

# Provincial Point of View July 10, 2014

### **CANADA DAY 2014 CELEBRATIONS**



July 1st was a beautiful day at Diefenbaker Park. I am grateful each year to have the opportunity to connect with family and friends at the Canada Day celebrations.

Congratulations to Saskatoon Silver Springs constituent, Brad Sylvester who does an incredible job organizing the festivities. The Optimist Club once again did an outstanding job. It was a fantastic day for families to celebrate living in this great country.

Thank you to the volunteers and organizers for making Canada's 147th birthday celebration in

### Saskatoon a huge success!

### **RECORD MONTH FOR EXPORTS**

Exports in the province totalled \$3.4 billion in May 2014, the highest ever for the month of May according to a report released by Statistics Canada today. That was 17.9 per cent increase over last year, the third highest percentage rise among the provinces and well ahead of the 10.5 per cent posted nationally.

"Record export numbers are exceptionally good news for businesses and for our economy,"

Trade Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Our growth rate remains near the top in the country, and shows Saskatchewan's economy continues to be a top performer."

**Record Month for Exports** 

# SIX ADDITIONAL REGIONAL FLOOD RECOVERY CENTRES ANNOUNCED



My thoughts to go out to the many people coping with flooding across the province.

Premier Brad Wall announced that six regional flood recovery centres would open in flood affected areas of the province.

"The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to providing the necessary resources to assist the people of this province as we deal with unprecedented flooding," Wall said. "These regional flood recovery centres are a one-stop point of access for those needing assistance."

The Premier made the announcement during his second tour of flood-impacted communities.

Centres will open in Carnduff, Moosomin, Grenfell, Esterhazy, Balcarres, and Yorkton.

Six Additional Regional Flood Recovery Centres Announced

#### NEW WEST PARTNERSHIP CALLS FOR NEW CANADA FREE TRADE ZONE

On July 8, the three premiers of the New West Partnership (Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia) sent a joint letter to all premiers in Canada urging them to support an ambitious Canada Free Trade zone for Canada's internal economy.

New West Partnership premiers are calling on their colleagues across Canada to work together to overhaul and modernize the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT). They want to create an AIT that eliminates as many barriers as possible and provides opportunities for businesses to grow and economies to diversify.

The new Canada Free Trade Zone would be a comprehensive renewal of the existing AIT based on:

- a negative list approach: as broad as possible where provinces and territories negotiate what is out, not what is in;
- full coverage for all procuring agencies;
- · straightforward, accessible language;
- continued vigilance on labour mobility; and,
- strong enforcement mechanisms with the teeth to make sure that we all play by the rules.

New West Partnership Calls for New Canada Free Trade Zone

# PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY - RESIDENTS URGED TO USE CAUTION AROUND FLOOD-AFFECTED LAKES

Saskatchewan's Ministry of Health advises the public to avoid swimming and other in-water recreational activities in lakes and rivers that have been significantly impacted by flooding.

"Testing was initiated to see whether water quality has been affected by the flooding that has occurred," Director of Environmental Health for the Ministry of Health Tim Macaulay said. "Water samples taken in various locations have shown that high levels of harmful bacteria (E.coli) have entered into water bodies. It is recommended that residents avoid flood waters at this time, including refraining from water contact sports and taking care not to drink or bathe in the water."

Public Health Advisory - Residents Urged to Use Caution Around Flood-Affected Lakes

**QUINN STEVENSON 1ST ANNUAL GOLF TOURAMENT** 



The 1st Annual Quinn Stevenson Golf Tournament is scheduled for August 23. The tournament will help raise funds to support the Quinn Stevenson Memorial Athletic and Spirit Trust Fund.

Our memories of Quinn will live on through events such as this golf tournament. This will be another tribute to the memory of an amazing young man and his family.

For more information please visit Quinn Stevenson 1st Annual Golf Tournament

# 2014 CANADA CUP

Sunday, July 6, I was delighted to participate in the Opening Ceremonies for the 2014 Canada Cup. It was a pleasure to join Mayor Atchison as we welcomed football teams from across Canada to Saskatoon for the 2014 Canada Cup.

It will be an exciting week as we see these young football athletes from six Canadian provinces participate in this year's Canada Cup tournament.

The organizers and volunteers are instrumental in the success of this tournament. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

## **SENIOR BENEFITS INCREASE JULY 1**

Saskatchewan seniors with low incomes have had an increase to the benefits they receive through two programs: the Personal Care Home Benefit and Seniors Income Plan. These increases came into effect on July 1, 2014.

Increases to the Personal Care Home Benefit (PCHB) will help approximately 800 Saskatchewan seniors with the costs of living in a licensed personal care home. The maximum monthly income for inclusion in the program or "threshold" will increase by \$75, from \$1,875 to \$1,950, on July 1.

Those eligible for the program receive a monthly supplement that provides the difference between their monthly income and the maximum monthly income amount. This is the second increase to the threshold since the program's implementation in July 2012. The Government of Saskatchewan has committed to increasing the monthly threshold again in 2015.

"Government is fulfilling its commitment to improve the quality of life for Saskatchewan seniors with low income, as outlined in the Seniors Affordability Plan," Social Services Minister Donna Harpauer said. "This increase will make it more affordable for seniors who reside in a private personal care home, and do not qualify for subsidized long-term care."

Seniors Benefits Increase July 1

LAUNCH OF THE GRAHAM AND RUBY DELAET FOUNDATION



Trish and I had the opportunity to join a group of enthusiastic and dedicated friends and community volunteers at Riverside Country Club Wednesday, July 9 at an event kicking off the inaugural "Graham Slam".

We were honoured to meet and hear the story of Graham and Ruby DeLaet. So many people in Saskatchewan have followed Graham's amazing journey to the PGA TOUR and are absolutely thrilled for his success. Graham, with the support of his wife Ruby, continue to not only make us proud on the course, but are giving back to our province through fundraisers such as the "Graham Slam".

Graham and Ruby's goal is to make sure every kid has the chance to have a dream and to make their dream a reality. They have come together again as a community, this time to support the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan in helping kids have a chance to live their dreams. The Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan will be the recipient of the funds that are raised.

Each donor, sponsor, golfer and volunteer made this event possible. Congratulations to Doug Hodson, Chair, Brynn Boback –Lane, President & CEO, Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan, Dave Dube, Concorde Group Corp and everyone involved in this extraordinary event that will support so many children and families throughout our province. A very special thanks to the DeLaets for the significant impact they have on the lives of our province's children

and youth, now and in the future.

# THE GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN SUPPORTS CANADIAN RED CROSS RESPECTED PROGRAM

The Government of Saskatchewan has invested \$68,000 for the Canadian Red Cross to expand its bullying prevention program, RespectED in the province. The Red Cross provides training for adults and youth to give bullying prevention presentations and workshops to their peers and younger students.

"For our students to succeed, they need to feel respected and safe," Education Minister Don Morgan said. "The Red Cross program provides strong mentorship opportunities to assist adults in empowering youth - not just to stand up for themselves, but to become leaders and stand up and become role models for their peers."

The Government of Saskatchewan Supports Canadian Red Cross Respected Program

# **DAKOTA DUNES OPEN**

June 30 through July 6 Saskatoon hosted top golfers from around the world at Dakota Dunes.

It was a pleasure to bring greetings and welcome guests at the Opening Ceremonies July 2 of the SIGA Dakota Dunes Open on behalf the Minister of SaskTel and the Government of Saskatchewan.

It was a beautiful Saskatchewan day at the River Landing in Saskatoon as many dignitaries, organizers, volunteers and golfers gathered to kick off this world class golf event.

The Dakota Dunes "Drive the River Challenge" was a great success and provided outstanding entertainment for all involved.

My wife Trish had the opportunity to MC the Executive Women's afternoon at the Dunes. This was a new event designed as a unique networking event for women in business. It was themed "Work/Life Balance ... one stroke at a time".

Another popular event was "Drive the River Challenge" at River Landing in conjunction with the Opening Ceremonies. PGA TOUR Canada Players took on local NHL players and celebrities in a 300-yard closest to the pin contest across the South Saskatchewan River.

Congratulations to Saskatoon Silver Springs constituent, Hugh Vassos for the organization of this world class event in Saskatoon.

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

- ... Exports in the province totalled \$3.4 billion in May 2014, the highest ever for the month of May according to a report released by Statistics Canada today.
- ... This summer marks the one year anniversary of Great Blue Heron Provincial Park. In its first year of operation as a provincial park, it received 87,581 visits.
- ... Main Street Saskatchewan is a community-driven program that works to revitalize historic downtowns and commercial districts.

#### **JUST THE LINKS**

July 10, 2014 - Highway Construction Continues Through Wet Weather

July 10, 2014 - Crop Report for the Period July 1 to 7, 2014

July 10, 2014 - Free Fishing Weekend

July 10, 2014 - Precautions Recommended During West Nile Virus High Risk Season

July 9, 2014 - Heroes Commemorated Following Their Dedication to Land of the Living Skies

July 9, 2014 - Saskatchewan Joins the Cooperative Capital Markets Regulatory System

July 9, 2014 - Saskatchewan to Take Proactive Approach to Flu Season

July 8, 2014 - New Program to Benefit Saskatchewan's Historic Downtowns

July 7, 2014 - Child and Youth Care Week Proclaimed

July 3, 2014 - Sustainable Growth Allows for Increased Investment in Arts and Culture

July 3, 2014 - Province Provided Free Testing for Private Water Supplies

#### **COMING EVENTS**

Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan

Date: July 9 - August 24

When: Daily

Where: On the banks of the Saskatchewan River; Near the Mendel Art Gallery

#### **Downtown Sidewalk Sale**

Date: July 10 - 12

When: July 10: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., July 11: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., July 12: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Where: 2nd Avenue from 20th to 23rd Streets, and 21st Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues

### **PION-ERA**

Date: July 12 -13

When: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Where: Western Development Museum** 

#### Taste of Saskatchewan

Date: July 15 - 20

When: 11:00 am to 10:30 pm
Where: Kiwanis Memorial Park

#### PotashCorp Fringe Theatre Festival

Date: July 31 - August 9

When: Daily

Where: Broadway District

# **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

~ Dr. Seuss (1904-1991)

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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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