invitational Basketball Tournament. This is the longest continuously running and one of the most prestigious high school basketball tournaments in Western Canada. Clearly, the success of this tournament is due in a large part to the involvement of its students. I commend the Luther students for their efforts and congratulate them on the success of this outstanding event.

## **Ambulance Dispatcher Honoured in Saskatoon**

EMS Dispatcher Kim Wruck received an award on February 1<sup>st</sup> from Chief of Corman Park Police, Ron Boechler for her effort on a call that helped save a young ladies life.

In July of 2008, a 911 call came in from a young lady who was concerned about her friend. She let Kim know that she didn't know where her friend was, all she knew is that she was somewhere in the rural area, but was sure that her friend had overdosed on pills and was in serious trouble. The only communication had with the friend was by text and she was no longer answering. Kim tried to call her cell phone so we could try to triangulate the signal for a possible location but there was no answer. After trying everything possible an hour and a half had passed and as a last ditch effort Kim started going through all the rural maps that MD Ambulance has for surrounding area's looking for a last name that matched the patients. Kim finally located a name that matched and found a land location. Kim called Corman Park Police and was answered by Ron Boechler. Current Chief Boechler responded to this address and found a female patient unconscious and in life threatening danger. Paramedics were able to stabilize the patient and once admitted to Hospital Doctor's stated that if another hour had passed the patient would have died.

"Thanks to Kim's efforts and deciding not to give up on this young lady she is alive today", states MD Ambulance President and CEO Dave Dutchak "We are extremely proud of Kim and our Communications Team here at MD Ambulance". Kim has received an award for "the call of the year" from MD Ambulance Communications Department and Tuesday morning at 10:00am will receive a letter of accommodation from Corman Park Police.

## **"Paying It Forward"- Helping Those Less Fortunate**

Congratulations to Silverspring Elementary School who participated in a recycling assembly last Friday, where they donated gently used sweaters to assist those less fortunate during the cold winter months. In total the school collected over 230 sweaters and donated them to The Salvation Army. The students are also participating in a used shoe drive where they are collecting used sneakers to donate to Brainsport. They have set their goal to collect 500 shoes by the end of February. Brainsport will then be distributing the shoes to Inner City schools on Silverspring Elementary's behalf.

We are so proud of our Silverspring students, families, and the giving community that we live in.

### Thought of the Day

*The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time.* – Winston Churchill

### Just The Headlines – [www.gov.sk.ca/news](http://www.gov.sk.ca/news)

Feb. 10, 2011 - BUILDING PERMITS IN 2010 SECOND-HIGHEST ON RECORD  
Feb. 10, 2011 - SASKATCHEWAN FOCUSING ON SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY  
Feb. 10, 2011 - STRONG FEBRUARY LAND SALE GENERATES \$43.4 MILLION  
Feb. 8, 2011 - GOVERNMENT PROVIDES \$2.4 MILLION IN CHARITABLE GAMING GRANTS  
Feb. 7, 2011 - SASKATCHEWAN CONGRATULATES JUNIOR CURLERS

### Did You Know???

- Saskatchewan Building permits in 2010 totaled \$2.1 billion (seasonally unadjusted), just shy of the \$2.2 billion recorded in 2008.
- The Saskatoon and Regina census metropolitan areas (CMAs) are the fastest and third fastest growing in Canada.
- There were 517,400 people working in Saskatchewan in January, an increase of 7,400 over January of 2010 and a record for the month of January.

### 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 to recognize anyone or have your event mentioned in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to call me.



**Follow Me On Facebook – [www.facebook.com/pages/Ken-Cheveldayoff/52760912740](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ken-Cheveldayoff/52760912740)**

**“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. Contact Ken by calling (306) 651-7100, emailing [ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net](mailto:ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net) or writing Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs, 1106A Central Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7N 2H1. **To subscribe or be removed from this newsletter, please send an email message.** This newsletter is produced with the assistance of the Saskatchewan Party Caucus Office.