



From a Provincial Point of View

August 31, 2012

Ken Cheveldayoff

Driver Safety During the School Year

There is a noticeable 'buzz' in the office hallways from parents counting down the days that their kids will be heading back to school. Perhaps we can stretch our minds back to our memories of long, lazy summers and then the excitement that came with our first day back at school. Young kids haven't changed much – they will be excited to see friends and class-mates that they may not have seen all summer. In their celebration, they may not be watching the traffic on our streets and highways. Therefore, as drivers, please be alert and pay extra attention to the increased vehicle and pedestrian traffic on our roadways after the September Long Week-end.

As a reminder, school begins for our loved ones on the morning of Tuesday, September 4th.

The eve of the school year is approaching and with it brings an increase in pedestrians, especially children, on the roadways.

Drivers – **BE ALERT** – Please Use Extra Care and Caution:

- **Entering school zones.** Be aware of speed limit reductions.
- **Approaching crosswalks.** Especially when visibility of pedestrians maybe obscured by adjacent parked vehicles.
- **Approaching school buses loading and unloading children.** Some cities such as Prince Albert have a bylaw prohibiting the use of flashing lights. Proceed with extreme caution.
- **Peak times** school bus transportation times can be anywhere between 8:00-8:45am and 3:15-4:00pm.
- Loaded school **buses entering and exiting highways.** Keep your distance and slow down.
- Respect school bus loading/unloading zones on school property and speak with your child's school for regulations.
- Approaching **parks and recreational areas** after school hours.

REMEMBER Slow down and keep a watchful eye – a lot is riding on it.

SLOW DOWN IN THE ORANGE ZONE



After the tragic accident that took the life of one of our highway construction workers, I encourage everyone to slow down and prevent more accidents like this. These accidents can be prevented if you look for the sign, reduce your speed to 60km when passing workers and

equipment using extra caution. Remember, if you are caught going over 60km in the orange zone there is a base fine of \$140 plus \$2 per km over the limit.

GOOD LUCK TO OUR PROVINCE'S PARALYMPIANS!

The Government of Saskatchewan wishes Saskatchewan's Paralympic athletes the best of luck in the 2012 Summer Paralympic Games, taking place from August 29 to September 9 in London.

Six athletes from Saskatchewan qualified to compete. They are Arnold Boldt (cycling, Saskatoon), Logan Campbell (sailing, Saskatoon), Earle Connor (athletics, Saskatoon), Alexandre Dupont (athletics, Bradwell), Keira Frie (athletics, Saskatoon) and Robert Hudson (archery, Leoville).

"The Government of Saskatchewan is proud of our province's Paralympic athletes," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said. "Part of our ministry's mandate is to promote healthy, active families through sport, culture and recreation. These Paralympic athletes will inspire others to keep fit and stay involved in sport."

The government and its partner, Sask Sport Inc., support our province's Paralympic athletes is through the Saskatchewan Program for Athletic Excellence.

Four Paralympic athletes - Boldt, Campbell, Frie and Hudson - qualified and will receive funding through the program, which has provided \$399,000 to 67 athletes in 29 different sports since it was established in 2010 to help finance the athletic pursuits of our province's elite athletes.

Competitors who qualify receive up to \$6,000 per year to help cover expenses including education, living, equipment, competition and training camp costs.

Campbell, 24, from Saskatoon, will compete in sailing at the Summer Paralympic Games.

"The Saskatchewan Program for Athletic Excellence has given me the opportunity to train and compete at an international level," Campbell said. "Without this funding, my Paralympic dreams may not have been realized. I was relieved to know that all my hard work had paid off and is excited for the chance to compete at the highest level of sport."

"Our province's athletes are some of the most competitive in the world," Doherty said. "They showcased their skills at the Summer Olympic Games and I am confident they will continue to demonstrate their excellent abilities at the Paralympic Games."

[Government Congratulates Saskatchewan Paralympic Athletes on Qualifying for Summer Paralympic Games](#)

WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TOUR

On August 29 I travelled to Northern Saskatchewan to tour the Wildfire Centres. Up to August 26 there have been 387 wildfires in the province compared to 256 in 2011 at this time. The total area burned in the province to date is 231,759 hectares compared to 339,924 in 2011. Although the number of fires is higher, the total area burned is significantly less. This is thanks to the quick and professional response of the wildfire management and staff.

Throughout the 2012 wildfire season, the province has sent personnel, equipment, and air tankers to assist Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia, as well as Idaho, Colorado, and Montana under a Mutual Air Resource Sharing Agreement, the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement and provincial boarder agreements. Fire officials say that cool, wet weather early in the season allowed for the crews to be able to help out outside of the province. I take immense pride in the fact that our fleet us assisting

others in their time of need, whether it is another Canadian province or our friends in the United States. I believe it is our duty to help where ever and whenever we can.

During my tour I visited the Wildfire Centre in Prince Albert on the way to La Ronge to see the great work the wildfire staff has been doing. Once landing in La Ronge we toured the Regional Operations, Northern Air Operations, LR Tanker Base and Amphibious Aircraft. We were also able to observe aerial demonstration of aircraft.

It was a great day and I really enjoyed seeing and learning about the operations up north keeping our forests safe.



L-R: Nadine Wilson MLA Saskatchewan Rivers, Ken Cheveldayoff, Victoria Jurgens MLA Prince Albert Northcote

SECOND DRAW FOR MOOSE HUNTING THIS FALL

To reduce the increased moose population in southern Saskatchewan, the Ministry of Environment will hold a second draw for moose hunting. An additional 350 licences will be allocated in an August 28, 2012 draw.

"Increased numbers of moose in the southern half of the province has brought these animals into closer contact with populated areas, creating a risk to residents and animals," Environment Minister Ken Cheveldayoff said. "We have found a balance between protecting the public, managing the moose population, providing opportunity for hunters and protecting the long term sustainability of moose in our province."

It is estimated there are 50,000 moose in the province with 10 per cent of the population located in southern Saskatchewan. Efforts to reduce the moose population in southern Saskatchewan are intended to minimize the risk of vehicle/moose accidents and other related issues, such as property damage.

Vehicle operators across Saskatchewan are reminded of the need to drive cautiously and alertly to avoid wildlife particularly from dusk to dawn when deer and moose are often more active.

[Second Draw for Moose Hunting This Fall](#)

RECORD WAGES FOR SASKATCHEWAN WORKERS

Statistics Canada released June 2012 figures for average weekly earnings today that show a rise of 6.6 per cent in wages for Saskatchewan workers from last June - the second highest percentage increase in the nation, and a record for the month of June.

Average weekly earnings in June were reported to be \$914.27.

Saskatchewan's average percentage is more than double the national increase of 3.0 per cent.

"Today's report is very good news," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "With a strong economy the job opportunities have improved, and workers in the province have been able to take advantage of finding better-paying, higher-skilled work."

[Record Wages for Saskatchewan Workers for June – More than Double National Average Increase](#)

ACCELERATION OF LEARN JOURNEY IMPROVES HEALTH CARE

Saskatchewan is moving ahead with its commitment to transform the health care system and achieve better health for residents, better care for patients, better teams of health care providers and better value for taxpayer dollars. The province was the first in Canada to proceed in implementing Lean concepts across its entire health care system.

"Saskatchewan is uniquely positioned to introduce major, meaningful health care reform, with many supportive partners involved," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. "We are committed to improving health care through Lean, and we are willing to be a leader in this area. Our goal is to continue to put patients first by improving access, quality, patient and staff safety, efficiency, and value for patients by using Lean as the foundation for the province's quality improvement efforts."

[Province Accelerates Lean Journey to Improve Health Care](#)

HOPE FOR MALAWI SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

In 2006, Peter and Elaine Zakreski took a trip to Malawi and were shocked with the poverty, lack of medical care and education. They decided they needed to help. By chance the Zakreskis met Jean Kalinga, a Malawian woman, who helped establish the Hope for Malawi charity and ensures the funds from the charity go to the people and not the governments for bribes.

As school starts and we have to take the list of school supplies to the stores, we remember how much these supplies cost. Many of the citizens of Malawi are living off of \$1 a day and cannot afford the school supplies. The Zakreskis have partnered with various schools in Saskatoon to collect school supplies for the children of Malawi. North Park Wilson, Caswell, St. Paul, St. Edward, St. Philip, Pope John Paul II, St. Anne, Bishop Pocock, St. Gerard, Father Vachon, and Montessori School have come on board so far with the hopes of other schools around the city to follow. Hope for Malawi will send the supplies to the children in October. "Children are the future of their country," says Elaine. "We want to help get them educated and provide a place where they can be children."

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

COUNTDOWN TO THE CCMAs IN SASKATOON – 6 DAYS!

The best of the best in Canadian Country Music will shine in Saskatoon during PotashCorp's Country Music Week September 6 to 9. Several events will bring the amazing music closer to you starting with a songwriter's circle, teaching music lovers how the pros work to bring the songs we love from an idea to our ears.

Friday September 7 brings the Rock n' Country Cabaret at Prairieland Park, where two of our Picnic in the Park performers, Bullrush and Codie Prevost, will entertain crowds alongside names like Doc Walker, Aaron Pritchett, and Deric Ruttan, among others.

For those of you music fans how like to be on top of the new music, the New Artist Showcase brings together eight of our country's most promising young talents. And a free show at Prairieland Park, FanFest will allow everyone to celebrate the Canadian country music scene. Along with the music, fans can enjoy KidZone, food, a meet and greet, along with many other activities.



The week wraps up with the main event, the Canadian Country Music Awards Show. It will be held from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Credit Union Centre and begin with a red carpet show where you will be able to see your favorite stars up close.

I am a huge fan of country music and am extremely excited for the week! Tickets are still available through Ticketmaster. For more information visit: <http://potashcorpcountrymusicweek2012.com/0>

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>

QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL NOMINATIONS

In celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, 60,000 medals will be given out across the country to outstanding Canadians who have contributed to the country through their service, contribution, and achievements. Each Member of Parliament has been allocated 30 medals for distribution in their ridings.

For more information on the qualifications or how to nominate someone please visit <http://www.bradtrost.ca/> The deadline for nominations is **September 30, 2012**.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Growth and Financial Security Fund is forecast to have a balance of \$756.4 million at the end of 2012-13.
- Funding increases for child care operating, including a \$2.0 million increase to create 500 new child care spaces, and \$4.0 million for child care capital to support the 500 new child care spaces, of which 300 will be built in schools or post-secondary institutions.
- There is a \$6 million net increase for the Saskatchewan Children and Youth Agenda.

JUST THE HEADLINES

- August 27, 2012 – [Government Reminds Farmers to be Safe During Harvest](#)
- August 29, 2012 – [Wakaw Lake Access Road Upgrade Set to Begin](#)

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS IN SASKATOON

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 Ovarian Cancer Canada Walk

Date: September 9

Where: Meewasin Park

When: Registration at 9:00am

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

“Do something. If it works, do it more. If it doesn’t, do something else.” Franklin D. Roosevelt

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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