

#### REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATURE

Later this month, the new provincial budget will deliver the largest ever increase in school operating funding and a record new commitment to address classroom size and complexity. Premier Scott Moe recently took the unusual step of announcing part of the education budget prior to budget day, to clearly demonstrate our government's commitment to address teachers' concerns around classroom supports.

The 2024-25 provincial budget will include the largest increase in school operating funding in Saskatchewan's history. There will be \$180 million of increased funding, up nearly 9 per cent, to \$2.2 billion. This increase will include over \$356 million that is specifically allocated to classroom supports, an increase of over \$45 million or about 15 per cent since last year.

In light of these significant new commitments, we are asking the STF to pause their job action so that teachers and students can return to their classrooms, and the teachers' union can return to the bargaining table.

Our government recently introduced the Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy, outlining how the province will ensure Saskatchewan people benefit from the jobs our economy is creating and that Saskatchewan employers have access to the workforce needed to succeed. The strategy outlines how the province is preparing people for both current and emerging jobs in Saskatchewan and aligning training opportunities in post-secondary institutions to the needs of industry.

A strong labour force drives healthy economies and successful communities, and this strategy is our roadmap to secure a labour force that keeps pace with growing demands and opportunities of our economy. Through strategic investments that align the workforce with the needs of industry, we are ensuring that investment in to our province is supported and that growth translates into a better quality of life for Saskatchewan people.

Our province's growing labour force is supported by a growing economy. Saskatchewan's agriculture sector continues to experience growth, further fuelling a strong provincial economy. Agri-food exports to India have increased in volume by over 71 per cent from 2022 to 2023. Exports of Saskatchewan lentils and peas to India, the province's largest pulse market, experienced significant growth by the end of 2023.

Our government ensures Saskatchewan's agricultural industry can continue to grow through strategic investments that support the industry. Details of the 2024 Crop Insurance Program have recently been released, building on the existing suite of Business Management Programs offered by the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC).

All producers are encouraged to take a proactive approach to tailor their coverage to further manage and mitigate their risk. March 31, 2024, is the deadline for Saskatchewan producers to apply, reinstate or cancel their Crop Insurance contract. Producers must select insured crops and coverage levels or make additional changes by this date. Producers can speak to their local SCIC office to make any changes or coverage will remain the same as the previous year.

A strong and growing economy ensures investments can be made in key services, such as health care, as well. Saskatchewan is investing in several breast cancer and screening initiatives to support substantial detection and treatment enhancements for patients.

A new Breast Health Centre in Regina was just announced, which will provide diagnostic imaging, consultation with specialists and surgeons, and patient education, support and navigation. It will also provide on-site access to post treatment care, such as therapies and rehabilitation.

Family physicians and nurse practitioners will be able to refer patients directly to the new centre, helping to reduce wait times. The new centre will be located at Regina Centre Crossing on Albert Street and will be open within the 2024-25 fiscal year.

The province is also making changes to the screening age eligibility from the current 50 and older to include women aged 40-49. In addition, new 3D breast imaging and breast tumour localized "seed" technology will enhance breast cancer detection, result in fewer delays and cancellations, and offer less discomfort for patients. Our government is committed to continuing to make targeted investments in health care so you can receive the care you need when you need it.

As our government continues to move through the spring sitting of the Legislative Assembly and prepares for the presentation of the provincial budget on March 20, we look forward to hearing from you! Please reach out to my office to share any comments or concerns. You can reach us at ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net or call 306.651.7100.

# LARGEST EVER INCREASE IN SCHOOL OPERATING FUNDING AND RECORD NEW COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS CLASSROOM SIZE AND COMPLEXITY



Premier Scott Moe, "Two weeks from today, the new provincial budget will deliver the largest ever increase in school operating funding and a record new commitment to address classroom size and complexity.

Today, I am taking the unusual step of announcing part of the education budget prior to budget day, to clearly demonstrate our commitment to address teachers' concerns around classroom supports.

In light of these significant new commitments, I am asking the STF to pause their job action so that teachers and students can return to their classrooms, and the teachers' union can return to the bargaining table."

Listen to Premier Moe's message here.

Read the article in Global news: Scott Moe promises 'largest increase in school operating funding' in Sask. history | Globalnews.ca

## ADDITIONAL \$450,000 IN FUNDING PROVIDED THROUGH TEACHER INNOVATION AND SUPPORT FUND



Fifteen additional teacher-led projects have been approved for funding through the Teacher Innovation and Support Fund, totaling \$452,206.

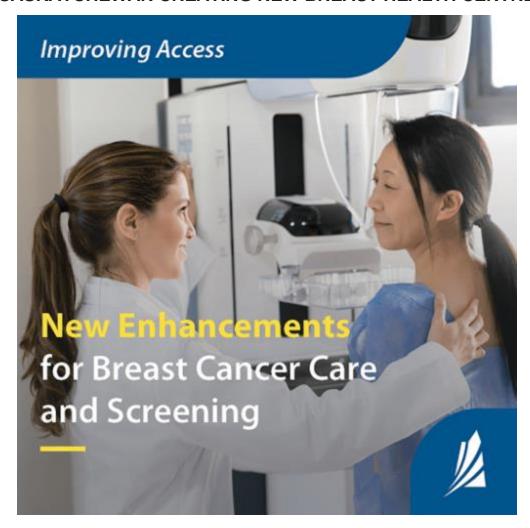
With this second round of funding, over \$860,000 in funding has been allocated through the Teacher Innovation and Support Fund to date.

"The interest and enthusiasm for this pilot has resulted in many new ideas submitted by Saskatchewan teachers," Education Minister Jeremy Cockrill said. "The funding of these new projects reinforces our government's commitment to providing additional classroom supports to our students and teachers."

Additional \$450,000 in Funding Provided Through Teacher Innovation and Support Fund | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

Listen to my Member's Statement: (1) Facebook

#### SASKATCHEWAN CREATING NEW BREAST HEALTH CENTRE



Expansion of Age Eligibility for Breast Screening to Include ages 40-49

The government of Saskatchewan is investing in several breast cancer care and screening initiatives to support substantial detection and treatment enhancements for Saskatchewan patients.

These enhancements include the opening of a new Breast Health Centre in Regina, expansion of provincial breast cancer screening eligibility and the implementation of new breast cancer tumour localization technology.



### Investing in

### **Breast Health Centre and Screening Initiatives**

Enhancements include the opening of a new Breast Health Centre in Regina, expansion of provincial breast cancer screening eligibility and the implementation of new breast cancer tumour localization technology.

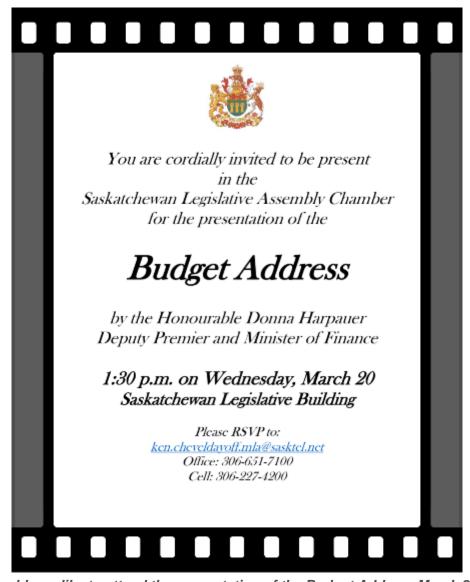
**Build and Protect** 

Saskatchewan Party Caucus

"We remain committed to ensuring Saskatchewan residents have access to safe, high quality and timely care," Health Minister Everett Hindley said. "Through the combined efforts of our doctors, nurses and care teams, these actions will have a substantial impact on improving breast health services, ranging from prevention through diagnostic follow up, treatment and recovery."

Saskatchewan Creating New Breast Health Centre | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEND THE BUDGET ADDRESS?



Would you like to attend the presentation of the Budget Address March 20?

I have a limited number of invitations to distribute, so please let me know if you are interested in attending.

The Honourable Donna Harpauer will be presenting the Budget Address at 1:30 pm March 22, 2024, in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Chamber. You are asked to be seated no later than 1:00 pm.

Please RSVP to ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel as soon as possible.

Invitations will be on a first-come, first-served basis. I will confirm your request by responding to your email.

### **WESK PRESENTATION**

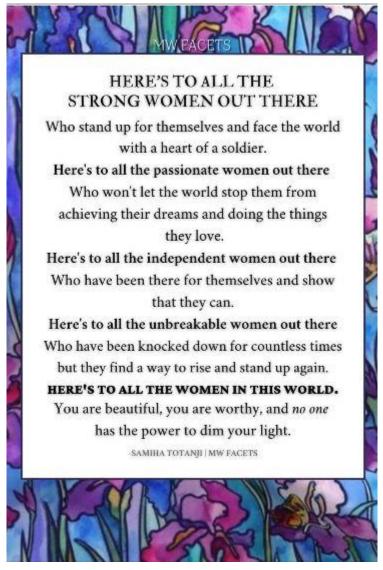


It was a pleasure to attend the Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan presentation at the Saskatchewan Legislature this past week..

 $\label{lem:constraint} \mbox{Honourable Laura Ross delivered greetings on behalf of the Provincial Government} \; .$ 

There are so many great Entrepreneurial stories in our Province.

### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**



March 8th, we celebrate International Women's Day. Today and every day, we celebrate the strength and resilience of women everywhere. It is a special day to recognize women around the world and right here at home.

Together, we recognize and celebrate the achievements of women and girls throughout our great province of Saskatchewan.

I acknowledge and appreciate the special women in my life. My wife Trish, my daughter Paige, my late mother, Lucy, my aunts and many colleagues have made a positive impact in my life. They are all strong and capable and I am so grateful.

Thank you to all who continue to inspire others while building our province for a bright future.

### **OVER 1,000 NURSING GRADS HIRED TO SASKATCHEWAN**

Health Human Resources Action Plan
Recruit • Train • Incentivize • Retain

PROGRESS TO MARCH 2024

More than 1,000
Saskatchewan and out-of-province nursing graduates hired since 2022.





Nearly 300 hard-to-recruit positions have been filled through the Rural and Remote Incentive program.



235 Internationally Educated
Nurses from the Philippines
are in various stages of the
Transition to Canada pathway.



saskatchewan.ca/hhr

Saskatchewan 🛭

The Government of Saskatchewan continues to make significant progress on the goals and initiatives in Saskatchewan's Health Human Resources (HHR) Action Plan.

As part of this plan, Saskatchewan is dedicated to making strong investments in programs and initiatives that support the recruitment and retention of nurses in the province.

"Nurses and nurse practitioners are critical to the health of our communities and the future of the health care sector," Health Minister Everett Hindley said. "We will continue to make significant investments in programs to recruit, train, incentivize and retain more nurses as we build a

stronger, more resilient health care system for the people of Saskatchewan."

Over 1,000 Nursing Grads Hired to Saskatchewan | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

### PREMIER UNVEILS THE SASKATCHEWAN LABOUR MARKET STRATEGY



The Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy Outlines the Roadmap to Build the Workforce Saskatchewan Needs to Support its Growing Economy

Premier Scott Moe launched *Building the Workforce for a Growing Economy: the Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy*, which outlines how the province will ensure Saskatchewan people

benefit from the jobs our economy is creating, and that Saskatchewan employers have access to the workforce needed to succeed.



"A strong labour force drives healthy economies and successful communities," Moe said. "The Labour Market Strategy is our roadmap to secure a labour force that keeps pace with growing demands and opportunities of our economy. Through strategic investments that align Saskatchewan's work force with the needs of industry, we are ensuring that investment into our province is supported and that growth translates into a better quality of life for Saskatchewan people."

The Labour Market Strategy Focuses on three main pillars:

- 1. Preparing Saskatchewan People for Jobs
- 2. Recognizing Skills in Saskatchewan
- 3. International Recruitment
- 4. Premier Unveils the Saskatchewan Labour Market Strategy | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

### VOLUNTEERS IN OUR COMMUNITY WORKING HARD TO CLEAR SNOW OFF THE QUINN STEVENSON OUTDOOR RINK!



While the City was busy clearing streets, and residents busy clearing driveways, a group of amazing rink volunteers were busy tackling the snowfall on the outdoor rink.

Great news today from EACCA Rink Coordinator Bret - "The rest of the snow has been cleared off today!" Thank you volunteers!

### SASKATCHEWAN AIR AMBULANCE CELEBRATES WOMEN OF AVIATION WORLDWIDE WEEK WITH OPEN HOUSE



The Saskatchewan Air Ambulance (SAA) team is opened their doors this past Wednesday to students and those interested in a career in aviation with an open house to celebrate Women of Aviation Worldwide Week, which runs from March 4 to 10.

"We are fortunate to have women in a variety of roles on our Saskatchewan Air Ambulance team including pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers, flight operations assistants, managers, and administration professionals," SaskBuilds and Procurement Minister Joe Hargrave said. "I want to thank them for everything they do in keeping Saskatchewan people safe."

Saskatchewan Air Ambulance Celebrates Women of Aviation Worldwide Week with Open House | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

# DON'T LEAVE YOUR FISHING SHELTER ON ICE, REMOVE IT SOON!



Attention, winter anglers: all good things must end and the deadlines to get your fishing shelters off the ice are coming up quickly. But make sure your plan to remove your shelter is solid because, before you know it, the ice may not be!

In all areas of Saskatchewan south of Highway 16, ice fishing shelters must be removed from waterbodies by March 15, and by March 31 in the north. But whatever the deadline, know the conditions in your area and plan to remove your shelter while the ice is still safe.



Fishing shelters south of Highway 16 must be removed by March 15.

Fishing shelters north of Highway 16 must be removed by March 31.

If shelters are not removed, owners may be prosecuted.

saskatchewan.ca/fishing



Every year, ice fishing shelters are abandoned on Saskatchewan lakes with predictable results. The structures can break up and wash up on shore along with litter that's often left behind, creating environmental hazards and an ugly mess. Submerged debris is dangerous to boaters, water skiers and others who want to enjoy our lakes in the summer. There can be other costs too, negligent owners can face hefty fines, and the structures and contents can be confiscated.

Don't Leave Your Fishing Shelter on Ice, Remove it Soon! | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

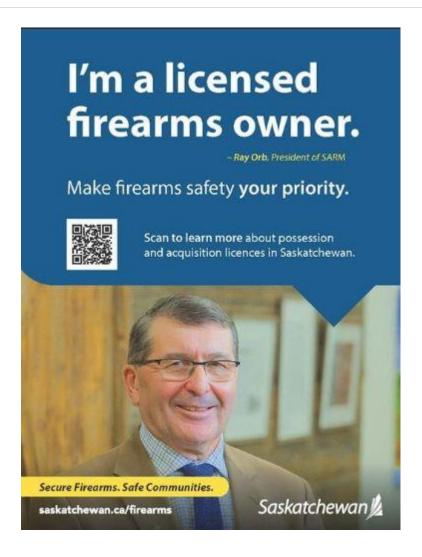
#### **DID YOU KNOW?**



A CHALLENGE THIS WEEK - TRY IT!



FIREARMS SAFETY CAMPAIGN EXTENDED TO SPRING 2024



The Government of Saskatchewan is extending its firearm safety campaign, "Secure Firearms. Safe Communities," into the spring with updated materials to raise awareness about safety, education, proper firearms storage, and licensing.

"We want Saskatchewan firearms owners to know that safety starts with them," Corrections, Policing and Public Safety Minister Paul Merriman said. "The extension of the firearms safety campaign will continue to protect Saskatchewan's tradition of responsible firearms ownership, which is demonstrated by a commitment to ongoing learning, firearms licensing, proper handling and safe storage."

Firearms Safety Campaign Extended to Spring 2024 | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

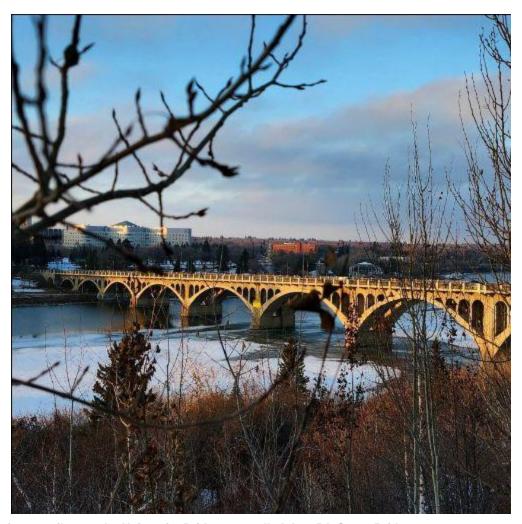
**HEALTHLINE 811** 



HealthLine 811's mental health and addictions team is here to help you and available right at your fingertips anytime, any day.

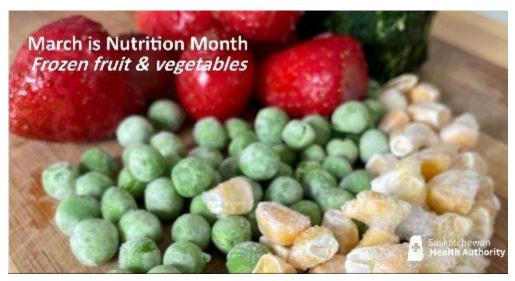
HealthLine 811 is a free, confidential, 24-hour health, mental health and addictions advice, education and support telephone line available to the people of Saskatchewan. It is staffed by experienced and specially trained registered psychiatric nurses, registered social workers and registered nurses.

### **FUN FACT**



Fun fact - until 2006, the University Bridge was called the 25th Street Bridge Photo taken by <a href="https://www.instagram.com/kristinn55/">https://www.instagram.com/kristinn55/</a>

### **MARCH IS NUTRITION MONTH**



As we near the end of winter, you may be missing the flavor and convenience of fresh vegetables and fruit. But did you know frozen vegetables and fruits are just as great as fresh? They are just as nutritious because they are picked at their peak freshness and frozen right away.

From Canada's Food Guide (10 reasons to buy frozen vegetables and fruits): <a href="https://food-guide.canada.ca/.../10-reasons-buy-frozen...">https://food-guide.canada.ca/.../10-reasons-buy-frozen...</a>

#### READ ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES



Infrastructure Investments for a New Indoor Aquatic Facility Make a Splash in Regina | News and Media |
Government of Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Air Ambulance Celebrates Women of Aviation Worldwide Week with Open House | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

Government of Canada and Saskatchewan Announce 2024 Crop Insurance Program Enhancements |
News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

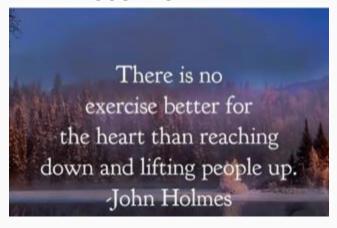
<u>Volume of Saskatchewan's Agri-Food Exports to India Sees Over 70 Per Cent Increase | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan</u>

Investor Alert: SadeX Group is Not Registered | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

Engineering and Geoscience Week Proclaimed March 3 to 9 in Saskatchewan | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

New Program Spaces for Vulnerable Families Opening Across Saskatchewan | News and Media |
Government of Saskatchewan

#### THOUGHT OF THE DAY



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