



Provincial Point of View December 7, 2012

PREMIER SAYS SESSION FOCUSED ON OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF GROWTH

Premier Brad Wall said the fall legislative session which ended Thursday, December 6, focused on meeting the opportunities and challenges of a growing Saskatchewan.

"Saskatchewan is growing at its fastest pace in more than 90 years," Wall said. "Our government is committed to ensuring that growth continues and to meet the challenges of a growing province."

Wall pointed to the recent decision to increase funding to eight of the province's fastest-growing school divisions.

"We are seeing school enrollments in some divisions increasing at an unprecedented level," Wall said. "That creates challenges in terms of classroom sizes, but growth also gives us the opportunity to deal with those challenges. Our growing tax base allows us to provide growing school divisions with the additional resources they need while still maintaining a balanced budget."

Wall said the balanced budget confirmed by Finance Minister Ken Krawetz in the Mid-Year Report was another highlight of the fall session.

"Saskatchewan continues to have the only balanced provincial budget in Canada," Wall said. "That is a huge advantage for our province, and again, it demonstrates the benefits of growth. Despite a decline in resource revenues, growth in other parts of the economy has allowed us to maintain a balanced budget."

Wall said the fall legislative session followed the direction laid out in the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth which was released just prior to the start of the session.

"The reason we seek growth is so we can continue to improve the quality of life for everyone in Saskatchewan," Wall said. "The Saskatchewan Plan for Growth spells out the principles of a strong and growing province, like balanced budgets, investing in infrastructure and skills training, increased trade and economic competitiveness."

"These are the principles our government followed during the fall session and these are the principles we will continue to follow to improve the quality of life for everyone in Saskatchewan."

[Premier Says Session Focused on Opportunities and Challenges of Growth](#)

TERRI HARRIS NAMED ONE OF CANADA'S MOST POWERFUL WOMEN



Congratulations to Terri Harris on being named one of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100. Terri was nominated in the Public Sector category that recognizes women who hold senior positions in Canada's public sector organizations. Nominees are selected from the following

category groupings: federal government departments; provincial ministries; universities; municipalities; hospitals and regional health authorities; Crown Corporations and Canadian Forces.

Terri was judged on the following criteria: management role; vision and leadership; corporate performance and community service. Anyone that knows and works with Terri will attest to her outstanding qualities that make her a worthy recipient of this honour. Terri is Chief of Operations, Premier's Office, Executive Council, Government of Saskatchewan.

Congratulations Terri!

GRAND OPENING OF NEW ST. MARY'S SCHOOL CELEBRATED IN SASKATOON

On Thursday, December 6, Education Minister Russ Marchuk joined Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division Board Chair Diane Boyko along with students, teachers and dignitaries to commemorate the grand opening of the new \$18.9 million St. Mary's School in Saskatoon.

"The continued investment into education and our education facilities is integral to the future of our province," Marchuk said. "We are familiar with the saying 'it takes a village to raise a child'. This school demonstrates that the involvement of the community can have a huge and lasting effect on our students and that fostering a community of learning has the potential to positively impact student success."

Designed with room for 375 students, this school features educational and instructional space, as well as a health and wellness centre that includes a medical clinic, which will be available to students and the community. Through donations from partners such as Potash Corp., Cameco, SaskTel and the City of Saskatoon, the school boasts an upper level walking track and an enhanced wellness and gym facility that will also be available to the broader community. A unique community room equipped with separate ventilation will allow for cultural, and First Nations and Métis specific cultural events and activities.

The Government of Saskatchewan contributed almost \$12 million toward this innovative education facility.

[Grand Opening of New St. Mary's School Celebrated in Saskatoon](#)

MINING EXCELLENCE IN SASKATCHEWAN



I had the opportunity to provide the Key Note Address at the Canadian Institute's Forum on Mining Excellence on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan on November 29. I was honoured to speak to the great group of people in attendance. This was the first time the Forum on Mining Excellence has been held in Saskatchewan and it was indeed a pleasure to host this event in Saskatoon.

Saskatchewan's mining sector is thriving with potash, uranium, four gold mines, the world's largest diamond-bearing kimberlite fields, an abundance of coal, along with other minerals. We are well positioned for the continuation of the growth of the mining industry and our Plan for Growth recognizes and supports the growth of the mining sector.

Saskatchewan's Plan for Growth recognizes that we need to foster innovation and competitiveness. We also need to remove the red tape and regulatory burdens that restrict development. It is all about creating a balance between economic growth and the sustainability of

our natural resources and environment.

2012 TIME CAPSULE PLACED IN LEGISLATIVE BUILDING CORNERSTONE

On Thursday, December 6, Premier Brad Wall placed the 2012 time capsule into the cornerstone at the Legislative Building in the same location where the 1909 time capsule was removed late last year.

"Not only does the time capsule help commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Legislative Building, it will provide future generations with a representation of our province in 2012," Wall said. "Future generations will get a glimpse into our growing province and see how we worked together to make Saskatchewan stronger."

[2012 Time Capsule Placed in Legislative Building Cornerstone](#)

SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES NEW EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION

In a growing economy, you need to have a labour environment in which the rights and responsibilities of employers, employees, and unions are clearly defined. To that end, our government introduced The Saskatchewan Employment Act during the fall sitting. This new act includes changes such as indexing the minimum wage to the rate of inflation, requiring unions to disclose financial statements and the results of votes to members and removing a union's right to fine workers who cross picket lines. The Saskatchewan Employment Act also preserves things like the 40-hour work week.

"The new Saskatchewan Employment Act clearly defines the rights and responsibilities of employees, employers and unions," Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. "The new Act will improve Saskatchewan's labour legislation to better protect workers, promote growth and increase accountability."

[Saskatchewan Government Introduces New Employment Legislation](#)

TWELVE MONTHS OF YEAR-OVER-YEAR EMPLOYMENT GAINS

Saskatchewan job numbers hit a record high of 540,000 people for the month of November, according to the Labour Force survey released by Statistics Canada today. There were 15,800 more people working in the province compared to a year ago. Full-time employment also reached a record high of 443,500 for the month of November.

"Reaching record levels of employment is an important milestone and it confirms that our economy is on a solid footing," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "The rise in jobs is very good news, and is vital to supporting our economic momentum."

[Twelve Months of Year-Over-Year Employment Gains](#)

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN MARKS NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The Government of Saskatchewan remains committed to reducing the incidence of violence against women, as Canadians marked the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, December 6. Events are held each year on the anniversary of the 1989 murders of 14 female engineering students at Montreal's l'École Polytechnique.

"We all need to take some time to remember the women and girls who have died as a result of violence," Social Services Minister and Minister responsible for the Status of Women June Draude said. "We also need to think about those women and girls in our province who currently live with the reality of violence in their lives, and to encourage men and boys to actively participate in working toward the elimination of violence against women."

[Government of Saskatchewan Marks National Day of Remembrance And Action on Violence Against Women](#)

MASTERCARD MEMORIAL CUP TICKETS A GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT



With Christmas fast approaching many of us are scrambling to find that perfect gift for that special someone. Game packages for the 2013 MasterCard Memorial Cup can make a perfect gift

for anyone!

The event will be a 10-day festival of hockey, history, and community celebrations! This includes: the PotashCorp Fan Fest, Canadian Forces Tribute, CHL National Awards Showcase, Alumni Events, and the Memorial Cup Arrival Ceremony.

Don't miss the excitement as the best teams in the Canadian Hockey League compete for the prestigious Memorial Cup.

For more information or to purchase tickets click [here](#)

GREATER SASKATOON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NOON FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

The voices of school children singing Christmas carols will once again ring through the Main Lobby of TCU Place. The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' elementary school choirs will be performing from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

I encourage everyone to go and enjoy some Christmas cheer in the middle of your busy day!

Date/Time	Tuesday, December 11	Thursday, December 13	Tuesday, December 18	Thursday, December 20
12:00 - 12:20	Mother Teresa	Bishop Pocock	St. Marguerite	École St. Gerard
12:20 - 12:40	École St. Matthew	St. George	St. Peter	St. Volodymyr
12:40 - 1:00	Father Robinson	Bishop Klein	Pope John Paul II	*****

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2012 FALL SESSION

- A new Saskatchewan Employment Act that protects workers, promotes growth and clearly defines the rights and responsibilities of employers, employees and unions in the workplace;
- Major changes to modernize Saskatchewan's liquor laws and allow for new private liquor stores;
- Education Savings (SAGES), which helps families save for their children's post-secondary education by providing a grant of up to \$250 per child per year toward their Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP);
- New legislation to improve safety in highway construction zones; and

- Legislation to facilitate growth in Information Services Corporation (ISC) through a public share offering.

JUST THE LINKS

December 3, 2012 - [International Day of Persons with Disabilities Proclaimed in Saskatchewan](#)

December 3, 2012 - [New Sculpture to Commemorate Centennial of Legislative Building](#)

December 3, 2012 - [Saskatchewan Introduces Legislation to Protect Foreign Workers and Immigrants](#)

December 3, 2012 - [Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings Legislation Passed](#)

December 4, 2012 - [Legacy Artworks to be Unveiled at Legislative Building](#)

December 5, 2012 - [Stay Back - Stay Safe in the Snow Zone](#)

December 5, 2012 - [RFP Released for New Private Liquor Stores](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Enchanted Forest

Date: November 16 to January 6

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm

When: 5:30 pm to 11:30 pm nightly

Ticket Prices: \$6/per person, \$25/per car, ages 3 and under are free

Christmas Reception, Hosted by Don Morgan MLA

Date: December 11

Where: Hilton Garden Inn

When: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Tickets are \$50, please call Karina at 659-1223 for more information or to reserve your tickets.

2nd Annual Community Menorah Lighting Ceremony

Date: December 13

Where: Mendel Art Gallery

When: 6:00 pm

GSCS Noon Festival of Carols

Date: December 11, 13, 18, 20

Where: TCU Place, Main Lobby

When: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Science Saturdays

Date: December 8, 15, 22, 29

Where: Children's Discovery Museum

When: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Christmas Party

Date: December 21

Where: 138 Kaplan Green, Saskatoon SK

When: 7:00 pm

Enchanted Forest - Saskatchewan Blue Cross Light Walk

Date: January 6, 2013

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm

When: 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Ticket Prices: \$5/per person, \$20/per family, ages 3 and under are free

www.push2play.ca

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"All truth passes through three stages: First, it is ridiculed; Second, it is violently opposed; Third, it is accepted as self-evident."

Arthur Schopenhauer

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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 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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