

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



Provincial Point of View

August 21, 2014

SASKATCHEWAN'S EMPLOYMENT GROWTH STRONGER THAN FIRST THOUGHT



Lowest unemployment rate ^{3.2%} ever recorded at ~~3.3%~~!

Regina and Saskatoon have the
lowest unemployment rates
of any Canadian city

Construction led the way in job
growth – ^{7,900}~~6,000~~ new jobs
year-over-year

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, July 2014

Saskatchewan 

Revised labour force numbers released today by Statistics Canada show employment growth in Saskatchewan is even stronger than first reported last week.

There are 8,700 more people working in Saskatchewan than a year ago. Saskatchewan's employment growth rate of 1.5 per cent is second-highest in Canada and above the national growth rate of 0.9 per cent.

Saskatchewan's unemployment rate is just 3.2 per cent (seasonally adjusted) – the lowest unemployment rate ever recorded since Statistics Canada began keeping this statistic in 1976. Saskatchewan's unemployment rate is less than half the national rate of 7.0 per cent – the lowest rate in Canada and lower than 49 of 50 U.S. states.

“We are very pleased that Saskatchewan's unemployment rate continues to be the lowest in Canada in the re-release of July's Labour Force Survey,” Associate Minister of the Economy Jeremy Harrison said. “It is clear that Saskatchewan's economy continues to shine on the national stage, where we are outpacing the majority of provinces when it comes to jobs and opportunities.”

[Saskatchewan's Employment Growth Stronger than First Thought](#)

STRONG AUGUST LAND SALES BRINGS IN \$48 MILLION

With \$48.4 million in revenue raised at Saskatchewan's August sale of petroleum and natural gas rights, the 2014 calendar year total for land sales is now \$158 million, already surpassing land sale revenue totals for both the 2012 and 2013 calendar years with two sales remaining.

Industry continues to place a premium on Saskatchewan oil and gas rights. The average price per hectare received for the sale was \$1,916/hectare, the third highest on record. The April 2008 sale holds the title for highest average price per hectare for a single sale at \$2,725/hectare, followed closely by the February 2008 sale at \$2,495/hectare.

“The Bakken and Shauanvon light-oil plays in southern Saskatchewan are both prone to spectacular single-parcel results that we experienced once again in this sale,” Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. “However, we're equally pleased about land acquisitions in the heavy oil-prone areas of the province that are consistent in sale-after-sale, year-after-year.”

[Strong August Land Sale Brings in \\$48 Million](#)

BACK TO SCHOOL!



I hope teachers and students have enjoyed a wonderful summer and are excited to get back to the classroom. I remind motorists to be extra careful in our school zones as youngsters sometimes don't look before crossing the street. Enjoy the last week of summer!

SASKATOON'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SUSTAINABILITY

The first edition of *Our Environment: The City of Saskatoon's Environmental Leadership Report* has been released. The report provides an overview of Saskatoon's environmental health and establishes baselines for the strategies and priorities identified under the City's Strategic Goal of Environmental Leadership.

"Our citizens value a healthy environment and as Saskatoon continues to grow, there will be

corresponding pressures on our land, air, water and waste,” says Ian Loughran, Energy & Sustainability Engineering Manager. “Raising awareness of the overall condition of our environment and our progress toward sustainability will help us all make informed decisions and choices to reduce the negative impacts on our environment.”

[Saskatoon's Environmental Health & Sustainability](#)

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN SUPPORTS BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN



Education Minister Don Morgan joined Salvation Army volunteers and several Regina area MLAs at The Salvation Army Haven of Hope Ministries today to help fill backpacks with donated school supplies in support of The Salvation Army's annual Back to School Campaign.

"Back to school is an exciting time for Saskatchewan students, unfortunately not all families can afford to buy the required school supplies for their children," Morgan said. "Thanks to efforts of the Salvation Army's Back to School Campaign, more students will come to class ready to learn on their first day of school."

Between the donated supplies and the \$663 in cash contributions from our building staff, we were able to provide school supplies for about 150 children who would have otherwise had none for their first day of school.

[Government of Saskatchewan Supports Back to School Campaign](#)

PRINCE EDWARD TO VISIT SASKATCHEWAN

Premier Brad Wall announced that His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex will visit Saskatchewan for the fifth time from September 17 to 19.

"On behalf of the people of Saskatchewan, we are pleased to welcome His Royal Highness back to our great province," Wall said. "I encourage all citizens to take advantage of this unique opportunity to engage with a member of Canada's Royal Family."

[Prince Edward to Visit Saskatchewan](#)

DID YOU KNOW...

... Just over 1% of the 2014 provincial crop has been combined.

... Saskatchewan continues to post the lowest unemployment rate among Canada's provinces, the fastest growth in manufacturing sales and the second-fastest growth in employment, housing starts and retail sales.

... We have more than 80 million acres of forest, 100,000 lakes, river rapids, canyons and sand cliffs, there is always something to see and do in Saskatchewan – especially in the summer.

... The last time Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex toured Saskatchewan was in 2006.

... Saskatchewan has 44% of Canada's total cultivated farmland.

JUST THE LINKS

August 21, 2014 - [Phase Two of Water System Upgrades Begin at Pike Lake Provincial Park](#)

August 21, 2014 - [Crop Report for the Period August 12 to 18, 2014](#)

August 20, 2014 - [Emergency Response and Recovery Update: August 20, 2014](#)

August 19, 2014 - [Significant Capital Improvements on the Way to Buffalo Pound Provincial Park](#)

August 18, 2014 - [Province Mourns the Passing of Former Opposition Leader Dick Collver](#)

August 15, 2014 - [CIC Announces Review of Smart Meter Program](#)

August 15, 2014 - [Community-Based Endoscopy Service to Decrease Wait Times in Southern Saskatchewan](#)

COMING EVENTS

Show and Shine Weekend

Date: August 24

When: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Where: Downtown Saskatoon

Zach Jeffries Ward 10 BBQ

Date: August 27

When: 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Alice Turner Library

PotashCorp FireWorks Festival

Date: August 29 - 30

When: Mainstage Starts at 5:00 pm

Where: Rotary Park & River Landing

Willowgrove University Heights Community Association - AGM

Date: September 3

When: 7:00 pm

Where: Centennial Collegiate

Fall Fun Fair

Date: September 7

When: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Where: Erindale Alliance Church

Silverspring Community Association - Fun Day in the Park

Date: September 14, 2014

When: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Where: Park TBA

The Mom Show

Date: September 11

When: 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: Holy Family Cathedral

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“Individual commitment to a group effort -
that is what makes a team work, a company work,
a society work, a civilization work.”

~ Vince Lombardi

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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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