



Provincial Point of View June 7, 2013

CELEBRATE CLEAN AIR DAY IN SASKATCHEWAN



On June 5, Saskatchewan had a good reason to celebrate Clean Air Day. The air that we breathe is clean according to the Ministry of Environment's recent State of the Environment Report. There is a low level of air pollutants in the province and air quality in urban centres is primarily excellent.

As Minister of Environment, I was pleased to speak about our clean air on the steps of the Legislative building, "Maintaining Saskatchewan's excellent quality of air is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. Clean Air Day is an opportunity for residents to recognize the

importance of air quality and the impact it has on our health and the environment, and to take measures to reduce air pollution in our daily lives.”

There are currently six permanent stations in Saskatchewan, located in Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, North Battleford, Prince Albert and Buffalo Narrows as well as the mobile Saskatchewan Air Monitoring Laboratory (SAML). The SAML is capable of monitoring air quality anywhere in Saskatchewan that is accessible by road.

The Ministry of Environment, along with the Ministry of Health, the Regina Qu’Appelle Health Region and the City of Regina is currently conducting an extensive air quality monitoring study in Regina. Initiated in 2012, it is the first of its kind in the province and is designed to gain a better understanding of the air quality in the city’s residential neighbourhoods. The data will be collected for a full year, providing a baseline from which future monitoring studies can be compared.

“Studies such as this will help us to be proactive in identifying potential air quality concerns before they become a problem in our communities. Partnerships with communities, industry, organizations, other jurisdictions and the public are key to managing and maintaining excellent air quality for all residents while sustaining economic development.”

With two air zones already established in the province, the Southeast Saskatchewan Airshed Association and the Western Yellowhead Air Management Zone, the ministry is working with stakeholders to establish a third. Regina, Moose Jaw and Yorkton will encompass the newest air zone. Additional zones in the boreal, east central and south west regions of the province are proposed for the future.

[Celebrate Clean Air Day in Saskatchewan](#)

PICNIC IN THE PARK



I look forward to seeing everyone at the annual Picnic in the Park on Thursday, June 20th! Please stop by the Forestry Farm any time between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

This free event is a great evening out for the family! The picnic is a great family event and a wonderful opportunity to spend time with people in our constituency. Come and enjoy a burger and the great entertainment we have in store for you.

We sincerely appreciate everyone that has volunteered in the past. This event wouldn't be a success without the help we receive from all of you. If you are able to help out in any way, please call my constituency assistant Megan at 306-651-7100.

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST: THE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACTION PLAN

Following a recent commitment to develop a Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan for Saskatchewan, government has taken its first step by appointing a commissioner to lead this important initiative.

Saskatoon-based clinical psychologist Dr. Fern Stockdale Winder has agreed to advise the Minister of Health in the development of a plan to strengthen interventions for mental health and addictions issues for Saskatchewan people. Stockdale Winder also served as a board member and vice-chair to the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

“The commitment we made one month ago today was bold and will require a dedicated and focused leader as commissioner,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “We want to take a patient-first approach to improving mental health services for our residents. The appointment of Dr. Stockdale Winder in this key role will ensure that experience, passion, and dedication will lead the work as we move forward on this much needed Action Plan.”

[Putting Patients First: The Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan](#)

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN CONTINUES TO UPGRADE PROVINCIAL PARKS

Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty has announced further capital improvements to Saskatchewan’s provincial parks. Electrical service will be added or upgraded to a total of 287 campsites at Rowan’s Ravine and The Battlefords Provincial Park this year. As well, a boat launch in Meadow Lake Provincial Park will be upgraded.

“Our provincial parks are the cornerstone of tourism in Saskatchewan,” Doherty said. “Increasing electrical campsites and upgrading boat launches enhance the experience for both visitors and residents.”

[Government of Saskatchewan Continues to Upgrade Provincial Parks](#)

DR. JOHN G. EGNATOFF SCHOOL CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF LEARNING AND LEADING TOGETHER



After opening in the Erindale neighbourhood in 1988, Dr. John G. Egnatoff School is celebrating its 25th Anniversary! Today, over 590 students, staff, and families celebrated with a BBQ and musical entertainment.

Congratulations to the students and staff for 25 Years of Learning and Leading Together!

SNC LAVALIN CLIENT RECEPTION

It was a pleasure to attend the SNC Lavalin Client Reception on June 5 and bring greetings on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan. I joined Mayor Don Atchison in welcoming the SNC Lavalin Board of Directors and employees to our beautiful city of Saskatoon.

The Government of Saskatchewan has an "open for business" attitude and appreciate the work SNC Lavalin does in our province.

REMAI ART GALLERY OF SASKATCHEWAN CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

Today, I was pleased to join colleagues from all levels of government, as we celebrated the start of construction of the much-anticipated Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan. The gallery will be a vibrant community gathering place and will distinguish Saskatoon as an important international art destination. It will also be a key element at Saskatoon's River Landing and important to the ongoing revitalization of south downtown.

“Our government’s investment in the Remai Art Gallery demonstrates our commitment to improving cultural infrastructure in Saskatchewan and throughout the country,” said Lynne Yelich, Minister of State (Western Economic Diversification) and Member of Parliament for Blackstrap. “I am proud that our government is supporting this project that will create jobs and provide residents and visitors with the opportunity to enjoy various art collections and exhibitions in a superb new location.”

“The Remai Art Gallery will be a significant cultural landmark for Saskatoon and Saskatchewan and our government is proud to support it,” Saskatoon Sutherland MLA Paul Merriman said on behalf of Saskatchewan Government Relations Minister Jim Reiter. “Through our Saskatchewan Plan for Growth, we recognize how vital infrastructure investment is to the quality of life in our communities, and special projects like this one showcase both the inspirations and the aspirations of Saskatchewan people.”

[Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan Construction Underway](#)

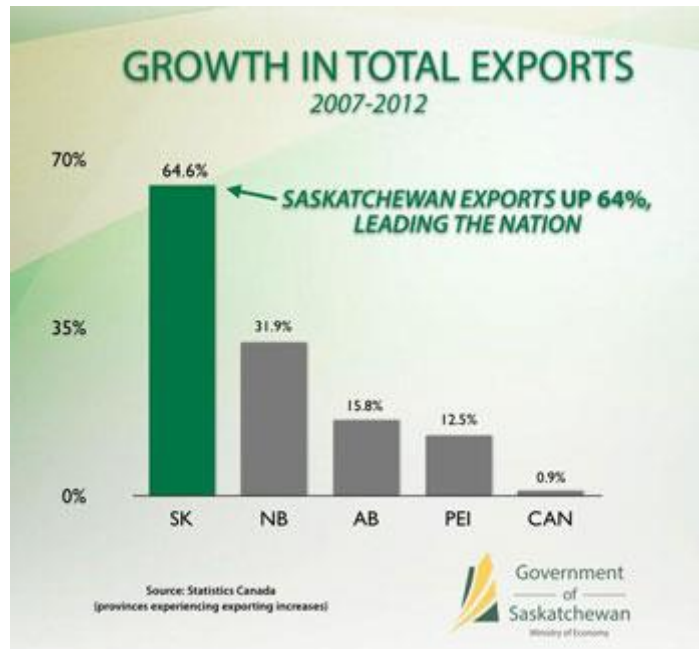
SASKWATER SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS



It was a pleasure to join the SaskWater employees in Moose Jaw on June 6 at their long service recognition awards. As Minister Responsible for SaskWater, I was honoured to have the opportunity to recognize individuals for their extraordinary commitment and service to the people of Saskatchewan. Their hard work plays a significant role in contributing to the Saskatchewan Advantage.

The service awards ranged from 5 to 35 years with SaskWater! Congratulations to the each and every employee for their accomplishments. It was a fantastic evening.

TOTAL SASKATCHEWAN EXPORTS UP \$724 MILLION FROM LAST YEAR



Saskatchewan’s merchandise exports were up \$724 million in the first four months of 2013 over the same period last year, the highest increase among Canadian provinces according to Statistics Canada. Exports totalled \$3.2 billion in April 2013, a record for the month.

“Last year was an impressive year for exports; setting a record and surpassing British Columbia were just a couple of the accomplishments,” Minister Responsible for Trade Tim McMillan said. “The first four months of this year highlight the efforts of Saskatchewan exporters who are working to expand existing markets and embracing new business opportunities.”

[Total Saskatchewan Exports Up \\$724 Million From Last Year](#)

MORE PEOPLE WORKING THAN EVER BEFORE

Saskatchewan’s job numbers hit a record in May according to new figures released by Statistics Canada today with 560,900 people employed in the province (seasonally unadjusted). The 560,900 people working in Saskatchewan during May was the highest ever and beats the old record of 549,100 set last August. Job numbers were 2.7 per cent higher than last May and the second highest percentage increase among Canadian provinces. Jobs were up by 1.4 per cent on a national basis.

“With more people working in Saskatchewan than ever before, it is clear that our province is where companies are choosing to invest,” Energy and Resources Minister Tim McMillan said on behalf of Economy Minister Bill Boyd. “These numbers represent how aggressive industry

continues to be in pursuing current and future projects here in the province.”

[More People Working Than Ever Before](#)

PLAY BRINGS TRAFFIC SAFETY TO THOUSANDS OF KIDS

About 6,000 elementary school aged children in the province are learning about traffic safety, thanks to SGI and a play by the Saskatchewan Native Theatre Company (SNTC).

The play, titled Imagination Odyssey, teaches kids in Grades 3-8 the basics, such as why it's important to look both ways before crossing the street and how you should always wear a seatbelt when riding in a vehicle.

“Educating Saskatchewan’s youth about traffic safety is not a new undertaking for SGI, but this is the first time SGI has visited children in elementary schools in such great numbers,” Regina Dewdney MLA Gene Makowski said on behalf of Minister Responsible for SGI Donna Harpauer. “If we can teach kids the importance of traffic safety at a young age, they might carry that lesson with them for life and even influence the adults in their lives.”

[Play Brings Traffic Safety to Thousands of Kids](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Saskatchewan has more than 26,000 km of provincial highways.
- The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure is currently working on 6 major projects across the province.
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure employees have invented 270 innovations used for road maintenance equipment and other activities.

JUST THE LINKS

- June 3, 2013 - Government Proclaims Saskatchewan Transportation Week
- June 3, 2013 - Information Services Corporation Announces Filing of Preliminary Prospectus for Initial public Offering of Class A Voting Shares

- June 3, 2013 - New Headstart on a Home Development Opens in Saskatoon
- June 4, 2013 - Work Underway on Emma Lake, Murray Point Access Roads
- June 5, 2013 - Government Proclaims "Walk and Roll" Day in Saskatchewan
- June 6, 2013 - Construction Continues to Pick Up in Saskatchewan

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wieggers Care for Kids "Rant and Raise"

Date: June 8

When: 7:00 pm

Where: Odeon Event Centre

WaterFront Craft Art Festival in Partnership with Affinity Credit Union

Date: June 8

When: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Where: River Landing

Anti-Bullying Consultation - Saskatoon

Date: June 13

When: 6:30 pm

Where: Saskatoon Public School Board Office

Saskatoon Pride Community Fair

Date: June 14 to June 15

When: June 14: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm and June 15: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Where: Victoria Park

Saskatoon Pride Parade

Date: June 15

When: 1:00 pm

Where: Downtown Saskatoon

Motorcycle Ride for Dad

Date: June 15

When: Registration 8:00 am - 10:00 am, parade leaves 10:45 am

Where: Western Development Museum, Saskatoon

Picnic in the Park

Date: June 20

When: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Forestry Farm Park and Zoo, Gazebo Area

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou

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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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