



Provincial Point of View November 30, 2012

GRANT AND LISA KOOK HONOURED AT UNITED WAY GOLD HEARTS GALA



Trish and I were honoured to have the privilege to participate in the United Way Gold Hearts Gala on November 22. This year Grant and Liza Kook were honoured for their outstanding contribution to our city and province. Grant and Liza's selfless involvement with numerous organizations and charities make them very worthy of this recognition! They have amazing spirit which is reflected in everything they do to make a difference in people's lives. Congratulations Grant and Liza and thank you for all you do each and every day to enrich the lives of those around you.

MID-YEAR FUNDING INCREASE FOR HIGH-GROWTH SCHOOL DIVISIONS

As part of the Government of Saskatchewan's commitment to managing growth, Education

Minister Russ Marchuk announced on November 26, a mid-year funding increase for those school divisions experiencing significant enrollment increases. At the same time, he also announced a plan to increase the number of relocatable classrooms on-site and ready for students at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

"Today, we are responding to the challenge of growth in our school system," Marchuk said. "We heard from the school divisions that they have challenges given the unprecedented growth Saskatchewan is experiencing. This includes funding to provide education services and finding space for new students."

Eight school divisions in high-growth areas of Saskatchewan together will receive an additional \$6.6 million in mid-year funding. Saskatoon, Martensville and Warman communities represent more than 50 per cent of the total provincial enrollment growth of almost 2,300 students. The eight divisions include:

1. Lloydminster RCSSD 89
2. Prairie Spirit SD 206
3. Prairie Valley SD 208
4. Regina RCSSD 81
5. Saskatoon SD 13
6. South East Cornerstone SD 209
7. St. Paul's RCSSD 20
8. Sun West SD 207

School division operating funding for 2012-13 is based on divisions' prior-year enrollments.

Marchuk said this practice worked well for many years, as school enrollment numbers were generally flat or even declining.

"However today we have a new reality where some school divisions are seeing large enrollment increases from one year to the next," Marchuk said. "Today's announcement addresses this new reality in a growing Saskatchewan."

The Government of Saskatchewan also committed an additional \$800,000 to implement a process that will result in 40 to 50 new relocatable classrooms added for the start of the 2013-14 school year.

"Right now, it takes about approximately six to nine months once a relocatable classroom is approved to design, build and install the classroom," Marchuk said. "We need to speed up that process to make sure that our school facilities can expand to accommodate enrollment increases."

These relocatable classrooms will be factory fabricated and constructed using a standardized design to accelerate the construction and delivery to schools most in need. Over the coming months, school divisions will be asked to provide input into the designs of the new relocatable classrooms.

CANADIAN WATER RESOURCE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



As Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Water Security Agency, I was pleased to speak at the Canadian Water Resource Association Conference on November 27. The conference focused on the Watershed Evaluation of Beneficial Management Practices, which looks at how agricultural

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

**"Persistent people begin their success where others end in failure."
Edward Eggleston**

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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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