

# From a Provincial Point of View August 5, 2011

Ken Cheveldayoff

### **WERE YOU AWARE THAT:**

- There is \$12 billion in potash expansion currently underway in Saskatchewan
- Population is at an all-time high of 1,053,960
- Saskatchewan's unemployment rate is the lowest in Canada
- Patients waiting for surgery more than 18 months is down 75%
- Patients waiting for surgery more than 12 months is down 55%
- Patients waiting for surgery more than 6 months is down 32%
- Patients waiting for surgery more than 3 months is down 21%
- We have seen the largest property tax cut in history

### SASKJOBS POSTING OVER 12,000 JOBS IN JULY

Saskatchewan continues to be a province ripe with opportunities. In July, the province's SaskJobs.ca website saw 12,484 job postings by employers in 281 communities. This is a 40 per cent jump over July 2010.

Saskjobs.ca is also popular with job seekers, with more than 760,000 visits to the site in July, nine per cent more than July 2010. Of those visits, 41,000 were from mobile devices, an increase of more than 297 per cent from July 2010. Once again, visits from outside Canada saw a significant increase, with a year-over-year jump of 43 per cent. Since January 1, 2011, there have been 5.9 million visits to the site.

SaskJobs.ca is Saskatchewan's largest job-matching website. The site provides job posting services free of charge for employers across the province and free résumé posting for job seekers from around the world.

Read more. . .

TEAM SASKATCHEWAN UNDER 15 BALL HOCKEY TEAM WINS BRONZE MEDAL



Shea Stevenson with his Bronze Medal

Eall hockey is currently one of the fastest growing sports in Saskatchewan. The Canadian Junior National Ball Hockey Championships were held in Saskatoon last weekend.

Congratulations to the many Saskatoon Silver Springs constituents who were members of the team: Shea Stevenson, Landon Budz, Carter Allison, Brayden Hause, Mitch Zambon, Bryn Chatterson and Riley Keating.

Other team members included: Landon Crowter, Logan Schatz, Brayden Kotyk, Logan Nachtegaele, Brayden Morin, Devin Prebusheski, Jackson Dahlseide, Jordan Valcamp, Derek McEwen, Dryden Davies, Ryan Zirk and coalies Tye Morin and Garett Akre. The team was coached by Mike Zambon.

The team displayed great sportsmanship and played hard, faring well against strong teams from Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.



### SASKATCHEWAN'S EMPLOYMENT HOLDS STRONG, UNEMPLOYMENT RATE REMAINS LOWEST IN CANADA

For the fifth consecutive month, Saskatchewan has the lowest unemployment rate in Canada and there are more people working full-time in Saskatchewan than ever before in the province's history.

Saskatchewan's July unemployment rate of 4.9 per cent (seasonally adjusted) was well below the national average of 7.2 per cent.

Unemployment rates in Regina (5.2 per cent) and Saskatoon (5.4 per cent) rank second and fourth among major Canadian cities.

There were 532,600 people employed in Saskatchewan in July 2011, the highest level for that month, and an increase of 2,200 jobs compared to July 2010. Full-time employment reached a record high of 452,500, increasing by 10,300 (2.3 per cent) from a year ago. Off-reserve Aboriginal employment was up by 3,300 (8.5 per cent). Employment among Aboriginal youth was also up by 500 (5 per cent), marking 12 consecutive months of year-over-year increases.

Read more . . .

#### ONLINE APPLICATION FOR A HEALTH SERVICES CARD NOW AVAILABLE

Canadian citizens and permanent residents moving to Saskatchewan from other provinces or territories will now be able to apply online for a Saskatchewan Health Services Card.

The online application is a convenient way to register for a health card and is designed to guide the applicant through the registration process.

New residents that choose to complete their application online will receive immediate feedback that the application has been successfully submitted. They can also obtain status updates which include notification of the date they can expect to receive their Health Services Card.

Saskatchewan is the first province in Canada to implement an integrated online health card application service. The first phase will provide the online registration option to Canadian citizens and permanent residents moving inter-provincially. The ministry intends to expand this service in the near future to other categories of new Saskatchewan residents, including those arriving from other countries.

If the number of people moving to Saskatchewan remains similar to last year, approximately 17,000 people could benefit from the online application process.

The health card online application can be accessed through the Ministry of Health website at www.health.gov.sk.ca.

Read more . . .

## SASKATCHEWAN'S CODIE PREVOST IS NOMINATED FOR THE "RISING STAR" AWARD AT THE 2011 CANADIAN COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS

Codie continues to make us proud. He has been nominated for the *"Rising Star"* Award at the 2011 Canadian Country Music Awards which are to be presented in Hamilton on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at Copps.

Prevost started his music career only 6 years ago by performing in small town bars across Saskatchewan for \$100 a night as a solo acoustic artist in an effort to gain experience performing in front of a crowd. Using a grass roots approach since day one, Saskatchewan's Prevost is truly an Indie artist. Along with his manager Alain Leblanc they started their own record label called "Good Spirit Records" and have built Prevost's career from the ground up.

Many of you had the opportunity to hear Codie when he entertained us at the Picnic in the Park in June.

Congratulations Codie!

#### WESTCAP MGT LTD. TO DELIVER HEADSTART ON A HOME PROGRAM

Saskatchewan's newest affordable housing program is one step closer today with the appointment of Saskatoon's Westcap Mgt Ltd. as the fund manager in charge of delivering the program.

Headstart on a Home will finance construction of at least 1,000 new, entry-level homes over the next five years. Builders and developers will be eligible for loans of 90 per cent of the construction cost of the homes, including land, at an interest rate of four per cent.

The target price for the homes will be at or below the MLS average for the respective municipalities, likely ranging from \$180,000 to \$300,000. The homes may include condominiums, multi-unit, single family dwellings, modular homes, ready-to-move, etc.

Westcap has partnered with the lead credit unions, including Affinity, Conexus, Innovation, Cornerstone, Synergy and Spectra, to build on their presence in the communities delivering the program. Throughout the summer, they will begin contacting municipalities, builders and developers to develop a list of "shovel ready" projects.

Municipalities will apply for the loans on behalf of builders and developers. There is more than \$200 million in funding available for the program through the federal Immigrant Investor Program, which will flow through the Saskatchewan Immigrant Investor Fund Inc. (SIIF), managed by Westcap Mgt Ltd. SIIF is a subsidiary of Crown Investments Corporation.

In the months ahead the Credit Unions will announce a complementary program to help new home buyers purchase a new home constructed by the HeadStart on a Home program.

Westcap Mgt Ltd. will be making a further announcement in the fall on program details and selecting 3-5 projects for investment before the end of 2011.

Read more . . .

### SASKATOON HUSTLERS PEE WEE A GIRLS AT WESTERN CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP



The Saskatoon Hustlers Pee Wee A girls had a very successful season. They ended up first in the Saskatoon Minor Softball League, won gold medals in both the Presidents and St Albert Invitational Tournaments. They went undefeated to win gold in at provincials and are now set to travel to Winnipeg for the Western Canadian Championship from August 4th-7th 2011.

Best of luck at the tournament this weekend girls!

Back row: Head Coach Patty Hersikorn, Megan Harris, Amanda Peevers, Sophie Mayerle, Spencer Soyland, Randi

Rocheleau, Asst. Coach Dean Michalenko, Asst. Coach Dallas Ostrom. Middle Row: Erika LeMoal, Payton Ostrom, Rachelle Miazga, Rylee Thody, Madison Nixon Front Row: Paige Michalenko

#### SASKATOON'S THE SHEEPDOGS WIN MUSIC'S MOST COVERTED COVER

Congratulatons to the local rock band, "The Sheepdogs" who are hometown heroes, beating out 16 other bands to take home the ultimate prize in music: their photo on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine.

After an intense six month competition and more than half a million votes cast, Saskatonian boogie rockers The Sheepdogs receive the distinction of being the first unsigned band to ever appear on the cover of Rolling Stone, as well as a recording contract from Atlantic Records. Band members include: Ewan Currie, Leot Hanson, Ryan Gullen and Sam Corbett.

As part of their *Choose the Cover* contest, the editors at Rolling Stone handpicked 16 unsigned bands to compete for one of music's biggest prizes. The Sheepdogs progressed through four tournament style elimination rounds that included public voting, recording in studio with a major record producer, and a live showcase in front of editors and music executives to secure their place in the finals. As one of the last two surviving bands, The Sheepdogs competed in a head-to-head battle of the bands against Los Angeles based singer-songwriter Leila Broussard, on-stage at the Bonnaroo Music Festival in Manchester, TN.

We will see the Sheepdogs on the cover of Rolling Stone's August 5, 2011 issue!

### **THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

"How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it".

George Ellison

### JUST THE HEADLINES - www.gov.sk.ca/news

Aug. 5, 2011 - JUNE BUILDING PERMITS IN SASKATCHEWAN LEADING THE NATION

Aug. 4, 2011 - THE WEEKLY PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Aug. 2, 2011 - ADDITIONAL POLICE OFFICERS FOR SAFER SASKATCHEWAN COMMUNITIES

### **DID YOU KNOW???**

• The Saskatoon Exhibition Parade is Tuesday, August 9 starting at 10:00 a.m. The exhibition runs from August 9 to August 13 at Prairieland Park.

JUST A REMINDER THAT WE'VE MOVED!

### Ken Cheveldayoff MLA

Saskatoon Silver Springs Constituency Office

Please drop in and visit our new location at:

#9 - 415 - 115<sup>th</sup> Street E Saskatoon, SK S7N 2X9

Our phone and fax numbers remain the same

P 306.651.7100 | F 306.651.6008



We have relocated!



### **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.



Follow Me On Facebook – www.facebook.com/pages/Ken-Cheveldayoff/52760912740

*"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. Contact Ken by calling (306) 651-7100, emailing *ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net* or writing Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs, #9 – 415 – 115<sup>th</sup> St. E. Saskatoon, SK S7N 2X9. To subscribe or be removed from this newsletter, please send an email message. This newsletter is produced with the assistance of the Saskatchewan Party Caucus Office.