

Check out what's been happening in Saskatoon Silver Springs and throughout the Province!



## Provincial Point of View April 4, 2014



My sincere thanks for the many birthday wishes I received through calls and emails. I really appreciated your kind messages.

It was an extra special day as my Ministerial Assistant Kaitlyn Wilchynski and her husband Justin became proud parents to healthy baby boy. Another April 1st birthday! Watch for further details.

**CONGRATULATIONS CRAIG STEVENSON - COACH OF THE YEAR!**



**Congratulations to Saskatoon Silver Springs constituent Craig Stevenson who was named Coach of the Year by the Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association. Craig was the Zone G Redwings Midget II coach this past winter. Our son Carter was fortunate to play on Craig's team. He learned the importance of sportsmanship, leadership, team spirit and skill throughout the season from an outstanding coach.**

**As parents, Trish and I sincerely thank Craig for his time and commitment. Craig is so deserving of this recognition. He has had such a positive impact on the lives of the many young people he has mentored and coached.**

**A special thanks to Craig and every coach out there for volunteering countless hours to the teams they coach. Our hockey organizations are so dependant on the outstanding contributions of our coaches.**

**Craig will receive this prestigious award at the SMHA annual general meeting to be held Thursday, April 10 at 6:30 pm at the Travelodge.**

**[UNEMPLOYMENT REMAINS THE LOWEST IN CANADA](#)**

Saskatchewan continues to have the lowest unemployment rate in Canada for the 15th consecutive month. At 4.5 per cent (seasonally adjusted), the Saskatchewan rate was well below the national average of 6.9 per cent.

The Labour Force Survey released today by Statistics Canada also shows that the youth unemployment rate of 9.6 per cent (seasonally adjusted) is the lowest in the country and below the national rate of 13.6 per cent.

“Saskatchewan’s labour market remains strong, our unemployment rate remains low and we have plenty of hard working men and women taking advantage of the incredible opportunities,” Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said on behalf of Economy Minister Bill Boyd. “Today’s numbers are further proof that our economy remains strong.”

[Unemployment Remains the Lowest in Canada](#)

### **LATEST ANGUS REID POLL SHOWS OUR PREMIER CONTINUES TO RECEIVE HIGH APPROVAL**



**Congratulations Premier Brad Wall!**

The latest poll from Angus Reid Global indicates once again our Saskatchewan Premier continues

to receive the highest approval rating in Canada.

### AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES INCREASE

Average weekly earnings in the province were \$953.92 in January of 2014, the third highest among the provinces according to a report released by Statistics Canada. Nationally, the average earnings were \$924.77.

“Saskatchewan’s wage levels remain among the highest in the country,” Energy and Resources Minister Tim McMillan said. “Our strong economy allows employers to pass on the benefits in terms of higher compensation, and that is an asset when it comes to attracting new workers to the province.”

[Average Weekly Wages Increase](#)

### SUTHERLAND/FOREST GROVE PROPOSED COMMUNITY GARDEN



A public information meeting will be held Tuesday, April 15, 2014 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Sutherland School Library, 1008 Egbert Avenue.

The Sutherland and Forest Grove Community Garden Committee, with support from the local Community Association, City of Saskatoon and CHEP Good Food Inc., applied for a community garden in this neighbourhood.

This is your opportunity to learn more, express support or concerns or sign up for a garden plot. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session. The City of Saskatoon will share information about community gardens and answer any questions you have.

The proposed site of the Sutherland / Forest Grove garden site is the north end of Sutherland Park along 115th street. The size and shape will be determined following the public meeting.

To learn more about community gardens or to express interest or concerns contact: Marieke Knight, City of Saskatoon, Community Consultant. Phone: 306.975.2952 or email: [marieke.knight@saskatoon.ca](mailto:marieke.knight@saskatoon.ca).

## **GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN INVESTS IN CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE RESEARCH**

The Ministry of the Economy announced on April 2, a new funding agreement with the Petroleum Technology Research Centre (PTRC) to support the Saskatchewan CO<sub>2</sub> Oilfield Use for Storage and EOR Research Project that will continue Saskatchewan's world-leading research on the geological storage of carbon dioxide.

The \$400,000 investment will augment additional funding from the United States Department of Energy, which has recognized Saskatchewan as a world leader in carbon storage research. This funding will address important technical issues associated with carbon dioxide storage, including well bore integrity, predicting carbon dioxide migration underground, and identification of effective monitoring techniques. It will also allow the PTRC to continue their mandate to conduct carbon dioxide enhanced oil recovery research designed to increase oil production in Saskatchewan.

[Government of Saskatchewan Invests in Carbon Capture and Storage Research](#)

## **GOVERNMENT RAISES AUTISM AWARENESS FLAG FOR WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

The Government of Saskatchewan raised the autism awareness flag at the Legislative Building to recognize World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, and affirm its commitment to improving targeted autism services and supports in the province. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological disorder that affects how a person interacts with people, experiences the environment and processes information.

“World Autism Awareness Day is a valuable opportunity to learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorder, and to build a better understanding of this complex condition that has an impact on many Saskatchewan families,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “We’re continuing to work with regional health authorities, community-based agencies and other organizations to build comprehensive service systems for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.”

[Government Raises Autism Awareness Flag for World Autism Awareness Day](#)

## **NOTIFYNOW: NEW MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**



The City of Saskatoon Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) on March 31 launched NotifyNOW, a new mass notification system. It means Saskatoon residents can receive information via direct text, voicemail, and e-mail messages in emergency situations that could

affect them or their property.

“NotifyNOW will provide the EMO with the capacity to reach tens of thousands of residents within seconds of an emergency occurring in Saskatoon,” says Mayor Donald Atchison. “Public safety and security are a fundamental priority. This move is in line with City Council’s strategic goals of Continuous Improvement and Quality of Life, making Saskatoon a great place to live.”

An emergency could include any situation in which residents would be required to take some form of precautionary action as a result of a major blizzard, tornado warning, plane crash, hazardous goods spill, etc.

[NotifyNOW: New Mass Notification System](#)

### **MINIMUM WAGE TO INCREASE OCTOBER 1, 2014**

The Government of Saskatchewan will increase the province's minimum wage from \$10 to \$10.20 per hour effective October 1, 2014 and will soon introduce regulations to provide for regular indexing of the minimum wage each year.

“Increasing the minimum wage will give minimum wage earners more disposable income and improve their standard of living,” Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. “Indexation of the minimum wage will provide security for minimum wage earners and ensure predictability for business owners in the province. Since 2007, we have increased the minimum wage in Saskatchewan six times and have gone from \$7.95 to \$10.20. That’s 28 per cent, which is well ahead of the rate of inflation.”

[Minimum Wage to Increase October 1, 2014](#)

### **WORLD PARKINSON'S DAY - APRIL 11**



World Parkinson's Day is observed every year on April 11, marking the birthday of Dr. James Parkinson. Researchers in Canada and around the world are continuing to broaden the understanding of Parkinson's as a progressive brain disease that has mood and cognitive symptoms.

Parkinson's is a progressive brain disease for which there is no cure. Over 100,000 Canadians and over 6 million people worldwide have Parkinson's. The story of the Parkinson Tulip began in 1980 in the Netherlands when J.W.S. Van der Wereld, a Dutch horticulturalist who had Parkinson's disease, developed a red and white tulip.

For more information please visit: [www.parkinson.ca](http://www.parkinson.ca).

### **PROVINCE TO COMMEMORATE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR**

This summer, Saskatchewan will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War during a military service of remembrance on the Legislative grounds in Regina. At that time, the names of 1,200 Saskatchewan citizens who lost their lives during that conflict will be added to the Saskatchewan First World War Memorial. These names were missed



when the memorial was dedicated in 1995.

When the Saskatchewan War Memorial Committee began researching the Saskatchewan casualties in 1988 for inclusion on the memorial, limited source material provided an incomplete record. Research that has been completed since for the Virtual War Memorial has resulted in the addition of 1,200 names.

“Lest We Forget is a cautionary invocation repeated over time for our soldiers lost in service,” Minister responsible for the Provincial Capital Commission Kevin Doherty said. “A century ago, they left their jobs, farms and families to defend our freedom. With our actions this year, we will be heeding that promise by remembering their names and honouring their sacrifices.”

[Province to Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Start of the First World War](#)

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

... A Saskatchewan family of four can earn \$48,330 before paying any Saskatchewan income tax.

... Effective Oct. 1, 2014, Saskatchewan's minimum wage will increase to \$10.20 per hour.

... Average weekly earnings in Saskatchewan, which are now up to \$953.92, continue to outpace the national rate.

... In 2014-15, the Government of Saskatchewan will invest \$7.55 million in services and supports for Autism Spectrum Disorder - a 1,400% increase since 2007-08.

### **JUST THE LINKS**

April 4, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Government Asks for Changes to Federal Grain Legislation](#)

April 3, 2014 - [New Recruitment Strategy to Bring More Nurse Practitioners to Rural Saskatchewan](#)

April 2, 2014 - [Senior Municipal Police Officers Honoured with Commissions](#)

April 1, 2014 - [Better Access to Technology and Resources for K-12 Students in First Nations Schools](#)

March 31, 2014 - [Government of Saskatchewan Supports Research Internships for Graduate Student and International Education](#)

March 31, 2014 - [Government of Saskatchewan Declares April 2014 Safe Digging Month Across Saskatchewan](#)

March 31, 2014 - [Government of Saskatchewan Celebrates Adult Learners Week](#)

## **COMING EVENTS**

### **Mother Teresa School Bingo**

**Date: April 4**

**Where: Mother Teresa School**

**When: TBA**

### **Pioneer Threshermen's Club Flea Market and Craft Sale**

**Date: April 12**

**Where: Western Development Museum**

**When: All Day**

### **Living Well with an Autoimmune Condition Spring Symposium**

**Date: April 12**

**Where: Smiley's Buffet and Catering Banquet Room B**

**When: 12:30 pm Registration; 1 pm Presentation**

### **Draggin Rod & Custom Car Show**

**Date: April 18 - 19**

**Where: Prairieland Park**

**When: 10 am to 10 pm**

### **Teen Aid - Love Waits Fundraiser and Silent Auction**

**Date: May 4**

**Where: St. Anne's Parish Hall**

**When: 5 pm**

## **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

**“It is not what you do for your children,  
but what you have taught them  
to do for themselves that will make them  
successful human beings.”**

**~ Ann Landers**

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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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