

Check out what's happening in Saskatoon Willowgrove and throughout the Province!



## Provincial Point of View

**December 11, 2017**

### THE CONCLUSION OF THE FALL SITTING OF THE LEGISLATURE MARKED THE END OF AN ERA IN SASKATCHEWAN



*The conclusion of the Fall Sitting of the Legislature marked the end of an era in Saskatchewan as it was final sitting for Premier Brad Wall.*

*Premier Wall was elected on a vision for Saskatchewan that would secure a better quality of life for its residents. Saskatchewan has seen that vision unfold during a decade of growth in which we emerged as the second-fastest growing province in Canada with a population of 1.15 million.*

***During that time, our growing province produced the second-best job creation record in Canada – nearly double the national rate of job growth.***

***The growth of our province under the leadership of Premier Brad Wall has enabled us to provide record tax relief for low-income individuals and families.***

***Through strategic investments we have been able to recruit and retain 750 more doctors, over 3,000 more nurses, and we have been able to reduce surgical wait times to among the shortest in Canada.***

***Investments in hospital projects have doubled. This includes the new Children's Hospital in Saskatoon and the new hospitals in Moose Jaw and North Battleford.***

***We have opened 15 new long-term care facilities for seniors across the province and have tripled the Seniors Income Plan benefit from \$90 to 270 per month.***

***Today there are 40 brand-new or replacement schools with investments in 25 other major school renovations.***

***We have hired 875 more teachers and 164 more student support teachers.***

***With enrolment growth of 10 per cent, we have also increased K-12 operating funding by 32 per cent.***

***Operating and capital funding for post-secondary institutions has increased by 40 per cent over 10 years.***

***We have added 6,000 new childcare spaces.***

***And we have more than doubled revenue sharing funding to municipalities from \$127 million in 2007 to \$258 million in 2017-18.***

***Growth has always been, and always will be, the north star for our government.***

***It's all about securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people. Together, by this***

*measure, we have had some success.*

***Thank you, Premier Wall!***

## **CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM PREMIER BRAD WALL**

In 1913, a young immigrant, his name was John, who was a husband and father of three, left behind the oppression of his country forever. He also left behind his family, for what he knew might be an extended period of time.

Despite the fears he must have felt for his family, he set out to cross the ocean. To find a place of hope for their future. He came to Saskatchewan.

It took him nine years. He worked hard and he saved hard.

Those nine years were not without hardship and tragedy. And when they were over he no longer had three children. His daughter had died in the influenza epidemic of 1915. Only his two sons remained.

What a bittersweet family reunion it must have been, when he managed to send enough money to bring his wife and two sons to join him. Despite their loss and their difficulties their story is still about hope.

Hope that was stronger than the fear of what they had to endure. They saw Saskatchewan as a place to build their future. And turn that dream into reality.

Despite the adversities in the lives of that young immigrant family, that first Saskatchewan Christmas must have been a great celebration.

There was probably not a great deal of wealth in gifts or a great table spread, but there must have been a great deal of wealth and fulfillment in simply being together. And there must have been renewed optimism for the new year dawning.

That has been what we have dared to dream in our province for the last 10 years. That Saskatchewan's story would be about optimism and hope again. And that hope would be stronger than the fear that we aren't good enough, or fear of the unknown.

Instead, we dreamed of a Saskatchewan that would bring our kids home. A Saskatchewan that had confidence in what we have to offer to a new wave and a new generation of immigrants just like John.

Together, that's what we have done.

In 2017, a hundred years later, that immigrant family's descendants still live in Saskatchewan.

John's great grandson and his family will come together in just a few weeks for a traditional ranch Christmas...all because of one man's determination and sacrifice. And because of a place of hope, like Saskatchewan.

And this Christmas, new comers from the world over will enjoy the holidays in their own way here in Saskatchewan. Because in the last 10 years, newcomers have again found hope here and chose Saskatchewan in record numbers.

To live without fear and to dream of a better future. May we always have that freedom. And may we always have the freedom to celebrate Christmas.

Christmas is the ultimate story of hope because that's what God gave to us all. He sent His son Jesus.

As a tiny baby, He left perfection to endure oppression.

Because He loved us. And chose to bring us that hope. That's what I believe this Christmas.

It's the time of year to enjoy the wealth of simply being together with those we love, and the fulfillment of helping someone in need.

And it's the time of year when we are all reminded of the need to spread that hope and love God sent to us. To share it with those around us, especially those in need.

So from me and my wife Tami, and our family, and on behalf of my colleagues in the Government of Saskatchewan may the Miracle of Christmas bless you, and the True Spirit of Christmas keep you.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Click [here](#) to see Premier Brad Wall's Christmas video.

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

It is my great pleasure to extend greetings on behalf of Canada's Queen as we mark this special time of year.

I can hardly believe it has been nearly six years since I became Saskatchewan's 21st Lieutenant Governor. It has been an extraordinary privilege to represent our Head of State, and to meet the remarkable people of Saskatchewan. I have been especially honoured to serve as our nation commemorates the 150th Anniversary of Confederation.

This is also the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge, when thousands of Canadians served together for the first time. That remarkable victory was a pivotal moment in our history, and the international community recognized the critical contributions of Canadians. To this day, many communities in Europe honour the graves of our soldiers, who sacrificed everything to bring an end to war. A century later, Canadians continue to serve in our military, our police forces, as paramedics, firefighters, corrections officers, and border guards. I am grateful to all our men and women in uniform for honouring the legacy handed down to us by those young men who served at Vimy, 100 years ago.

As we mark this milestone year, we must acknowledge that Indigenous peoples have called this land home for thousands of years. It has been my great privilege to walk beside Elders and Chiefs in the grand entries of pow wows, to take part in a sweat lodge, and to be welcomed into First Nations communities. I am grateful to Indigenous peoples who have looked upon Canada 150 as an opportunity to create bridges of understanding. As Gord Downie said on Parliament Hill on July 1, "Now we begin a new 150 years."

It is my sincere hope that the people of Saskatchewan will embrace this new beginning, and will reach out to those who may be different than us. It is my prayer that we will work together to create more inclusive communities, where everyone is welcome. Only we have the power to create the change we need in our country.

Over the past six years, I have presented hundreds of awards to deserving individuals. There are many more who may not receive public recognition, but who give of their time and their resources to improve the lives of others. To all the generous and capable Saskatchewan volunteers, I thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for making our province better. You are proof that we are each able to make a difference, and that when we work together, no challenge is too great.

One of the things I love most about this time of year is spending time with my family. I also love Christmas Carols. I'd like share a few lyrics from one of my favorites.

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow.  
To take each moment  
And live each moment  
With peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth,  
And let it begin with me.

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. May the coming year be filled with joy and with peace.

## **CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION**

Hello everyone, and Merry Christmas.

I've always loved the holiday season and now, as an MLA, I have the honour and privilege of visiting with the young and young at heart as families and communities come together to enjoy the spirit and warmth of the holidays.

Whether it's seeing the joy on children's faces as they experience the magic of the season or visiting with seniors in care homes and listening to fond memories of holidays gone by, on a more personal note, I look forward to spending time with my family, as we celebrate Christmas.

We'll gather together in Regina, Indian Head and Humboldt. We will celebrate Christmas, we'll exchange gifts and, while we look forward to the year ahead, we'll reflect on the past year.

I'm also looking forward to finding some time to get out on our cross-country skis and enjoy the winter scenery of this beautiful province.

However you celebrate, during this season, all of us take time to turn our thoughts to consider those who have struggled over the past year – whether it was through the loss of a job, the loss of a loved one, wild fires, floods or tragedies around the world.

We all join together in wishing for peace and happiness in 2018.

**The season's spirit of love, peace, and goodwill toward others are universal. These are the values at the heart of what we all want it to mean to be from Saskatchewan.**

**Looking out for one another, caring for the most vulnerable, welcoming newcomers with open arms, and comforting those who are sick or suffering, is how we can continue building together toward a stronger and fairer Saskatchewan.**

**However you are celebrating this holiday season, on behalf of myself, my family, and the Official Opposition Saskatchewan NDP, I wish you and your loved ones a holiday season filled with love, joy and laughter.**

**Merry Christmas, happy holidays, and all the best in the new year.**

**7TH ANNUAL SASKATOON MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH**



The 7th Annual Saskatoon Menorah Lighting Ceremony will be held Tuesday, December 12th, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Saskatoon Farmers' Market.

While Chanukah is a Jewish celebration, this event has gained tremendous popularity and support beyond the Jewish community due to its symbolizing the universal message of freedom – freedom of expression and freedom of religion. It is truly a *community celebration*! The event will be attended by dignitaries, community leaders, and the community at large.

My best wishes to Rabbi Raphel Kats and everyone that celebrates Chanukah. For additional information, please email [info@JewishSask.com](mailto:info@JewishSask.com).

**CONGRATULATIONS TO SASKATOON WILLOWGROVE  
CONSTITUENT MARLIN STANGELAND**

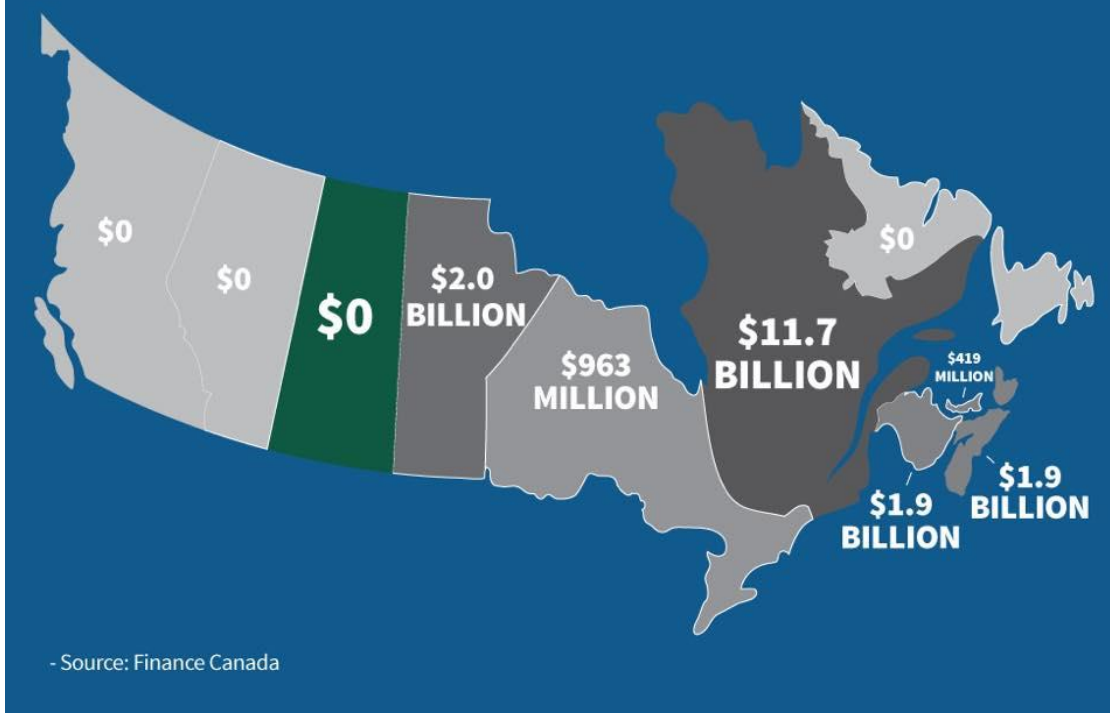




**Congratulations to Saskatoon Willowgrove constituent Marlin Stangeland! Marlin was awarded the Canadian Senate 150 medal for Canadians whose generosity, dedications, volunteerism and hard work make their communities a better place. Marlin is pictured above with Senator Denise Batters.**

# Equalization Payouts

2018-19



Premier Brad Wall, "Quebec is cutting income taxes, sending cheques to parents, and will balance their budget. Wondering where they got the money?"

This year, Quebec is receiving \$11.7 BILLION in equalization, which makes up 11% of their total revenue. That's \$650 MILLION more than last year....

Saskatchewan taxpayers are contributing \$580 million to equalization just this year and again receive ZERO dollars in equalization as our finances struggle with the challenge of stubbornly low commodity prices. Something isn't right."

## DID YOU KNOW?

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- This year, eHealth Saskatchewan mailed health card renewal packages to more than 689,000 households in the province.
- **Prairie Resilience: A Made-in-Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy** is a plan to reduce emissions in key sectors, provide flexible options for emitters, and protect the province from a changing climate -- without a carbon tax.
- In [this 2016 debate](#), Premier Wall stood up for Saskatchewan's interests and made the case against a federally-imposed carbon tax on Saskatchewan.
- Saskatchewan agricultural producers sequestered over 11 million tonnes of carbon in 2014.

### **CITYWIDE NOTIFYNOW TEST SUCCESSFUL; RESIDENTS BECOMING MORE FAMILIAR WITH SIGN-UP PROCESS**



City of Saskatoon News release: December 6th, the notifynow TEST message sent by the City of Saskatoon's Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) was once again a success based on the feedback from residents and program delivery results.

"Residents that called in yesterday after the TEST message wanted to learn more about how to sign up to customize their notifynow profile, says Deb Davies, Acting Director of Emergency Planning. "Residents are recognizing that in the event of a wide-scale emergency, or one affecting only their neighborhood, they might prefer a text message, and an email in addition to receiving a voice message to their landline. Or maybe they want to make sure their children receive a text message. That's what is great about the notifynow emergency messaging system; people can customize their profile and tell us how best to contact them and their family members."

To date, 22,470 residents have gone online to customize their preferred communication method. With the twice-yearly testing of the notifynow system, and by creating ongoing awareness for the program, the City's EMO hopes to continue to grow this number.

"Testing the system helps to familiarize residents with what a notifynow message will sound like and how it will be displayed on their phones or their other preferred methods of communication they've let us know about by signing up," says Davies. "Testing helps residents know that a timely and targeted notifynow message is legitimate - and should be trusted. Should a resident receive a notifynow safety message, they'll know what to do, where to go, and what to expect in an impending, escalating, or occurring emergency situation in Saskatoon. We ask that people save the contact in their address books and cell phones as notifynow for easier identification.

The ability to receive timely emergency communications is critical for all people, including the deaf and hard of hearing. The TEST yesterday sent messages to 86 TTY devices; again, the EMO hopes to continue to see this number grow. To receive *accessible* notifynow messages, sign up and enter up to two different TTY electronic device methods for text communication via telephone.

The EMO continues to encourage everyone to sign up for notifynow. Tell us how to best reach you with timely, targeted and trusted notifynow messages in an emergency situation. Visit [saskatoon.ca/notifynow](http://saskatoon.ca/notifynow) or call [306-975-3210](tel:306-975-3210) for more information.

## **SASKATCHEWAN RECOGNIZES NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

December 6, 2017 - As Canadians mark the *National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women* today, the Government of Saskatchewan remains committed to finding effective solutions to reduce interpersonal violence and abuse.

In Canada, December 6 commemorates the deaths of 14 female engineering students who, in 1989, were targeted and killed at Montreal's Ecole Polytechnique simply because they were women. This year marks the 28th anniversary of that tragic event.

"Today is an opportunity to remember all women and girls who have died as a result of violence and who currently face violence in their lives," Minister Responsible for the Status of Women Bronwyn Eyre said. "It is important that we use our collective voice to raise awareness and support violence prevention in our communities."

In 1991, the white ribbon campaign was established to raise awareness about, and oppose, violence against women and girls. The campaign also works to promote gender equity.

Today, all Saskatchewan MLAs will wear a white ribbon to pledge their support to end violence against women and girls and mark the importance of December 6.

## **PDAP TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE ON GRAZING LANDS DAMAGED BY WILDFIRES**

December 6th, Government Relations Minister Larry Doke announced that the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP) will provide financial assistance to grazing lands damaged by wildfires.

"Typically PDAP does not provide assistance for wildfire losses, because most fire losses are insurable," Doke said. "However, tame and native grazing lands are not insurable. This adjustment will fill that gap and provide Saskatchewan producers with additional peace of mind, and help ensure that operations affected by wildfire can recover sooner."

Producers that have suffered wildfire damages to "tame and native lands" intended for grazing can now apply for assistance providing feed to affected livestock. A claimant must meet all the program's eligibility criteria which can be found at [www.saskatchewan.ca/PDAP#eligibility](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/PDAP#eligibility).

Read the entire news release [here](#).

## REMEMBER TO DRIVE SAFE - BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR HEADLIGHTS ON



Highway driving in blizzard-like conditions can be scary and dangerous. Make sure you're using your headlights any time visibility is poor - blowing snow, rain, sleet, etc. Otherwise, other drivers may not see you! There is a \$115 fine for not following this rule. Also, remember to use your headlights since some vehicles don't have taillights on when daytime running lights are being used. [#DoNotRiskIt](#)  
[#WinterDriving](#)

## GOVERNMENT CREATES INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE LEAVE

### *New Legislation Will Support Survivors of Interpersonal Violence*

Over the last year, the Ministries of Justice, Social Services and Labour Relations and Workplace Safety have engaged in consultations to determine what supports are needed to combat the issue of interpersonal violence in Saskatchewan.

The result is a job protected leave that can be taken immediately after the legislation receives Royal Assent, which is expected on December 7, 2017.

*The Saskatchewan Employment (Interpersonal Violence Leave) Amendment Act, 2017*, provides survivors of interpersonal violence with 10 days of unpaid leave to access services or to relocate.

“We know that Saskatchewan has one of the highest rates of police-reported interpersonal violence across Canada,” Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. “As government and other agencies work toward long-term solutions for this issue, survivors need immediate supports to escape dangerous situations.”

Read more on eligibility [here](#).

## HEALTH CARDS NEED TO BE UPDATED WITH NEW STICKERS BY DECEMBER 31, 2017



Residents with provincial health coverage who have not received their health card renewal stickers in the mail are encouraged to contact eHealth Saskatchewan (eHealth) as soon as possible. Most health cards expire on December 31, 2017.

If an individual's health card expires, he or she could be billed for medical services.

This fall, eHealth mailed health card renewal packages to all residents with provincial health coverage. The packages included updated stickers that will renew health cards for a three year period, until December 31, 2020. Residents who have not received a package should call eHealth at 1-800-667-7551, email [Change@eHealthSask.ca](mailto:Change@eHealthSask.ca), or visit eHealth's office located at 2130 - 11th Avenue in downtown Regina to receive their renewal sticker.

eHealth's office is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on statutory holidays,

including December 25, 26 and January 1.

The most common reason why people do not receive their renewal stickers is because they have moved and not updated their address with eHealth Saskatchewan. Residents can update their address, as well as personal and family information, online at [www.eHealthSask.ca](http://www.eHealthSask.ca).

This year, eHealth Saskatchewan mailed health card renewal packages to more than 689,000 households in the province.

For more information on health benefits, visit [www.Saskatchewan.ca](http://www.Saskatchewan.ca).

## **KEEP RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION IN MIND THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**



**City of Saskatoon:** This holiday season the City of Saskatoon is encouraging residents to keep recycling options in mind.

**“We know that the holidays are a time where our community generates a greater amount of garbage than normal. Our ‘Create Memories, Not Garbage’ campaign is an opportunity for us share a gentle waste reduction message,” says Brenda Wallace, Director of Environmental and Corporate Initiatives. “Recycling and composting are important successes for our community, and it’s also important that we start thinking about waste reduction year-round.”**



Wallace says almost 100,000 tonnes of garbage is added to the landfill each year and waste reduction is a critical component to deferring the replacement of the landfill. The costs to close the existing landfill and establish a new landfill are estimated at \$26 million and \$100 million respectively.

Here are some recycling and waste reduction suggestions for the holidays:

- Wrapping gifts with reusable materials
- Gifts with less packaging
- Gifts without packaging such as a Leisure Gift Card or tickets to a performance
- Gifts of time participating in one of Saskatoon's many winter activities
- Gifts of food in reusable or recyclable containers

This is the first year that the City of Saskatoon has conducted a holiday waste reduction campaign. The campaign, built upon Metro Vancouver's yearly waste reduction campaign will run on social media until January.

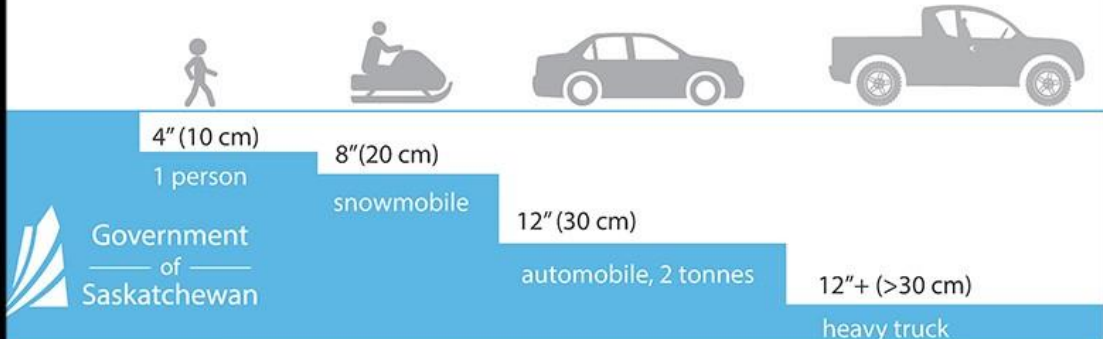
More information about purchasing Leisure Gift Cards is available at [www.saskatoon.ca/admissions](http://www.saskatoon.ca/admissions). Winter City activity information is available at [www.saskatoon.ca/wintercityxe](http://www.saskatoon.ca/wintercityxe).





The campaign supports the Strategic Goal of Environmental Leadership including the four-year priority to promote and facilitate city-wide composting and recycling and the long-term strategy to eliminate the need for a new landfill and to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions tied to City operations. In addition, it supports the Waste Diversion Performance Target to divert 70% of waste by 2023.


**STAY SAFE WHEN HEADING OUT ONTO THE ICE**

# Ice thickness guidelines

Any activity on ice comes with a risk. Test the ice thickness and follow these guidelines to determine if it is safe to proceed. Visit [saskatchewan.ca/fishing](http://saskatchewan.ca/fishing).



			
4" (10 cm)	8" (20 cm)	12" (30 cm)	12"+ (>30 cm)
1 person	snowmobile	automobile, 2 tonnes	heavy truck

 Government of Saskatchewan

With the mild weather we have been experiencing, it is important to test the ice thickness before you travel on it. Any activity on ice comes with a risk.

## COMING EVENTS

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WOULD LIKE US TO HIGHLIGHT IN THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE LET US KNOW!

Provincial Point of View is a great way to connect with our community. We appreciate the opportunity to share the successes we see in our constituency and highlight the many events happening in our community. If you have a suggestion for items you would like highlighted in this newsletter, please email: [ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net](mailto:ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net)



## **BHP Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour**

**When: Now - January 7**

**Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park**

Click [here](#) for details



## **Eaton's Once Upon a Christmas Exhibit**

**Where: Western Development Museum**

**When: 9 am - 5 pm, through to January 7, 2018**

Click [here](#) for additional information



## **Kayden Kot Steak Night Benefit**

**When: February 3, 2018 5 - 8 pm**

**Where: The Sutherland Bar, Central Avenue**

For tickets or information or to donate to the silent auction, please contact [dkdube@sasktel.net](mailto:dkdube@sasktel.net) or [smfortier@hotmail.com](mailto:smfortier@hotmail.com) or call or text 306.381.8873



*This spot is being held for your event! Please let us know if you have an event you would like in our newsletter!*

**[READ ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES HERE](#)**



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY



**As we grow older our  
Christmas list gets  
smaller and we find out  
that the things we really  
want can't be bought.**

[friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

### 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 Willowgrove. 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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