

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



Provincial Point of View

March 14, 2014

NEWS FROM THE LEGISLATURE - ATTEND BUDGET DAY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

The provincial budget is the best indicator of the direction our government is going. Keeping our commitment to fiscal responsibility, it is no secret our government has had to make some difficult decisions. We are proud to say our government will table its seventh consecutive balanced budget March 19th. While laying out our overall priorities, this document will likely form the debate for much of the new legislative session.

Please remember to let me know if you are able to join us at the legislature as The Honourable Ken Krawetz, Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance delivers the 2014 - 2015 Budget Address in the Legislative Assembly Chamber at 1:30 p.m., March 19.

I still have a number of invitations available. To reserve your spot, email or call my MLA office as soon as possible. Call 306.651.7100 or email ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net. You will receive confirmation once your email is received.

If attending, we ask that you be at the Legislative Building no later than 1:00 p.m., March 19.

It has been a busy week at the legislature. I had the opportunity to join Premier Wall and my colleagues at the annual convention of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, Wednesday, March 12. The convention provided an opportunity to discuss current issues as well meet with individuals from communities across the province.

The backlog in grain transportation continues to be the top priority for our government and we are encouraged that the federal government responded to our concerns by signing an Order in Council with clear delivery targets for railways. This requires railways to deliver one million tonnes of grain on a sustained level to domestic, U.S. and port positions, and report tonnage

delivered on a weekly basis. Railways will be charged a fine of up to \$100,000 per day for non-compliance. Emergency legislation will also be introduced when Parliament resumes on March 24th.

DESIGN ELEMENTS FOR NINE NEW JOINT-USE SCHOOLS DETERMINED

Education Minister Don Morgan joined students, teachers, parents, school division administrators and community members in Saskatoon today to reveal design elements for the nine new joint-use schools.

“The ideas and insights from students, parents and teachers will ensure that the schools are comfortable and creative spaces for students to achieve success,” Morgan said. “I thank the participants for designing elements that put the student first while respecting the uniqueness of each school division and the communities where the schools will be built.”

The design elements are a starting point for the new joint-use schools that the Government of Saskatchewan is building in Saskatoon, Regina, Warman and Martensville. Group2 Architecture Interior Design conducted the five-day workshop and will consult with the school divisions in the coming weeks to determine two school designs - one larger and one smaller to suit enrollment numbers in the various communities. School divisions can then refine the design further to meet local needs.

The Ministry of Education engaged students, teachers, parents, school division administrators and community members through a 3P, or production preparation process. The goal was to ensure design elements that put the student first and meet the need of the community.

“It’s the future of education - collaboration that brings us together in one purpose and goal,” Regina Public School Division Grade 1 and 2 teacher Danielle Maley said. “It’s also education at its finest. Students, teachers, principals, superintendents and the ministry working together to design so much more than a building; we’re designing an educational world we have never seen before.”

“This is new, it’s fun, it’s innovative, and it’s changing the future of learning,” Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division Grade 8 student Luke Yakubowski said. “We’re young and creative and we know what we need to achieve success in school, so it’s great we got to take part.”

The workshop was held in a warehouse that allowed participants to create small-scale models of

design elements as well as build full-scale mock-ups of a classroom that facilitates collaboration so that the participants could see how it will look and feel.

The design phase will be completed by June, and the next phase will focus on the procurement process. The schools are scheduled to be completed by September 2017.

[Design Elements for Nine New Joint-Use Schools Determined](#)

SASKATOON AMONG THE BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN CANADA



MoneySense Magazine's most recent list of best places to live in Canada listed nine Saskatchewan cities!

Saskatoon ranked 13th while Regina ranked 9th. Saskatoon was also ranked 6th on this year's list of top mid-sized cities in Canada while Regina ranked 3rd.

Other Saskatchewan cities included Moose Jaw at 66th, Lloydminster 71st, North Battleford 88th, Yorkton, 93rd, Estevan 96th, Swift Current 114th and Prince Albert 184th.

WATER SECURITY AGENCY RELEASES MARCH FORECAST FOR SPRING RUNOFF

Central Region of the Province Continues to be Above Normal

As Minister responsible for the Water Security Agency, I released the March forecast and outlook on spring runoff, March 11. The forecast ranges from well above normal near Prince Albert in the central portion of the province to below normal in south west.

Central Saskatchewan, from Saskatoon and North Battleford to Prince Albert and Melfort, is expected to see an above normal to well above normal runoff in certain areas. We continue to monitor the situation and the Water Security Agency will be doing targeted snow surveys to verify the amount of snow in these regions.

Peak flows on the Saskatchewan River system are largely determined by alpine snow accumulation and spring/early summer rainfall in the mountains. If the normal amount of precipitation is received, flows are expected to be above normal for the North Saskatchewan and South Saskatchewan Rivers, but not cause flooding. Ice jams during the spring runoff on any river system can cause local flooding regardless of the forecasted flow.

Spring runoff depends on a number of factors: moisture conditions from the fall; snow accumulation from the winter; the rate of melt in the spring; and the amount of rainfall during the runoff. Above normal precipitation prior to spring runoff and/or a fast melt could result in higher flows and significantly alter the forecast.

The Water Security Agency will continue to provide updates as the spring runoff progresses. The complete forecast including projected lake levels and stream flows is available at www.wsask.ca.

The Water Security Agency was created to lead implementation of the 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan. It will improve water management capacity and service to individuals, businesses and communities across Saskatchewan. The Agency brings together all of the major responsibilities related to water quality and quantity.

[Water Security Agency Releases March Forecast for Spring Runoff](#)



PotashCorp



MEN'S HOCKEY UNIVERSITY CUP

The University of Saskatchewan is host to the CIS Men's Hockey PotashCorp University Cup this year, March 20 - 23.

The Men's University Hockey Games will be held daily at Credit Union Centre and our host Huskies will be playing Friday, March 21. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.ca, and for more information visit www.huskies.usask.ca.

CITY PLANS FOR SPRING MELT



The warm weather is finally here and snow is beginning to melt.

The City of Saskatoon has taken several measures to help alleviate flooding and make this Spring's melt be painless as possible. Staff are available to manage phone calls and dispatch equipment for any homeowner concerns that are received. If you do see any problem areas or have an issue, please call the Public Works Customer Service Centre at 306-975-2476.

For more information and tips, including a video about snowmelt, visit saskatoon.ca.

[City Plans for Spring Melt](#)

PASSPORT CLINIC – April 4 & 5

Brad Trost, MP for Saskatoon Humboldt will be holding Passport Clinics on April 4 & 5. There will be knowledgeable staff on hand to help fill out passport applications. A photographer will also be available to take passport pictures.

To book an appointment, please call Mr. Trost's Office at 306-975-6133 or email brad.trost.c1@parl.gc.ca. For additional information on the clinic visit: www.bradtrost.ca.

SASKATCHEWAN HONOURS CONTRIBUTIONS TO AFGHANISTAN MISSION



Lieutenant Governor Vaughn Solomon Schofield, Premier Brad Wall and other dignitaries recognized the contributions of Saskatchewan civilians and soldiers during a flag ceremony on March 12 to help mark the end of Canada's military mission to Afghanistan.

“It’s hard to believe that over a decade has passed since Canada became involved in the war in Afghanistan,” Solomon Schofield said. “Every day, Canadian Forces and civilians have risked their lives to protect the innocent victims of the conflict, and to bring peace to this troubled country. As we mark the end of Canada’s mission in Afghanistan, we owe each individual who has served our deepest thanks and ongoing support.”

“Canada helped boot the terror camps out of business and the world was safer for it,” Wall said. “The dedication, bravery and professionalism of these men and women who left their families, friends and loved ones at home to put themselves in harm’s way on foreign soil shall not be taken for granted or forgotten by Saskatchewan people. We owe them and their families a collective debt for their sacrifices that shall never be fully repaid.”

All flags at the Legislative Building and the nearby Saskatchewan War Memorial began the day at half-mast to honour the contributions and sacrifices of those involved with the Afghanistan mission. During the afternoon ceremony, a Canadian flag on a special pole in front of the Prince of Wales Entrance at the Legislative Building was raised to full height to symbolize the end of the military contribution to the mission in that overseas country. Flags at the war memorial and the legislative building were also then raised to full height.

[Saskatchewan Honours Contributions to Afghanistan Mission](#)

SASKATCHEWAN WELCOMES CANADA-KOREA FREE TRADE DEAL

Premier Brad Wall congratulated Prime Minister Stephen Harper on the March 11 announcement of the conclusion of negotiations on a free trade agreement between Canada and Korea.

The agreement which the prime minister reached with Korean President Park Geun-hye is the first free trade deal that Canada has secured in Asia.

“The Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement is significant on several levels,” Wall said. “For Saskatchewan, the agreement is a real opportunity as it provides a larger market in Asia for our grains, oilseed, beef and pork producers. This agreement shows that Canada is pivoting to the fast-growing Asian markets and I applaud the federal government for its efforts in that regard. The agreement with Korea must be a stepping-stone to pursue greater trade liberalization across the region.”

[Saskatchewan Welcomes Canada-Korea Free Trade Deal](#)

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY MLA RECEPTION



Ken with Jenna Gaube, Tan-Free Ambassador for the Canadian Cancer Society

Monday, March 10, I had the honour of attending the Canadian Cancer Society's MLA Reception. Special thanks to the Canadian Cancer Society for hosting an informative evening. We appreciate their passion and commitment to cause that touches so many lives.

NEW SASKATCHEWAN WEBSITE IMPROVES THE USER EXPERIENCE

Central Services is pleased to announce the launch of the new SaskTenders website. The redesigned SaskTenders site will be home to all procurement opportunities for executive government and Crown corporations, in addition to the municipal, academic, school and health sectors.

“At any given time, there are up to 200 tender opportunities on the site,” Central Services Minister Nancy Heppner said. “Competitions range from highway construction and infrastructure opportunities, to information technology or consulting services. The new site provides the ability to meet current needs and future growth, while meeting obligations under the New West Partnership.”

[New Sasktenders Website Improves the User Experience](#)

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL PARKS ISSUING CHEQUES TO CUSTOMERS WITH INCORRECT CREDIT CARD CHARGES

Campsite reservations for Saskatchewan’s Provincial Parks launched on Monday, March 3. That morning, due to a technical error, some credit cards were incorrectly charged.

“We apologize for the inconvenience this has caused,” Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said. “We are doing everything we can to correct this issue. Our provincial park visitors are important to us, and we recognize that these incorrect charges have been an inconvenience to our customers. In addition to refunding the charges, we will be mailing cheques for \$100 to those credit card holders who were over-charged.”

[Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Issuing Cheques to Customers with Incorrect Credit Card Charges](#)

DID YOU KNOW..

... Saskatchewan has more road surface than any other province in Canada, with a total of 250,000km.

... Employment increased by 5,400 jobs compared to February 2013.

... Saskatchewan's unemployment rate has remained the lowest in Canada for 14 consecutive months.

JUST THE LINKS

March 7, 2014 - [Great Job Numbers for February](#)

March 10, 2014 - [Province Proclaims March 9-15 Agricultural Safety Week in Saskatchewan](#)

March 10, 2014 - [Nine New Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal Recipients Announced](#)

March 13, 2014 - [Getting Canada's Good to Market Tops New West Agenda](#)

March 13, 2014 - [Meteorite Exhibits Opens at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum](#)

March 14, 2014 - [Take Advantage of Saskatchewan Tax Credits](#)

COMING EVENTS

PotashCorp University Cup

Date: March 20 - 23

Where: Credit Union Centre

When: Daily

Homestyles 2014

Date: March 20 - 23

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 5 pm - 9 pm; 12 pm - 9 pm; 10 am - 9 pm; 10 am - 5 pm

Gardenscape

Date: March 28 - 30

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 11 am - 9 pm; 9 am - 8 pm; 10 am - 5 pm

Coffee with Your Councillor - Zach Jeffries

Date: March 22

Where: Safeway Starbucks - McOrmond Road

When: 10 am - 12 pm

Silverspring Community Association Meeting

Date: March 25

Where: Mother Teresa School

When: 8 pm

Mother Teresa School Bingo

Date: April 4

Where: Mother Teresa School

When: TBA

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

**“Sometimes walking away has nothing do with weakness,
and everything to do with strength.
We walk away not because we want
others to realize our worth and value,
but because we finally realize our own.”**

~ Robert Tew

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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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