

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



Provincial Point of View

March 19, 2014

Today is Budget Day!



TODAY IS BUDGET DAY!

The Honourable Ken Krawetz, Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance will deliver the 2014 - 2015 Budget Address in the Legislative Assembly Chamber today at 1:30 p.m.

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 that today our government will table its seventh consecutive balanced budget. I look forward to seeing many of you following the Budget Address.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN RECEIVES INNOVATION AND SCIENCE FUNDS

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing almost \$2.1 million to the University of Saskatchewan for nine research projects through the Innovation and Science Fund.

This funding includes almost \$1.3 million for the BioXAS: Life Science Beamline for X-Ray

Absorption Spectroscopy at the Canadian Light Source Synchrotron. The BioXAS beamline will investigate the molecular form and microscopic location of metals in biological systems with unprecedented sensitivity.

This will enable researchers to study the role of metals in brain diseases like Alzheimer's, better understand how to treat deadly effects of toxic elements such as mercury and develop new drugs to treat cancer.

“The Government of Saskatchewan recognizes the value and importance of research and innovation and its impact on our province, Canada and the world,” Advanced Education Minister Rob Norris said. “This investment will further enhance Saskatchewan's growing reputation for innovative research and world-class life science facilities.”

[University of Saskatchewan Receives Innovation and Science Funds](#)

EARTH HOUR - MARCH 29



Earth Hour is on March 29 from 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm. This global event acknowledges the importance of environmental awareness and action both during and beyond the hour.

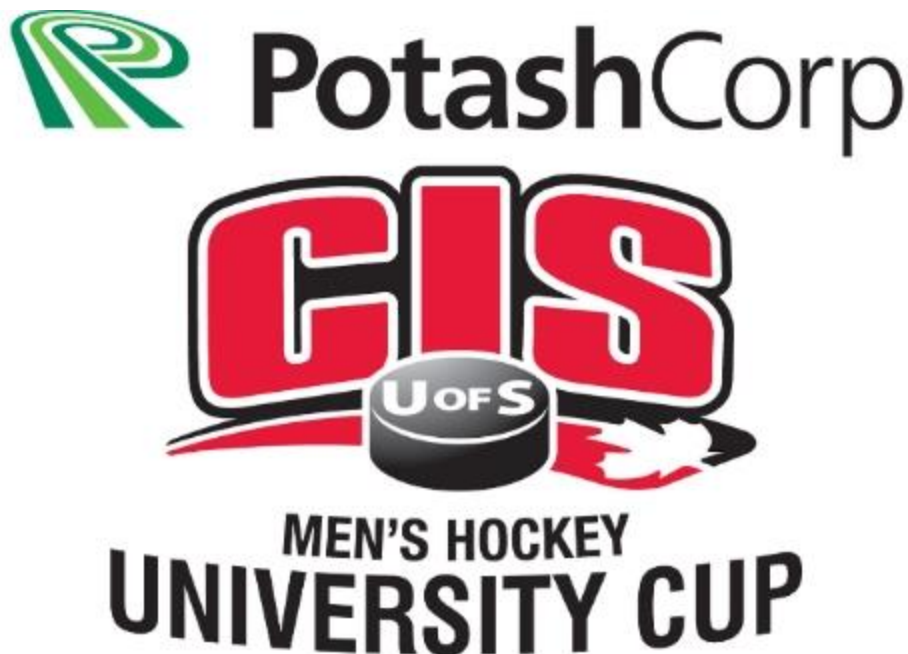
Everyone is encouraged to turn off their non-essential lights for the whole hour.

MORE THAN \$1 MILLION IN GAMING GRANTS PROVIDED TO SASKATCHEWAN COMMUNITIES - SASKATOON ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE \$227,724.40 IN GRANTS!

The Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) is providing more than \$1 million to more than 700 organizations across the province as part of SLGA's charitable gaming grant program.

"The organizations receiving these grants strengthen their communities in many different ways – everything from providing activities for children to community based efforts to improve local facilities," Minister responsible for SLGA Donna Harpauer said. "The individuals that volunteer their time through these organizations are making a difference and our government is pleased to provide additional support through these grants."

[More Than \\$1 Million in Gaming Grants Provided to Saskatchewan Communities](#)



A reminder that PotashCorp Men's Hockey University Cup is starting March 20 - 22. Come out and cheer on the Huskies!

For tickets visit: www.ticketmaster.ca

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SASKATCHEWAN TAX CREDITS

Tax season is upon us, and Saskatchewan people are encouraged to take advantage of an array of provincial credits as they fill out their returns.

“We provide a range of credits that can help Saskatchewan people keep more of what they earn,” Finance Minister Ken Krawetz said. “Our Graduate Retention Program for recent post-secondary graduates is especially popular, and we also have credits for Saskatchewan people with lower incomes, recent first-time homebuyers, people with children enrolled in sports programs or cultural or recreational activities, as well as workers who are required to purchase tools as a condition of their employment.”

Provincial tax credits include:

First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit

- A non-refundable income tax credit of up to \$1,100, based on the first \$10,000 of an eligible home purchase (a similar federal credit of up to \$750 is also available).

Active Families Benefit

- A refundable income tax credit of up to \$150 per child 18 years of age or younger that helps Saskatchewan families with the cost of their children’s participation in cultural, recreational and sports activities. For more information, visit the Saskatchewan Parks, Culture and Sport website at www.pcs.gov.sk.ca/afb.

Graduate Retention Program

- Income tax credits provided over a seven-year period that refund up to \$20,000 of tuition fees paid by eligible post-secondary graduates who live in Saskatchewan and file a Saskatchewan tax return. For more information, visit the Saskatchewan Advanced Education website at www.aeei.gov.sk.ca/grp.

Saskatchewan Low-Income Tax Credit

- A refundable income tax credit paid quarterly to assist lower-income Saskatchewan people. The credit is paid in conjunction with the federal Goods and Services Tax Credit. For more information, visit the Canada Revenue Agency website at www.cra-arc.gc.ca/bnfts/rltd_prgms/sk-eng.html.

Employees' Tool Tax Credit

- A non-refundable income tax credit that helps with the cost of purchasing, replacing or upgrading eligible tools by qualifying employees as a condition of their employment. The credit consists of a one-time trade entry amount and an annual maintenance amount.

“We hope all Saskatchewan taxpayers take advantage of the provincial credits they qualify for, saving money to spend on their families or keep for a rainy day,” Krawetz said. “In 2014 alone, tax reductions introduced by our government are expected to save Saskatchewan people more than \$479 million. Since 2007 Saskatchewan people have saved more than \$2.8 billion as a result of these measures.”

Last year in Saskatchewan, nearly 7,000 new homeowners claimed the First-time Homebuyers Credit, more than 45,000 families claimed the Active Families Benefit, about 50,000 recent graduates claimed the Graduate Retention Program tax credits, more than 270,000 households claimed the Low-Income Tax Credit, and about 6,000 tradespersons claimed the Tool Tax Credit.

For more information about eligibility or about how to claim any of the credits, visit the Canada Revenue Agency website at www.cra-arc.gc.ca.

[Take Advantage of Saskatchewan Tax Credits](#)

SASKATCHEWAN CELEBRATES SOCIAL WORK WEEK

The Government of Saskatchewan is pleased to celebrate the contribution of social workers to the health, safety and well-being of Saskatchewan residents during Social Work Week from March 16-22.

This year's theme is “Social Workers Promoting Equity for a Stronger Canada.”

“Social workers are trained professionals whose skills and talents help to make lives better,” Social Services Minister June Draude said. “I am so pleased to recognize all of the social workers in our province and the essential work they provide.”

[Saskatchewan Celebrates Social Work Week](#)

MANUFACTURING SALES DOUBLE NATIONAL FIGURES

January 2014 was a good month for Saskatchewan's manufacturing sector as sales were up 10.3 per cent over last January, the second highest growth rate among the provinces (seasonally adjusted). On a national basis, manufacturing sales were up 5.0 per cent.

"Over the last few years the manufacturing sector in Saskatchewan has expanded a great deal," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "That's very good news for the Saskatchewan economy and speaks to the diversity and strength of one of our key sectors."

[Manufacturing Sales Double National Figures](#)

DID YOU KNOW...

... In 2014 alone, tax reductions introduced by our government are expected to save Saskatchewan people more than \$479 million.

... Sales in Saskatchewan's manufacturing sector were double the national average in January, up more than 10% year-over-year.

JUST THE LINKS

March 17, 2014 - [Government Invests Seized Proceeds Back into the Community](#)

March 17, 2014 - [Changes to How Government Buildings and Geographic Features are Named](#)

March 17, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Calls for Greater Accountability on Grain Transportation](#)

March 19, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Keeps Growing](#)

UPCOMING 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

**“No matter what he does,
every person on earth plays a central role
in the history of the world.
And normally he doesn't know it.”**

~ Paulo Coelho

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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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