

Provincial Point of View May 31, 2013

MASTERCARD MEMORIAL CUP WRAP UP



Congratulations to event co-chairs, Tim Gitzel and Jack Brodsky, the organizing committee, and volunteers for making the MasterCard Memorial Cup such an outstanding success! It was great to see so many of you out to Credit Union Centre for this exceptional event. Once again, Saskatchewan spirit was so evident throughout the week as the many volunteers went over and above to make our guests feel welcome. The host organizing committee announced that the 2013 MasterCard Memorial Cup has achieved the fourth-highest attendance total in championship history with 82,503.

The final featured the Halifax Mooseheads of the QMJHL and the Portland Winterhawks of the WHL. The Mooseheads came out on top winning 6-4 in a game that kept the fans on the edge of their seats.

PREMIER EXPRESSES CONDOLENCES ON PASSING OF FORMER SPEAKER HERB SWAN

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall expressed condolences today on behalf of the people of our province to the family of Herb Swan.

Swan served as the MLA for Rosetown-Elrose from 1978-1991, was Speaker from 1982 to 1986, and a cabinet minister from 1986 to 1989.

"I remember Herb Swan being an extremely gracious and patient man which are good characteristics for anyone, but especially the Speaker of the Assembly," Wall said. "Tami and I want to express our sincerest condolences to Swan's family, in particular his wife, Anita and their children Karen, Bonnie, Kirk and Heather as well as their 12 grandchildren and several greatgrandchildren."

Flags at the Legislature will fly half mast until Monday, June 3. Premier Expresses Condolences on Passing of Former Speaker Herb Swan

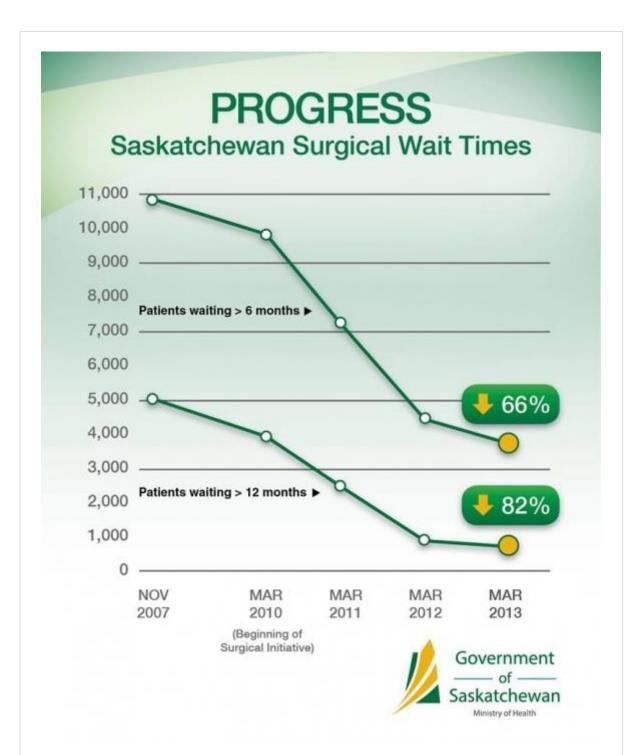
2013 JOINT SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS

On May 27, I had the pleasure of bringing greetings on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan at the first ever Joint Scientific Congress of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society, the Canadian Geophysical Union, and the Canadian Water Resource Association.

Over 700 atmospheric, water, solid earth, and ocean experts who work in industry, government, and academia from across the country and abroad participated in this conference. As Minister of Environment and Minister Responsible for the Water Security Agency, it was an honour to have the Federal Minister of Environment, Peter Kent, in attendance as well. It is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to interact with Minister Kent as our agencies work closely together on many issues.

All of Canada benefits from the knowledge sharing at a Congress such as this. With a growing population, we want to ensure that our water resources remain safe and clean. The 25-Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan supports our population growth as well as ensuring Saskatchewan's water security.

HEALTH REGIONS REACH 90 PER CENT OF YEAR THREE SURGICAL TARGET



Saskatchewan patients have improved access to better, safer surgical care, the Saskatchewan government reported today. The Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative Year Three progress report shows continued gains in improving patient experiences and reducing surgical wait times.

Provincially, 90 per cent of the 82,047 surgeries in Saskatchewan were completed within the

Surgical Initiative's Year Three wait time target of six months. The ultimate goal is that by April 2014 patient experiences are improved and patients can receive surgeries within three months.

"We have made remarkable progress toward our goals," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. "I want to thank everyone involved in this four-year effort to improve surgical care in Saskatchewan, especially the patient advisors whose input has been invaluable. With patients as the focus, it is important for us to work together to improve access to surgery. In this final year of the Surgical Initiative, we are making a big push to drive down wait times and further improve outcomes for patients."

Health Regions Reach 90 Per Cent of Year Three Surgical Target

ANTI-BULLYING CONSULTATIONS SET TO BEGIN

Beginning June 3, Saskatchewan residents will have the opportunity to discuss anti-bullying strategies and initiatives with Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Education (Anti-Bullying Initiative) Jennifer Campeau through in-person and online consultations.

"I am looking forward to hearing ideas from people across the province on how we can prevent and address bullying in our schools and communities," Campeau said. "It is important to work together to find solutions, and although this is a busy time of year, I encourage people to contribute to this important discussion, either online or in person." Anti-Bullying Consultations Set to Begin

GOVERNMENT INCREASES BENEFITS FOR SASKATCHEWAN ASSURED INCOME FOR DISABILITY (SAID) PROGRAM

The Government of Saskatchewan is following through on a commitment to enhance the quality of life for people with significant and long-term disabilities. More than 10,000 people will receive increased monthly benefits through the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) program, effective June 1, 2013.

"The SAID program is a true made-in-Saskatchewan success story," Social Services Minister June Draude said. "Not only is the program assisting more than 10,000 people in our province to enjoy a better quality of life with greater dignity and respect, but it is also helping us meet our goal of making Saskatchewan the best place to live in Canada for persons with disabilities. As our province and our economy grow, programs like SAID are helping to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to benefit from that growth."

Government Increases Benefits for Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) Program



VISIT TO ROSTHERN AND BLAINE LAKE FLOOD AREAS

On May 27, I was had the opportunity to join Scott Moe, MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook and the RM officials from Blaine Lake and RM and Town officials from Rosthern to tour areas that had been hard hit by the spring flood. These are two areas that flooding damage has been devastating. The officials from communities across Saskatchewan should be commended for working tirelessly on behalf of residents of their communities to help with flood mitigation.

As Minister Responsible for the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency, our officials have been

assisting with over 500 Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Plan claimants. The Water Security Agency along with Government Relations through their Provincial Disaster Assistance Program and the Department of Highways have done a great job through this difficult situation. There is much work to be done across the province including right here in neighbouring Corman Park. Our government made a commitment to be here for the people of Saskatchewan to provide assistance.

SASKATCHEWAN WAGE INCREASES HIGHEST IN CANADA

Saskatchewan led the country in wage increases in March, with average weekly earnings rising 5.5 per cent compared to the previous year, according to Statistics Canada. Saskatchewan's increase was the highest among the provinces and well above the 3.1 per cent national average.

Non-farm payroll jobs increased 2.7 per cent in the province, the second highest increase among provinces, and above the national average of 1.2 per cent.

"This is a major contributor to the economic momentum we've had in Saskatchewan," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "It's great news all around that leads to higher spending and higher consumer confidence."

Saskatchewan Wage Increases Highest in Canada

CANADIAN RESIDENT WHITE-TAILED DEER APPLICATION OPENS JUNE 1

Canadian residents interested in hunting white-tailed deer in Saskatchewan can apply for a quotabased draw from June 1 until June 30, 2013.

The allocation process for this year has changed to give priority to those hunters that have immediate family members residing in the province. In order to qualify for the "Family First" pool, applicants must be able to verify that they have immediate family in Saskatchewan.

As Minister of Environment, I noted, "Saskatchewan is renowned for its world-class deer hunting and implementing a quota-based draw for Canadian resident hunters will help maintain the healthy deer populations that earned that reputation. We also recognize the importance of family members returning to Saskatchewan to hunt and have set the draw up to ensure that this tradition continues."

Canadian Resident White-Tailed Deer Application Opens June 1

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SASKATOON FORESTRY FARM AND ZOO



It was a beautiful Saskatoon afternoon and a fantastic day to be among hundreds of guests at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm on Sunday, May 26. I was pleased to bring greetings and extend a congratulatory message on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan at the 100th Anniversary of the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo. This truly is a jewel in our fine city and it was great to see so many people come out to celebrate this milestone.

The Sutherland Forest Nursery Station, now the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo, has played a significant role in the history of our province. Millions of trees grown at the Nursery Station helped transform the prairie landscape and shaped forests in Saskatchewan and across Western Canada. During the ceremony, I joined Mayor Don Atchison, Brad Trost, MP Saskatoon-Humboldt, and Centennial Chair, Bernie Cruikshank at a Centennial Tree Planting. As MLA for Saskatoon Silver Springs and Minister of Environment, I can assure you that we have so much to be grateful for - clean water, land and air, ample space, and a quality of life that is second to none.

The Forestry Farm has also provided a meeting space for the people of the community. Since its early beginnings, people have been meeting on the grounds for picnics or to enjoy the great outdoors, close to home. I have many fond memories of spending time with my family at the Forestry Farm, during summer outings, school field trips, and Christmas traditions.

Congratulations and thank you to the organizing committee for hosting such a fantastic event!

WIEGERS CARE FOR KIDS



On June 8, Wiegers Care for Kids Inc. will host a major fundraiser with proceeds going to support the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan.

This will be an all-inclusive event with drinks, high-end appetizers, and some of the best live entertainment anywhere. The night features "Rant and Raise" with Rick Mercer and Saskatoon's very own Studio 54 band.

Sponsorship, tickets, and cash donation opportunities are available at <u>www.wiegerscareforkids.ca</u> or 306-244-0949. Saskatchewan is just one of two provinces in Canada that does not yet have a children's hospital. Please consider being a part of this fantastic event to raise money for the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan.

2013 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



Saskatchewan has a rich history of arts and culture. To honour this tradition, the Saskatchewan Arts Board is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Lieutenant Governor's Arts Awards. This award recognizes the contribution and achievements of individuals, groups, and organizations in the arts, including all arts disciplines. These awards also promote public awareness, participation and support for the arts.

The seven award categories are: Arts and Learning; Emerging Artist; Leadership - Individual; Leadership - Organization; Lifetime Achievement; Saskatchewan Artist; and Volunteer. The nomination packages and more information on the awards are available at <u>www.artsboard.sk.ca/lgaa</u>. The deadline for nominations is Monday, June 17 at 4:30 pm.

TRANSCANADA TRAILS TEA



International Trails Day is an annual celebration of recreation trails to promote trail development, the use of trails, and the healthy lifestyle they encourage. Meewasin Valley Authority in partnership with the TransCanada Trail is hosting the TransCanada Trail Tea on Saturday, June 1. The Tea will take place in Friendship Park at 2:30 pm. Admission is free and there will be entertainment and refreshments provided. I encourage you to get out, enjoy our beautiful riverbank, and celebrate the fantastic trails we have in the city.

DID YOU KNOW

- The three industries with the largest employment gains month-over-month were Educational Services, Accomodation and Food Services, and Transportation and Warehousing.
- Public sector employment went up by 9,600 in year-over-year numbers.
- Private sector employment down by 3,700 in year-over-year numbers.
- Self-Employed numbers year-over-year went up by 10,800.
- Year-over-year employment numbers in Agriculture went up by 2,800 and non-Agriculture employment went up by 13,900.

JUST THE LINKS

- May 27, 2013 Strength of Mining Sector Celebrated in Saskatchewan
- May 27, 2013 <u>ARTSVEST to Continue Building New Partnerships in Saskatchewan</u>
- May 27, 2013 <u>New Passing Lanes to be Constructed on Highway 10</u>
- May 28, 2013 Federal and Provincial Governments Provide Funding for Agricultural
 Demonstration Projects
- May 29, 2013 Fourth Annual Day of the Honeybee Proclaimed in Saskatchewan
- May 29, 2013 Government of Saskatchewan and Industry Invest in Wheat Research
- May 30, 2013 Crop Report for the Period May 21 to 27, 2013
- May 30, 2013 Approximately 40 Highway Projects Underway This Week
- May 31, 2013 <u>Government Seeks Public Input on Motor Vehicle Dealers and Consumer</u> <u>Contracts</u>
- May 31, 2013 Saskatchewan Working to Reduce Tobacco Use
- May 31, 2013 Government and SGEU Ratify Four-Year-Agreement

UPCOMING EVENTS

Doors Open Saskatoon Date: June 2 When: 12: 00 - 5:00 pm Where: various locations around Saskatoon

PotashCorp Children's Festival of Saskatchewan

Date: June 2 to June 5 When: June 2: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; June 3 to June 5: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Where: Kiwanis Memorial Park

SIIT Annual President's Pancake Breakfast Date: June 7 When: 7:30 am - 10:00 am Where: SIIT Campus - 229 4th Ave. S. \$5 per person

<u>Wiegers Care for Kids "Rant and Raise"</u> 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 Officce

<u>Saskatoon Pride Community Fair</u> 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 <u>Saskatoon Pride Parade</u> 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

<u>Picnic in the Park</u> Date: June 20 When: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm Where: Forestry Farm Park and Zoo, Gazebo Area

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another." Gilbert K. Chesterton

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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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