



From a Provincial Point of View

August 24, 2012

Ken Cheveldayoff

A TRUE CANADIAN HERO

Victoria Boehm, a former Saskatoon resident, who now lives in Calgary, is getting support on Twitter like she could have never imagined.

On June 27, just after finishing her grade 10 final exams she was diagnosed with Hodgkins lymphoma. Victoria found that the best way to express her feelings was through Twitter. Her Twitter handle @CuzIHaveCancer has some very special followers.

After having two lymph nodes removed July 13, a family friend tweeted at everyone he could – Flames players, prospects, celebrities, Hockey Canada members – asking for support as she battled cancer. Victoria's followers quickly grew from 80 to 250. Celebrities like New York Giants linebacker and cancer survivor Mark Herzlich and Baltimore Ravens offensive lineman Michael Orr (The Blind Side was based on his life) passed on the tweet to their followers.



Flames draft choice Jon Gilles and woman's hockey legend Hayley Wickenheiser brought her passion of hockey closer. Hockey has been something she has refused to give up during this time. She has managed to work her chemo appointments around her hockey schedule.

Victoria began her chemo treatments August 1. The next day a close friend passed away from breast cancer and the struggle became more real to Victoria and her family. She has five more weeks of chemo, with a possibility of radiation treatment after that. But none of this is slowing Victoria down; she has been working hard in hopes of making a high-level midget women's hockey team. Victoria has been quoted as saying, "They can have my hair, but they can't have my hockey!"

Victoria is a true hero, bravely facing challenges, but not letting those challenges get in the way of her dreams. I encourage everyone with a Twitter account to follow Victoria and show your support during her journey.

AIR QUALITY REPORT RELEASED

Saskatchewan residents should breathe easy knowing that we enjoy good quality air in the province. Over the past ten years, the urban air quality measured in six Saskatchewan communities is rated as "good" to "excellent", according the Air Quality Index (AQI). These findings are summarized in the

Saskatchewan Air Quality Report for 2000-2009, which has been posted on the Ministry of Environment's website. It is the first report of its kind completed in Saskatchewan.

The AQI is an indicator that provides information on the adverse effects of five common air pollutants: sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and particulate matter.

"As our province continues to experience growth and with more vehicles on the road, you would expect the level of pollution would increase as well," Environment Minister Ken Cheveldayoff said. "This does not appear to be happening. The majority of results show an actual decrease in average levels of pollutants, which is good news for Saskatchewan. We are committed to maintaining this trend of air quality, while at the same time encouraging business growth and expansion."

[Saskatchewan Air Quality Report Released](#)

SURGERY WAIT LIST REDUCED IN PAST YEAR

Saskatchewan patients are receiving surgery faster, thanks to a concerted effort by Saskatchewan's health system, new data confirms.

First quarter results for the 2012-13 year show 97 per cent of patients have surgery within 12 months and 89 per cent within six months.

"The collaborative approach that Saskatchewan is taking to address surgical wait times is working because everyone involved has a stake in success," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. "We're making it easier for people to find the right surgeon, we're expanding surgical capacity across the province, and we're using multidisciplinary clinics to provide faster, more holistic care for people with a range of health issues that normally lead to surgery."

[Surgery Wait List Reduced by 2,225 Patients in Past Year](#)

RETAIL SALES REMAIN ON THE RISE

Statistics Canada today released a report on June retail figures that show Saskatchewan consumers increased their spending in June. According to the report, retail sales jumped by 5.3 per cent in June 2012 over June 2011, the second highest percentage increase in Canada and more than three times the national average. Retail sales were up by 1.7 per cent nationally over the same period.

"Average salaries are increasing in the province and that means there's more money for families," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "Confidence in the overall direction of the economy is helping to drive the higher retail sales today, and that's definitely good for Saskatchewan businesses."

[Retail Sales Rise in June](#)

SEPTEMBER LONG WEEKEND RIDE FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

A few weeks ago we had featured Robin Bellamy, who has been nominated for the ScotiaBank Game Changer. Robin and his wife are known around the community for being selfless in their work for the community and raising money for the people who need it most.

This upcoming September long weekend, Robin and his wife are heading out again. They will ride from Saskatoon to Regina on their son's hand bike to raise money for the Saskatchewan Children's Hospital and the Top of the Rock Fund (helping people with intellectual disabilities take their dream trips). Before and during this trip any monies given over \$20.00 will receive a tax receipt.

If you would like to show your support or for more information please call or email the constituency office and we will forward your information on to Robin.

Thank you to Robin and his wife for taking their time and effort and making the community a better place.

RAMADAN CELEBRATION WRAPS UP

After our weekend of FolkFest celebrations, in which we have celebrated our city's diversity, Muslims in Saskatoon had something else to celebrate as well. More than 5,000 Muslims in Saskatoon have gathered for prayer and to celebrate the end of Ramadan. The celebration follows the lunar calendar and for this past month the community goes without food or drink from dawn to sunset.

Over the past 30 days the Muslim community in Saskatoon has focused towards a major drive for the Saskatoon Food Bank as well as raising \$40,000 for relief efforts in Syria and Burma.

My best wishes to everyone celebrating the end of Ramadan this past week and the greatest thanks for your hard work and generosity to the Saskatoon Food Bank and relief efforts overseas.

1st ANNUAL RAYNA'S DAY OF PLAY



Rayna's Day of Play is held in memory of Rayna Korte. She was an inspiration to everyone who came to know the six year old. Rayna was diagnosed with cancer, not once but twice. In January 2011, she was diagnosed terminal. She was given one wish; Rayna wished for 100 days to play with family and friends. On the 100th day of her play, Rayna passed away in her parent's arms, after seeing her wish come true.

This event will be held yearly and is hosted by The Children's Wish Foundation along with Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo, with all proceeds donated to Wishes Granted for Children in Saskatchewan. Rayna's Day of Play will include a bike parade, Teddy Bear Clinic, Petting Zoo, and many other fun activities for children.

Rayna's Day of Play will take place along Central Avenue taking the place of HarvestFest. It will be an excellent day and will honour the memory of this brave little girl.

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

BACK TO SCHOOL

It is almost that time of the year again. Back to school! This year both the Public and Catholic high schools begin on September 4 and the elementary schools begin September 5.

I hope everyone will enjoy these last weeks of their summer vacation; the weather looks wonderful for some last minute sun.



SASKATCHEWAN VOLUNTEER MEDAL NOMINATIONS OPEN

Saskatchewan is known for its volunteers. And it is once again time to acknowledge those people who make our communities better with the hard work and personal time they put in. Saskatchewan residents have until October 18 to nominate individuals for the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. The Volunteer Medal recognizes individuals who have provided outstanding volunteer service or exceptional community involvement.

"Saskatchewan's greatest strength is our capable and generous volunteers," Lieutenant Governor Vaughn Solomon Schofield said. "I encourage everyone to consider nominating a deserving individual to

receive our highest volunteer award, the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal, so that we can publicly thank our most outstanding volunteers."

For more information and nomination forms visit: <http://www.ops.gov.sk.ca/svm>

DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2006, the Saskatchewan Youth Award was established to recognize the exceptional contributions to the province made through the personal accomplishments of young people ages 15 to 24
- Since its establishment in 1995, the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal has been presented to 148 outstanding individuals.
- In 2005-06 the commemorative Saskatchewan Centennial Medal was presented to approximately 4,200 individuals who made significant contributions to society
- The Province of Saskatchewan has Canada's second largest honours and awards program, next to Ontario.

JUST THE HEADLINES

- August 17, 2012 – [Saskatchewanwanderer Skydives, Sets off for School](#)
- August 20, 2012 – [Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan Celebrate New Affordable Housing in Air Ronge](#)
- August 21, 2012 – [Elm Tree Pruning Ban Ends August 31](#)
- August 22, 2012 – [Rotavirus Vaccine Will Become Available in Saskatchewan](#)

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS IN SASKATOON

Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan

Date: July 4 to August 26, 2012

Where: Shakespeare Tent on the Saskatchewan

When: Various times

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

Rock 102 Cruise Weekend

Date: August 24 to August 25

Where: Downtown Saskatoon

When: 11:00am to 5:00pm

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

Friends of the Forestry Farm House Walking Tours and Open House

Date: August 26

Where: Forestry Farm, Superintendents Residence

When: 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Breakfast of Champions with Freddie Couples

Date: August 27

Where: Prairieland Park Hall A

When: 7:30 am to 9:00am

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

PotashCorp Fireworks Festival

Date: August 31 to September 1

Where: River Landing

When: Entertainment at 5:00pm, Fireworks at 9:30pm

Canadian Country Music Week

Date: September 6 to September 9

More Events to come!

Broadway Street Fair

Date: September 8

Where: Broadway Ave, Saskatoon

When: 10:00am to 5:00pm

2012 CCMA Awards

Date: September 9

Where: Credit Union Centre

When: Red Carpet 3:30pm, Broadcast 4:45pm

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

The road to success is always under construction. – Lily Tomlin

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.

Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs
1106A Central Avenue Saskatoon, SK S7N 2H1

P 306.651.7100 | E ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net

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