

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



Provincial Point of View

March 7, 2018

Keep In Touch

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your MLA in Saskatoon Willowgrove. 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.

THREE NEW SASKATCHEWAN PARTY MLA'S TO JOIN OUR CAUCUS

MELFORT, SWIFT CURRENT, KINDERSLEY

Congratulations to Everett Hindley (Swift Current), Todd Goudy (Melfort) and Ken Francis (Kindersley) who were the successful candidates in the by-elections held last week. We look forward to having you join our team.

DEFICIT LOWER AT THIRD QUARTER, FISCAL PLAN ON TRACK



Saskatchewan's finances continue to be on track in 2017-18, confirmed by a smaller deficit forecast in the province's third quarter financial report released today.

"While we are seeing progress, there is more to accomplish," Finance Minister Donna Harpauer said. "Our economy is performing well and is expected to post positive growth for the first time in two years. We will meet our fiscal challenges by controlling spending and ensuring we do what we can to help keep our economy strong. We continue to listen to Saskatchewan people. While staying on course we made adjustments in-year, including fulfilling Premier Moe's commitment to exempt PST on premiums for agriculture, life and health insurance, and restoring needed funding to K-12 education and the College of Medicine."

Click [here](#) to read the entire news release.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - MARCH 8TH!



Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Canada



Each year, March 8 is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of women and renew our efforts in achieving gender equality – in Canada and around the world.

Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Canada is proud to celebrate International Women's Day. The mandate of CWP is to encourage more women to seek public office. Congratulations to my colleague Laura Ross who is the Chair of CWP. It is great to have Laura, along with several colleagues serve in public office and make a significant contribution to our Caucus, our communities and our province.

STRONG MERCHANDISE EXPORT GROWTH IN JANUARY



Saskatchewan’s merchandise exports showed strong growth in January 2018, with a 10.0 per cent increase over December 2017, and higher than the Canadian average of a -1.6 per cent decline, seasonally unadjusted. According to Statistics Canada, the province ranked second in percentage growth among the provinces.

“These numbers show the strength and diversity of Saskatchewan’s export sector,” Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. “Our government will continue to place a strong focus on growing exports in the years to come, for our economy to grow and to create opportunities for Saskatchewan people.”

Click [here](#) to read the entire news release.

PROVINCE PROCLAIMS AGRICULTURE LITERACY MONTH



March 2018 has once again been proclaimed as Agriculture Literacy Month in Saskatchewan.

Agriculture Literacy Month brings farmers, ranchers and other members of the agriculture industry into elementary school classrooms around the province to read stories and discuss their agricultural experiences. Materials for the classroom visits, such as books and videos, are provided by Agriculture in the Classroom – Saskatchewan (AITC).

“Agriculture Literacy Month is a great opportunity for students to connect with farmers, ranchers and other agriculture experts to learn about the safe, nutritious food produced in Saskatchewan,” Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart said. “Some students might not have considered where their food comes from and this is their chance to ask questions and to think about the significance of agriculture in our province.”

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

**WOW! OVER SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS RAISED FOR
TELEMIRICLE ... GREAT JOB SASKATCHEWAN!**



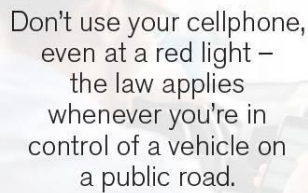
\$7,151,256

#NEWRECORD

The Kinsmen Foundation, through donations to Telemiracle, assists Saskatchewan people to acquire special needs equipment and access to medical treatment.

This past weekend once again showed the true spirit of Saskatchewan people. Telemiracle 42 was held in Regina and raised over \$7,151,256 million for the Kinsmen Foundation. Congratulations to absolutely everyone involved from the organization of this incredible event to the performers, volunteers and of course, the generous donors. Many have worked tirelessly throughout the year and we certainly see the benefits of their tremendous efforts.


[DISTRACTED DRIVING TIPS](#)



Don't use your cellphone, even at a red light – the law applies whenever you're in control of a vehicle on a public road.



Put the phone away – out of sight, out of mind. Silence your phone and put it out of reach.




#JustDrive – limit other distractions like eating and grooming.

: SGI Traffic Tips

Distracted driving

SGI
#Take care out there

Delegate the distraction – let your passenger reply to messages and operate the radio and GPS.



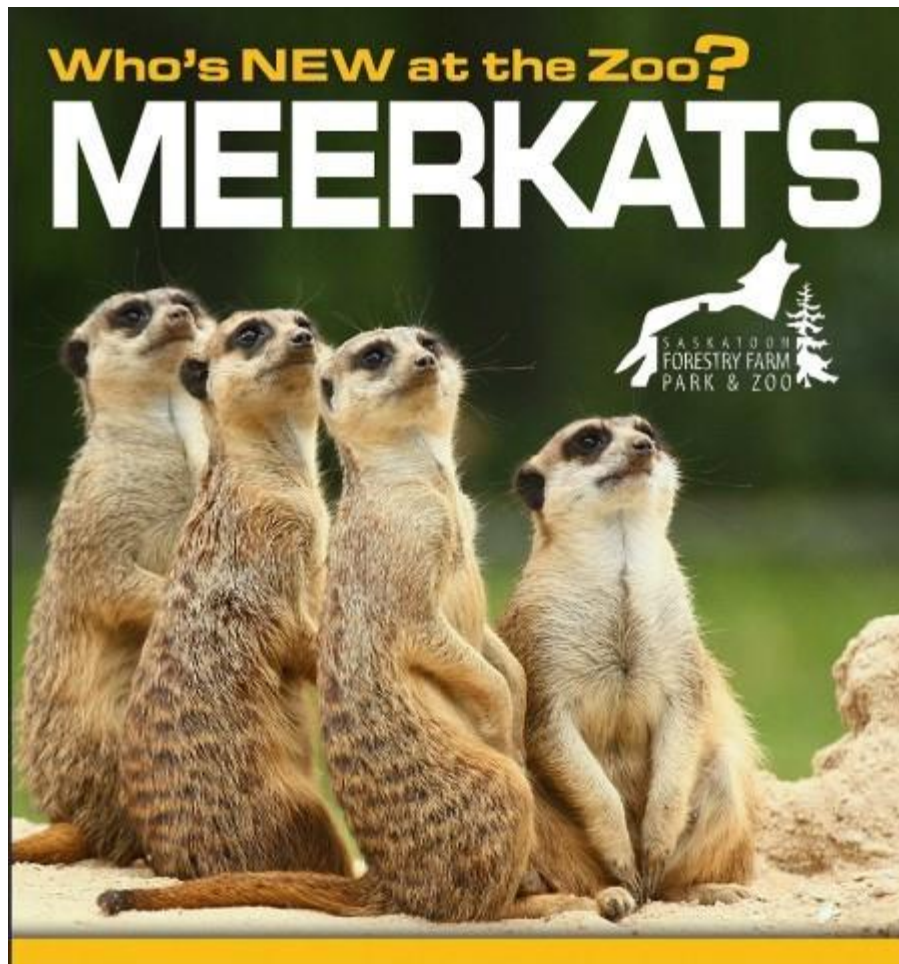
Pull over first – if you need to make a call or take care of children or pets, don't do it while driving.

Call out friends and family – if you see them using a cellphone behind the wheel, speak up! It may save their life.

Hey, feel like flushing \$280 down the drain? Of course not. So put down the phone and #JustDrive. Because police are really good at catching distracted drivers, with between 400 and 600 drivers every month fined for being on their phones or being distracted in other ways.

Distracted driving is the March Traffic Safety Spotlight: <https://www.sgi.sk.ca/news?title=if-you-re-on-your-phone--you-ll-never-see-them-coming>

MEERKATS COMING TO SASKATOON FORESTRY FARM!



Two mobs of meerkats are getting ready to travel to their new permanent home at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo. The meerkat families are packing their tiny suitcases and getting ready to take over the space formerly occupied by the Komodo dragons. The new exhibit will officially open to the public on Sunday, April 1, 2018.

Be sure to show your kids this photo and plan to visit these irresistibly cute meerkats beginning April 1. The zoo will be open daily from 10 am - 4 pm during the month of April.

TEAM SASKATOON WILL REPRESENT CANADA AT THE 2018 FIBA 3 x 3 WORLD CUP



Photo credit: Ryan Flaherty / Global News

It was announced last week that Team Saskatoon will represent Canada at the FIBA 3X3 World Cup 2018 in the Philippines. Captain Michael Linklater along with Michael Lieffers, Nolan Brudehl and Steve Sir will compete in the 40-team basketball event that takes place June 8-12 in Manila, Philippines.

It will be the first time a Canadian team has competed at the tournament. Linklater, 35, is Canada's highest-ranked individual player at 50th with 431,400 points. Linklater, along with Lieffers, won silver at the 2014 FIBA 3x3 World Tour Final in Sendai, Japan. Team Saskatoon played four times on the 2017 World Tour, and placed second in their hometown event. Congratulations and good luck!

Read the article [here](#).

THANK YOU TO KEVIN DOHERTY FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR PROVINCE



Premier Scott Moe, "Kevin Doherty has been a great representative for the people of Regina Northeast. An integral member of our caucus and cabinet, he helped steer our province's budget toward less dependence on volatile resource revenues.

Thank you Kevin for your leadership and service to Saskatchewan; you will be missed. All the best in your future endeavours."

ALWAYS CHECK THE HIGHWAY HOTLINE BEFORE TRAVELLING



Two weather systems impacted Saskatchewan with snow the past week. Some parts of the province saw over 40 cm of snowfall.

Please drive with extra caution and keep in mind crews will be out on the highways and communities, so please be patient as they do their best to keep the roads in a safe condition for travel. The cleanup is well underway. Crews have been working around the clock in an effort to get highways and city streets back to a better condition. Keep in mind, winter conditions exist for most of the province, so allow yourself some extra time for travel.

Clearing the snow off a road creates a “mini blizzard” – especially in windy conditions. Due to the Snow Zone, you may have limited visibility when encountering a snowplow and should slow down and drive with caution.

Snow removal equipment need to be treated like other emergency vehicles when their lights are flashing. Motorists must slow to 60 km/h when passing them. Snowplows pull over about every 10 km (or when safe to do so) to allow you to pass.

Special thanks to everyone working hard to clear the snow. It is heartwarming to hear the stories of neighbours and friends helping one another. Before heading out this weekend, be sure to check the Hotline: www.saskatchewan.ca/highwayhotline.

JUST ADD SALT?

.....Not always the best recipe for slippery roads.



Winds are up creating challenging conditions for crews. As noted here: Wind causes sand/salt to blow away, but it also can create ice build up on the highway, causing dangerous ruts.

ENGINEERING AND GEOSCIENCE WEEK PROCLAIMED IN SASKATCHEWAN

The Government of Saskatchewan recognizes the significant role that engineers and geoscientists play in Saskatchewan by proclaiming March 4-10 as Engineering and Geoscience Week.

“The members of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan

contribute to our province by designing new bridges and roads to keep travellers safe and our export-based economy strong,” Highways and Infrastructure Minister David Marit said. “The work of these men and women is relied upon across Saskatchewan, and we will celebrate their achievements this week.”

Click [here](#) to read the news release.

PROVINCE PROCLAIMS MARCH RURAL WOMEN'S MONTH



Today the Government of Saskatchewan proclaimed March to be Rural Women’s Month in Saskatchewan.

“Thousands of rural women choose to make agriculture their career and they make great contributions to their communities and to our province,” Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart said. “By proclaiming Rural Women’s Month, we join in celebrating the achievements that help to make Saskatchewan the strong province that it is.”

Read the news release [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Homestyles

When: March 8 - 11

Where: Prairieland Park, 503 Ruth St. W

Click [here](#) for information



Gardenscape

When: March 23 - 25

Where: Prairieland Park

Click [here](#) for details



**North Saskatoon Business Association (NSBA) 21th Annual Business
Builder Awards - Building Bridges to Success!**

When: March 28, 5 - 9 pm

Where: Prairieland Park, Hall A

Click [here](#) for information and to register



Children's Hospital Jeans & Jewels Gala

When: April 27th

Where: TCU Place

Click [here](#) for additional information



READ ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES [HERE](#)

THOUGHT OF THE DAY



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