

Check out what has been happening in Saskatoon Silver Springs and throughout the province!



## Provincial Point of View January 10, 2014

### RECORD JOB CREATION IN 2013



#### HIGHEST YEARLY JOB GROWTH ON RECORD

New jobs created in 2013:

**18,000**

Lowest unemployment rate in Canada  
for 12 consecutive months

**3.9%** vs national rate of 7.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, December 2013

**Saskatchewan**

The final job numbers for 2013 were released today and highlight Saskatchewan's unprecedented job creation record. The figures show that Saskatchewan created more than 18,000 jobs in 2013, the highest created in a one year period since the survey started in 1976.

“This is truly an important economic milestone – more jobs created in the province than ever before,” Energy and Resources Minister Tim McMillan said. “With more than 18,000 people working in Saskatchewan in 2013 than there were in 2012, it shows we have an economy that is both broad based and dynamic.”

In December 2013, Saskatchewan had the lowest unemployment rate in the nation at 3.9 per cent, down from 4.1 per cent in November. Nationally, the unemployment rate was 7.2 per cent in December.

“Saskatchewan had the lowest unemployment rate in the country for the entire year,” McMillan said. “Last year was simply an exceptional year, and we are confident that in 2014 we’ll continue to see strong job growth, robust population growth as well as continued investment in our diverse and strong economy.”

Other highlights include:

- Compared to December 2012, full-time employment increased by 8,100 and part-time increased by 5,800.
- Youth employment up by 1,200 (1.5 per cent) compared to December 2012
- Compared to December 2012, Regina's employment was up by 4,500 (3.5 per cent), and Saskatoon's employment was up by 12,100 (8.0 per cent).
- Off-reserve Aboriginal employment was up by 3,000 (7.5 per cent) compared to December 2012 for 11 consecutive months of year-over-year increases. Aboriginal youth employment was up by 1,000 (11.9 per cent) to 9,400 for seven consecutive months of year-over-year increases.
- Regina and Saskatoon's unemployment rate was 4.2 per cent, the lowest unemployment rate among major cities.
- Youth unemployment rate was 6.6 per cent, lowest among the provinces, and well below the national rate of 14.0 per cent.

[Record Job Creation In 2013](#)

## **GOVERNMENT CALLS FOR PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES ON HEALTH COUNCILS**

Saskatchewan residents who want to make a difference in health care have the opportunity to serve on a number of health professionals councils.

The Ministry of Health is seeking motivated people to fill important public representative positions on one of 26 self-regulating health professional councils in Saskatchewan. Closing date for submission of resumés is February 10.

“We’re looking for people who are eager to share their experience and knowledge on these health councils,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “Public members help to ensure that the best interests of Saskatchewan residents are represented, and we value their role in putting patients first.”

Self-regulating health professional associations include the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists, the Saskatchewan Dental Hygienists’ Association, the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists and many others.

Residents with relevant skills including prior experience on volunteer boards, councils or committees, are encouraged to apply. Meetings convene in Regina, Saskatoon or other locations in Saskatchewan. The time commitment ranges from four to 12 days a year. Travel expenses and an honorarium will be paid.

Saskatchewan residents interested in serving on a council should submit a resumé including a history of their community involvement and volunteer activities, along with relevant education and employment experience to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health, Workforce Planning Branch, 3475 Albert Street, Regina SK S4S 6X6, or email [rbayliss@health.gov.sk.ca](mailto:rbayliss@health.gov.sk.ca)

For further details, visit [www.health.gov.sk.ca/public-representatives](http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/public-representatives).

[Government Calls for Public Representatives on Health Councils](#)

**WISHING THOSE CELEBRATING UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR  
ALL THE BEST!**



Щасливого Різдва і щасливого Нового року to everyone that celebrated Ukrainian Christmas.

I hope you enjoyed the celebration and all of the wonderful food that is part of your festivities! My best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2014.

### THE FLU SEASON IS HERE

The influenza season this year started late but is now in full swing. I encourage everyone to get a flu shot if they haven't already done so, and practice good hand hygiene to help avoid getting sick. Influenza cases are increasing and H1N1 is the predominant strain circulating. Health officials say children under five years of age, as well as young and middle-aged adults, are more likely to be susceptible to virus.

The influenza vaccine is available through public health clinics as well as some physicians' and nurse practitioners' offices. Health regions are scheduling additional public health clinics as needed. Call HealthLine – 811 – or your health region for clinic dates and times. You can also

visit [Saskatchewan.ca/flu](http://Saskatchewan.ca/flu) for further information.

## **BUILDING PERMITS INCREASE YEAR-OVER-YEAR – SASKATOON SETS A NEW RECORD IN 2013!**

There were \$235 million in building permits issued in Saskatchewan in November 2013, up 16.7 per cent from last November. Saskatchewan had the third highest percentage increase among the provinces.

“The rise in building permits on an annual basis for the month of November was good news for construction companies and the workers they employ,” Energy and Resources Minister Tim McMillan said.

Non-residential permits were up 128.4 per cent on a year-over-year basis.

“Many Saskatchewan cities are reporting record or close to record building permits in 2013,” McMillan said. “Growth at this level is important to keep the economic momentum moving forward which will make 2014 another great year.”

[Building Permits Increase Year-Over-Year](#)

***Please note:** Saskatoon set a new record in 2013 for the value of building permits issued. The city's Building Standards issued building permits valuing \$1,088,500,000, exceeding the 2013 record total permit value of \$1,082,100,000 by 0.6%.*

*These numbers are reflective of the tremendous growth in our city.*

## **SASKATCHEWAN HEADED TOWARD ANOTHER EXPORT RECORD**

New figures out today show Saskatchewan is on track to set a record for exports. Saskatchewan exports surpassed \$30.3 billion in the first 11 months of 2013, up 5.3 per cent for the same period in 2012. In November 2013, exports in the province totalled \$2.8 billion, the second highest ever for the month and up 13.9 per cent over last year. Saskatchewan had the third highest percentage increase among the provinces.

**“As the final figures roll in for 2013, Saskatchewan’s economy remains on the right course to set a number of all-time records including exports,” Minister responsible for Trade Tim McMillan said. “This speaks to the productivity, innovation and hard work of Saskatchewan producers and businesses.”**

[Saskatchewan Headed Toward Another Export Record](#)

### **SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL PARKS ANNOUNCE FEE CHANGES AND IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2014**

Saskatchewan provincial parks are gearing up for another great year. Last year was a record-setting year for attendance and planning is underway to ensure continued success in 2014.

“Saskatchewan provincial parks are premiere tourism destinations in Saskatchewan and we continue to see more visitors than ever before,” Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said. “We have also been working hard to improve our visitors’ park experience. Since 2007, many parks have received upgrades and more are planned for this coming year.”

In order to continue to provide a high level of service to an increasing number of visitors, several fees have increased. Changes will affect nightly and seasonal camping rates. Small adjustments to swimming pool entry and swimming lesson fees have also been made.

- Nightly – electric – from \$22 to \$27
- Nightly - full service – from \$26 to \$35
- Nightly - non-electric – remains unchanged at \$17
- Seasonal - electric – from \$1,500 to \$1,900
- Seasonal – non electric – from \$760 to \$950
- Swimming lessons – from \$25 to \$3

[Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Announce Fee Changes and Important Dates for 2014](#)

### **JUST THE LINKS**

January 7, 2014 - [Government Invests \\$3 Million for First Nations and Métis Students](#)

January 8, 2014 - [Government Funding Helps Western Yellowhead Air Management Zone Monitor Air](#)

[Quality](#)

January 8, 2014 - [St. Louis Bridge Set To Reopen](#)

January 9, 2014 - [Building Permits Increase Year-Over-Year](#)

January 10, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Changing Approach to Flu Vaccinations](#)

**DID YOU KNOW...**

...Building permits for Saskatoon hit a record high of \$1.1 billion in 2013.

...Our province's exports surpassed \$30.3 billion in the first 11 months of 2013.

...Saskatchewan was up by 14,900 jobs in the past year and unemployment was the lowest in Canada.

**COMING EVENTS**

**Western Canadian Crop Production Show**

Date: January 13 - 16

Where: Prairieland Park

When: Daily

**Malanka 2014**

Date: January 18

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 7 pm

**Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan Walk for Memories**

Date: January 19

Where: Saskatoon Field House

When: Registration at 12 pm; Walk at 1 pm - 3 pm

**Potash Corp WinterShine Festival**

Date: January 25 - February 2

Where: Saskatoon's Farmers Market at River Landing

**When: Mon - Fri 4 pm - 8 pm; Sat 12 pm - 8 pm; Sun 10 am - 8 pm**

### **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

**“If someone does not smile at you,  
be generous and offer your own smile.  
Nobody needs a smile more  
than the one who cannot smile to others.”**

**~ Dalai Lama**

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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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