



From a Provincial Point of View

August 7, 2012

Ken Cheveldayoff

PROVINCE REMAINS ON TRACK WITH BALANCED BUDGET

The First Quarter Financial Report released today by Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Ken Krawetz shows that Saskatchewan remains on track to have the only provincial balanced budget in Canada in 2012-13.

A weak global economic recovery has fuelled volatility in commodity markets, reducing renewable resource revenue. Overall, revenue is forecast to be down \$113.2 million from budget, largely due to reduced revenue projections from oil and Crown land sales.

"While resource revenue can fluctuate over the course of an entire year, the overall strength of our economy coupled with our government's commitment to sound fiscal management will ensure a balanced budget for the people of Saskatchewan," Krawetz said.

[Province Remains on Track With Balanced Budget](#)

40th SASKATCHEWAN SUMMER GAMES



I had the privilege of participating in the opening ceremonies of the 40th Saskatchewan Summer Games in Meadow Lake July 29 along with my colleague Jeremy Harrison, MLA, Meadow Lake. This year approximately 2,000 athletes are participating in the games which wrapped up August 4. The athletes represent nine districts in Saskatchewan – Regina, South East, South West, Parkland Valley, Prairie Central, Saskatoon, Rivers West, Lakeland, and North.

My daughter, Paige, participated in the games this year and I am very proud to say that she has won six medals! Her gold medals came in the 11 and 12 age group events for the 100m backstroke and 200m individual medley, while she earned her silver medals in the 200 and 400m freestyle, 200m backstroke, and 50m butterfly. Speaking to the Saskatoon Star Phoenix, Paige said, "I've had lots of support from family, friends, and my teammates." She also acknowledged two coaches who played key roles. Geoff



Waugh has coached her all year with the Goldfins, and Nadine Brenaut helped her leading up to Meadow Lake. "(Waugh) has been very supportive. He's always pushed me to be my best. He's such a great coach," said Cheveldayoff. "Nadine Brenaut, I didn't know her for too long, but she's very nice. She pushes you, but she doesn't point out what you're doing wrong, she points out what you need to do better."

Congratulations to all the athletes who have participated and to the volunteers who have ensured the games ran smoothly.

For more information on the games and the medal standings visit the Saskatchewan Summer Games website at http://www.saskgames.ca/summer/2012_news.

PREMIER LOOKING TO MAKE HEALTH CARE BETTER ACROSS CANADA

Premier Brad Wall and P.E.I. Premier Robert Ghiz released a health report entitled, "From Innovation to Action" to Canadian premiers at the recent Council of the Federation meeting in Halifax.

The report provides practical and innovation solutions to improve the country's health care system in a sustainable way. Three of the areas the Premiers focused were the clinical practice guidelines, team-based health care delivery models, and health human resources management initiatives.

If you would like to review the report in further detail the click on the link to be directed to the report's pdf version.

<http://www.councilofthefederation.ca/pdfs/Health%20Innovation%20Report-E-WEB.pdf>

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST

As part of the province's continued efforts to improve access to high-quality patient care, Health Minister Dustin Duncan announced \$9.83 million in funding for a new program to encourage and reward family physicians in providing patients with a full range of services.

"Physicians are vital partners as we transform our health system to better meet patients' needs, including improving access to health care," Duncan said. "As part of our agreement with the Saskatchewan Medical Association, I am pleased to introduce the Family Physician Comprehensive Care Program to recognize family physicians that provide patients with a full range of primary care services, while at the same time encouraging more physicians to expand their practices to full comprehensive care."

Physicians who qualify for the program monitor the overall health of their patients, collaborate with other health care providers on their care, and manage their patients' chronic diseases. In addition, qualifying physicians are caring for their patients when they are hospitalized, in a nursing home, or having a baby.

"We know from other high-performing health systems that when patients are provided comprehensive primary care services, such as chronic disease management, their health and satisfaction with the service improves - and this approach is consistent with our focus on patient- and family-centered health care," Duncan said.

[Putting Patients First: Improving Access to Physicians Through Comprehensive Care Incentive Program](#)

PUBLIC INPUT NEEDED ON FUTURE OF ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS

Eventually, every person in the province will have an electronic health record (EHR) that is a private, lifetime record of their medical history. These EHRs will provide authorized health care professionals immediate access to test results, past treatments, and medication profiles. At this point, some of the infrastructure is already in place, or under development, which will feed into the information for the EHR.

"We have made a great effort to ensure we are putting the patient first in our health care system, and that includes their electronic health information." Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. "It's important that we know what the patient or caregiver needs and wants in that technology and that will be the most value to them."

Information collected through the surveys, combined with feedback being gathered through health sector workshops taking place over the summer, will help shape the future of electronic health records in Saskatchewan.

eHealth Saskatchewan is inviting residents to visit <http://www.ehealth-sk.ca/> to learn more about electronic health records and participate in a short survey to answer questions about what type of electronic services would be useful to them. The survey will be available until midnight on September 7. [Public Engagement Sought on Future of Electronic Health Records](#)

LABOUR FORCE FRIDAY

We are pleased to announce a new all-time high for employment in Saskatchewan was set in June 2012, continuing the province's strong economic performance. Employment has increased year-over-year for seven months in a row. Saskatoon's employment was up by 5,000 workers and Regina's employment was up by 3,300.

These positive numbers reflect the province's continuing economic momentum. With record weekly earnings for workers and high optimism by businesses to expand their operations, future job prospects in Saskatchewan are strong.

LOCAL VOLUNTEER UP FOR THE SCOTIA BANK GAME CHANGER

Robin Bellamy has dedicated his life to helping those around him. Over the years Robin and his wife, Morgan, have set up community food drives, community BBQs, and helped those hit by a typhoon in the Philippines.

Robin's son Che' was in a terrible car accident and was left a paraplegic. In 2008, Che' passed away from a heart attack at the age of 35. In honour of his son, Robin and Morgan took Che's hand-driven bike from Prince Albert to Regina for the Labour Day Classic to raise money for the Children's Hospital in Saskatchewan.

Because of Robin's commitment to the community, city, and province, he has been honoured with the Canada 125 Medal, Saskatchewan Centennial Medal, Saskatoon 100 Reasons Award, as well as the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal.

Robin has recently been nominated for one of the ScotiaBank's Game Changers. If he is chosen as The Saskatchewan Roughrider ScotiaBank Game Changer, the proceeds will go to Saskatchewan's Children's Hospital Foundation.

I encourage everyone to visit the website below to vote for Robin for the Game Changer title and donation to the Saskatchewan's Children's Hospital Foundation.

<https://www.scotiabankgamechangers.com/nomination/?nominationid=249>

THE NEW GUARD HONOURS THE OLD GUARD



The Canada Remembers Air Show was back again this year to honour our veterans. The event first began in 1995 in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Since then over 400,000 visitors have seen the show and it has been the country's largest annual memorial to veterans. This year's theme was The New Guard Honours the Old Guard.

"There is a lot of sacrifices made for the country and are still being made every year," said Brian Swidrovich, a veteran organizer for the air show. "I think it is incumbent for us to step forward and try and make every effort to honour our veterans."

For more information visit <http://www.canadaremembersourheroes.com/>

BLAINE LAKE CENTENNIAL



It was absolutely fantastic to attend the 100th anniversary in Blaine Lake this past weekend. It is always a pleasure to go back to my hometown and see everyone who has been so supportive of me and our family. It was such an honour to have the privilege of cutting the ribbon at the beautiful new metal wheat sheaf sculpture! The town was buzzing with such positive activity throughout the weekend. My family and I enjoyed participating in the parade and seeing how the volunteers of this community came together to provide an excellent weekend of fun for people of all ages.

On Sunday, along with MLA Scott Moe, we had the opportunity to open the new Seniors Centre. It is an incredible new facility that will be the centre of activity in Blaine Lake.

Thank you to everyone in Blaine Lake for such a memorable weekend. The excellent weather resulted in superb attendance as young and old renewed friendships and created new ones. Another fantastic Saskatchewan event!

SASKATOON EXHIBITION 2012

As August begins, it is time for the tradition of the Saskatoon Exhibition. This year's Exhibition kicked off August 7 with the Exhibition Parade in downtown Saskatoon.

This year's festivities look like they will be one of the best. There will be new rides on the midway, chuck wagon races for adults and children, the Saskatchewan Blue Cross Show Stage, the main stage, the indoor displays, as well as new this year, the Saskatoon Ex Ribfest.

For a more details of the week and other prices for admissions visit the Saskatoon Exhibition website: <http://www.saskatoonexhibition.ca/index.php>

REMINDER OF HOCKEY REGISTRATION

Even though the sun is still shining and no one wants to think about winter. It is time to register for hockey. Online registration is available for the Saskatoon Red Wings and the Saskatoon Wild hockey teams.

Visit <http://zoneg.goalline.ca/> for more information on the Saskatoon Zone G Red Wings registration forms or visit <http://saskatoonwild.com/> for the Saskatoon Zone X Wild Minor Hockey registration information.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Active Families Benefit Program includes all children and youth under 18 years old in order to increase access to sport, culture and recreation opportunities.
- Budget 2012-13 contains \$1.74 billion in total school operating funding, a five per cent increase.
- The commitment to spend \$2.2 billion over four years on highways and transportation infrastructure is fulfilled with \$581.5 million in spending.
- To encourage construction of new multi-unit rental housing projects, there is a corporate income tax rebate equal to 10 per cent of the rental income generated from newly constructed multi-unit rental projects, for a period of up to ten years. When combined with other housing initiatives, it's expected to encourage the construction of an additional 10,000 new rental units in the province over the life of the program.

JUST THE HEADLINES

- July 30, 2012 – [Government to Review Brand Inspection](#)
- July 31, 2012 – [Royal Saskatchewan Museum Poised to Lead Bee Research in Saskatchewan](#)
- August 1, 2012 – [Highway 48 Upgrade in Southeast Saskatchewan Well Underway](#)
- August 2, 2012 – [New Legislation Will Enhance Services Available to Saskatchewan Residents](#)
- August 3, 2012 – [First Human Case of West Nile Virus Detected in Saskatchewan](#)
- August 7, 2012 – [Record Setting Month for Saskatchewan Building Permits](#)

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS IN SASKATOON

Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan

Date: July 4 to August 19, 2012

Where: Shakespeare Tent on the Saskatchewan

When: Various times

Visit <http://www.shakespeareonthesaskatchewan.com/> for a full schedule

PotashCorp Fringe Theater Festival

Date: August 2 – August 11

Where: Broadway District

When: All-Day Event with different show times

Visit <http://www.25thstreettheatre.org/> for a full schedule

Saskatoon Exhibition

Date: August 7 to August 12

Where: Prairieland Park

When: Aug 7: 3:00pm-12:00am, Aug 8-12: 12:00pm-12:00am

Visit <http://www.saskatoonexhibition.ca/> for more information

FolkFest

Date: August 16 to August 18

Where: Various Locations around Saskatoon

When: Aug 16 and 17 - 5:00pm-12:00am, Aug 18 - 3:00pm-12:00am

Visit <http://www.saskatoonfolkfest.ca/home> for more information

Ukrainian Day in the Park

Date: August 25

Where: Victoria Park

When: Moleben Service beginning at 12:30pm followed by the Opening Ceremonies at 1:00pm

Mental Health and Addictions Services Fun Run

Date: August 26

Where: Meewasin Trail

When: ½ marathon starts at 8:30am, the remainder of the races will take place at 9:00am

For more information visit <http://mhasfunrun.ca/>

Rayna's Day of Play

Date: August 26

Where: Sutherland Business District

When: All Day Event

Breakfast of Champions with Freddie Couples

Date: August 27

Where: Prairieland Park Hall A

When: 7:30am to 9:00am

For more information visit <http://www.synergycommunitybuilders.ca/>

If you would like your event listed in Provincial Point of View, please contact me at ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"I do not think there is any other quality so essential to success of any kind as the quality of perseverance. It overcomes almost everything, even nature."

-John Rockefeller

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.



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"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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