



## Provincial Point of View

**November 27, 2014**

### FESTIVAL OF TREES FATHER DAUGHTER GALA



I was honoured to attend the 2014 Festival of Trees Father Daughter Gala with my daughter Paige on Monday night. Paige and I have been attending this event since she was seven years old! I joined the many other proud dads as we escorted our beautiful daughters to this incredible annual event.

I also had the privilege of bringing greetings on behalf of SaskTel and the Government of Saskatchewan.

We had a wonderful time at the event celebrating the Christmas Season with great friends and fantastic entertainment!

## **BUDGET REMAINS ON TRACK DESPITE DROP IN OIL PRICE**

Saskatchewan remains on track to post a balanced budget in 2014-15. The Mid-Year Report released today, projects a year-end surplus of \$70.9 million.

“While the price of oil has fallen in recent weeks, it remained high for the first few months of the fiscal year, so overall, resource revenues are still projected to be ahead of budget this year,” Finance Minister Ken Krawetz said. “However, it now looks like we will start the 2015-16 Budget year with a lower oil price, which means our government will need to carefully manage spending.”

Krawetz said the Saskatchewan economy remains strong despite the impact of falling oil prices on government revenues.

“Right now, Saskatchewan has the strongest job growth and lowest unemployment rate in Canada,” Krawetz said. “Most of the new jobs are not in the resource sector. They are in other areas, which shows the importance of a strong, diversified economy.”

[Budget Remains On Track Despite Drop in Oil Price](#)

## **CANADIAN WESTERN AGRIBITION 2014**

# CANADIAN WESTERN Agribition

Saskatchewan's population is trending a little higher than usual as our province welcomes thousands of visitors from more than 60 countries. Agribition, Western Canada's premiere agricultural marketplace, trade show and rodeo, is underway. The traditional "burning of the brand" kicked off the annual livestock and agribusiness show which brings hundreds of exhibitors, thousands of visitors and the best livestock in North America to Saskatchewan.

The five-day event at Regina's Evraz Place features a full lineup of entertainment that includes the Junior Roping and Stock Dog competitions, the Canadian Cowboys Association Finals Rodeo and Full Contact Jousting. Other events include eight National Beef Shows, an Indigenous Agricultural Summit, Grain Expo Conference and, for the first time ever, a Think Ag Career Education Expo for students to learn about careers in agriculture.

Despite excess moisture this past growing season, Saskatchewan's agriculture sector is as strong as it has ever been. 2013 was our province's third consecutive year of record exports at \$11.7 billion and, in 2014, year-to-date exports are 19 per cent higher. Cattle prices have also reached record highs and the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program has been well-received with about 15 per cent of our province's calf crop covered in the first year.

Saskatchewan is well-positioned as an important agricultural trader in the world and expansion of trade relations will help to sustain and build on that. The Premier's trade mission to India this month is just one example of our government's work to promote growing these relationships.

**3RD ANNUAL SWINGING WITH THE STARS**



The 3rd Annual Swinging with the Stars will take place January 24th at TCU Place. This popular event will raise money for Hopes Home. ([hopeshome.org](http://hopeshome.org))

Once again this year, there are some notable competitors! You may recognize one of the names on the list. My wife Trish, is extremely excited about competing this year and is already polishing up her dancing shoes!

I encourage you to get your tickets early as there is a good possibility that the show will sell out! Visit [swingsaskatoon.ca](http://swingsaskatoon.ca) or call 306-281-2176 to purchase tickets for this worthwhile cause.

## **GOVERNMENT MOTION SUPPORTS PIPELINE, SAYS ONTARIO AND QUEBEC SHOULD NOT BE CREATING BARRIERS**

On November 26, in the Legislative Assembly, Premier Brad Wall introduced a motion supporting construction of the Energy East Pipeline and calling on Ontario and Quebec not to add unnecessary regulatory barriers to the approval process.

“The Energy East Pipeline will be good for the economy in all parts of Canada, including Ontario and Quebec,” Wall said. “It means billions of dollars of new economic activity, new jobs and new tax revenue, with the majority of that new revenue and activity going to Ontario and Quebec.

“And yet those two provinces are creating new barriers, which will harm their own economies and the economies of western provinces who are net contributors to the billions of dollars of equalization payments Ontario and Quebec receive each year. It doesn’t make any sense.

“In addition, moving oil by pipeline is far safer and far more environmentally-friendly than moving it by rail car, which is what we are doing now. Why would they oppose that?”

Wall said there is already a stringent approval process for new pipeline projects through the National Energy Board, yet Quebec and Ontario are now talking about inventing their own approval processes.

“This is not how Canada should work,” Wall said. “We should be removing barriers to economic growth, not inventing new ones.”

[Government Motion Supports Pipeline, Says Ontario and Quebec Should Not Be Creating Barriers](#)

## **SWITCH BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER**



SWITCH is a registered charity and non-profit organization created by students to provide much needed health services for Saskatoon's core neighbourhoods. The organization is primarily made



up of post-secondary students in the Health Sciences fields. The students work alongside professional staff of a doctor or nurse practitioner, cultural support worker, nutrition supervisor, receptionist, and other health care members who are either college faculty members or working professionals.

SWITCH operates through the Saskatoon Community Clinic, out of the West Side Clinic across Avenue P from St. Paul's Hospital. They are able to open after clinic hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday to provide clinical and social services, along with programming to residents of Saskatoon's inner city.

Programming like this cannot happen without support from the community. SWITCH is holding a fundraising breakfast tomorrow morning at the Travelodge in Saskatoon beginning at 7:30 am. Tickets are available through [Picatic](#). If you are unable to attend the breakfast, I strongly encourage you to support SWITCH in other ways. Visit [www.switchclinic.ca](http://www.switchclinic.ca) to find out how you are able to help this worthy organization.

## **SASKATCHEWAN REMEMBERS HOLODOMOR**



On November 20, during a commemoration service in the Legislative Building, Deputy Premier Ken Krawetz encouraged Saskatchewan citizens to remember Holodomor, a man-made famine that devastated Ukraine during the early 1930s.

“We shall never forget those in Ukraine who needlessly perished during this tragedy,” Krawetz said. “I ask all citizens of our province to remember those who suffered during this time in

Ukraine, a country whose people came to Saskatchewan generations ago.”

Krawetz was joined by members of the Saskatchewan Ukrainian community at the service, which included a candle lighting ceremony to mark National Holodomor Awareness Week. This year, the week occurred from November 17 to 23 with International Holodomor Memorial Day marked on Saturday, November 22.

[Saskatchewan Remembers Holodomor](#)

## **STUDENTS EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES AT THINKAG CAREER AND EDUCATION EXPO**

The federal and provincial governments, along with Cargill, have partnered to sponsor the new thinkAG Career and Education Expo at this year’s Canadian Western Agribition (CWA).

“The agriculture industry offers challenging and exciting careers in a number of different fields,” said Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz. “This event will allow youth to see first-hand the variety of opportunities that exist, and encourage more youth to look seriously at a career in agriculture.”

“We encourage Saskatchewan’s youth to consider a career in agriculture,” Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart said. “To ensure the future strength of agriculture and our province, we need to show our youth the education and career opportunities that are in our industry.”

On November 26 and 27, more than 200 high school students from across southern Saskatchewan will take part in half-day learning sessions that show the diversity of agriculture and agri-food industry career and educational opportunities. The expo’s interactive stations will give students the opportunity to learn from people in the industry while providing teachers with information to complement science and career-oriented curriculum.

[Students Explore Opportunities at Thinkag Career and Education Expo](#)

## **CORNER GAS PREMIER**

I was excited to have the opportunity to attend the premiere of the Corner Gas movie in Regina on Tuesday night! Colleagues Donna Harpauer and June Draude joined me for a great photo opportunity! It was great to see all the characters we knew and enjoyed from watching the Corner Gas series.

## **\$10 MILLION REHABILITATION OF M1 CANAL UNDERWAY**

On November 26, the provincial government announced construction is underway on a \$10 million rehabilitation of four kilometres of the M1 Canal and replacement of a major wasteway structure. This project will see the bed of the canal enlarged from 6.1m to 9.5m, which will help to increase the flow of water and provide a more secure source of water for users in the area.

“As Saskatchewan continues to grow, the sustainability of our water supply has become increasingly important,” Minister responsible for the Water Security Agency Scott Moe said. “By rehabilitating the M1 Canal, we’re ensuring there is a major source of water for not only the agricultural and industrial sectors, but many people in nearby towns, villages and Blackstrap Provincial Park.”

[\\$10 Million Rehabilitation of M1 Canal Underway](#)

## **AMENDMENT TO THE EDUCATION ACT TO ALLOW SCHOOL TO BEGIN BEFORE LABOUR DAY**

An amendment to The Education Act that will enable the start of the school year before Labour Day when required was introduced in the Legislature on November 25.

Currently, in years where Labour Day falls later in the month - such as in September 2015 - a start date after the statutory holiday could result in the loss of instructional days for teachers and students, which can be difficult to make up later on in the year.

“This change is responsive to the needs of school divisions while also maintaining a consistent standard for the school year across the province,” Education Minister Don Morgan said.

The changes to the Act will enable the school year to start on September 1, 2015.

[Amendment to the Education Act to Allow School to Begin before Labour Day](#)



## SAVE THE DATE



# *Save the Date*

*For  
Ken Cheveldayoff, M.L.A. Saskatoon Silver  
Springs*

## *Annual Christmas Party*

*December 19, 2014*

*Invitation to Follow*

## JUST THE LINKS

- **November 24, 2014** - [Province Launches International Education Strategy](#)
- **November 25, 2014** - [Drivers Reminded to Slow Down in the Snow Zone](#)
- **November 25, 2014** - [Saskatchewan Provincial Parks Announce Seasonal Camping Program for 2015](#)
- **November 25, 2014** - [Public Sector Organizations Seek Perfect Match at the 2014 Business Opportunity Expo](#)
- **November 26, 2014** - [Amendments to Privacy Legislation to Improve Protection of Health Information](#)

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Canada will refine more of its own oil if energy east is built
- The oil in energy east will be substantially, conventional oil, including light sweet crude from Saskatchewan

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour Presented by BHP Billiton**

**Date:** November 21 - January 11

**Where:** Saskatoon Forestry Farm and Zoo

**When:** 5:30 pm to 11:30 pm

### **Festival of Trees**

**Date:** November 23 - 29

**Where:** Western Development Museum Saskatoon

**When:** 9 am to 9 pm

### **Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs Annual Christmas Party**

**Date:** December 19

**Where:** 138 Kaplan Green

**When:** 7 pm to 11 pm

## **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

"Slow down and everything you are chasing will come around to catch you."

John De Paola

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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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