

From a Provincial Point of View January 21, 2011

<u>Saskatoon Silverspring Elementary School - Winners of the First Checkpoint of the Healthy</u> <u>Kids School Challenge!</u>



I was thrilled to join Saskatchewan Roughriders, Jeremy O'Day and Neal Hughes to present a \$200 gift card for Wintergreen Phys Ed to the Grade 5 students from Silverspring Elementary School. They were the winners of the first checkpoint of the Healthy Kids School Challenge.

It is great to see that students from my own constituency were the first to win. The good news is that students and schools across Saskatchewan are getting active and eating healthy.

Congratulations as well to Principal Lazecki, Mrs. Berg and Mrs. McCrea for their guidance and participation.

We know that health and education are related. When you stay active and eat healthy you are also able to focus more on what your teacher says.

This was a great announcement to be part of! The student's enthusiasm filled the room with excitement. They will be great role models for this program.

The Healthy Kids School Challenge goes until June. Each checkpoint in the challenge is a new opportunity to win some prizes. We encourage teachers all across Saskatchewan to register their class and track those points.

Mayor Don Atchison "State of the City" Address



I was pleased to attend Mayor Don Atchison's "State of the City" Address earlier this week. It was fantastic to see so many people in attendance to listen to our Mayor speak so positively about Saskatoon and the future of our city.

The Mayor is convinced the good times will keep on rolling and I couldn't agree more. He predicts sustained growth in the city over the next 25 years and believes our city will grow to 300,000 people over the next decade!

It is a very exciting time in our city and in our province. We have a lot to be proud of and a great future to look forward to. I sincerely thank Mayor Atchison for his leadership and tireless efforts to continue to make Saskatoon "Shine!"

SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Award



I was honoured on behalf of Minister Dustin Duncan to present Bob Peters with the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Award. Bob has been a Minor Hockey volunteer for over 25 years and has worn many hats as a minor hockey volunteer from coaching and managing minor players when his son was playing in the SMHA to being President of the SMHA.

One thing that is consistent with Bob Peters – he is in it 100% for the kids that are playing. Bob is known for being the voice of reason when it comes to why we are all in this. He brings it back to the kids and what is best for the kids in that particular situation.

Bob is also a strong believer in the Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association and the way it operates to put the development of all kids first. He has been instrumental in insuring that all kids are treated equally in terms of ice

time assigned by SMHA regardless of the young player's ability.

While President of the SMHA, Bob was also instrumental in the change to the City Wide concept for Tier 1 hockey in Saskatoon. This change has brought great parity to tier 1 hockey and has been one of the best moves made by the SMHA in the past number of years.

Congratulations Bob and thank you for your many years of great service!

News Article - The Verdict: Kevin Cheveldayoff was Right Man, Right time



I am very proud of my brother Kevin's accomplishments. I am happy to share this article that the Chicago Blackhawks published about him and all of his accomplishments over the years. Keep up the great work Kevin! Go Hawks!

To read the article, please click here.

<u>Population in Saskatchewan Increases by One - Congratulations to my Ministerial Assistant,</u> <u>Jared Dunitz!</u>



It was an exciting week in our Regina office! Congratulations to my Ministerial Assistant Jared Dunitz and his wife Alana on the birth of their son Tiger Lee on January 18th. Jared and Alana are grateful to the staff at the new Rawlco Centre for Mother Baby Care at the Regina General Hospital for their help and support with their precious little guy, who arrived a month early.

Saskatoon Sports Tourism Excited to Introduce Saskatchewan to Yukigassen!

On January 28-29, 2011 Saskatoon will host North America's first organized snowball fighting tournament. Originating in Japan in 1988, Yukigassen (Japanese for "Snow Battle") has experienced a boom in popularity around the World and now it comes to Canada.

Featuring two opposing teams of seven (two members of the opposite sex per team), the goal of the game is to eliminate the competition by blasting them with snowballs (80,000 snowballs to be exact) or by capturing the flag on the other team's court. The event will take place at Delta Bessborough Gardens and will feature a festival-like atmosphere to coincide with the PotashCorp WinterShines Festival. Event organizers at Saskatoon Sports Tourism are hoping for 47 teams of seven to nine players in one corporate/public division. Registration cost \$300 per team and can be done through Yukigassen Saskatoon website at www.yukigassensaskatoon.com or for more information contact Saskatoon Sports Tourism at 931.7583.

Surgical Information System

I was pleased when my colleague Minister Don McMorris announced the implementation of a key Surgical Initiative project has been completed in two Saskatchewan Health Regions. Prince Albert Parkland and Cypress Health Regions are now using the Surgical Information System (SIS), an electronic scheduling system that enables them to electronically book and manage surgical cases.

In early 2011, Prairie North Health Region will be next to fully implement the Surgical Information System. Five Hills Saskatoon and Sunrise Health Regions will follow.

To Read More, Click Here.

Thought of the Day

The Six W's: Work will win when wishing won't. - Todd Blackledge

Just The Headlines – www.gov.sk.ca/news

Jan. 20, 2011 - IMPROVED DELIVERY OF SURGICAL CARE Jan. 20, 2011 - SASKATCHEWAN EI ROLLS CONTINUE TO DROP FROM YEAR-AGO LEVELS Jan. 20, 2011 - WHOLESALERS INCREASE SALES IN NOVEMBER Jan. 19, 2011 - STANDARD & POOR'S BOOSTS SASKATCHEWAN'S CREDIT RATING Jan. 19, 2011 - MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS SHOWING IMPROVEMENT

Did You Know???

- Saskatchewan had the 2nd lowest unemployment rate in the country at 5.5% well below the national average of 7.6%.
- Saskatchewan is now the fastest growing province in Canada. Our population grew by 16,500 in the past year to an all-time high of over 1,045,000.

• First Nations and Métis employment is up by 1,900, for 8 consecutive months of increases, and First Nations and Métis youth employment is up by 2,000 for 5 consecutive months of increases.

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 to recognize anyone or have your event mentioned in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to call me.



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