



Ken Cheveldayoff

From a Provincial Point of View

September 23, 2011

STUDENT HOUSING PROJECT OFFICIALLY OPENS IN SASKATOON

This week, the Province of Saskatchewan, University of Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon officially opened a new undergraduate student residence in College Quarter.

The province, through Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, provided \$15 million in funding towards the first phase of the project, with an additional \$600,000 contributed by the City of Saskatoon. The total project cost is approximately \$36 million, with the balance of funding covered through mortgage financing. With the addition of Phase II currently under construction, and the graduate residence currently in planning, the initial \$15 million Government of Saskatchewan investment has become part of over \$105 million in new housing for a total of over 1,000 beds.

Innovative initiatives such as the Rental Construction Incentive, the Affordable Home Ownership Program and the Headstart on a Home program support Saskatchewan's growing population and support the goal that housing is accessible to all Saskatchewan residents. In March, the province announced the Saskatchewan Advantage Housing Plan which committed \$252 million in funding over the next five years.

Since March, the province's investments in housing increased to \$310 million with the announcements of the Summit Action Fund and the Investment in Affordable Housing Agreement recently signed with the federal government.

The new student residence is part of an apartment-style, five storey, 800-bed complex across four buildings. Phase I, nearly complete, will create 400 new student beds in two buildings. Each building consists of one-to-four bedroom furnished suites, kitchens and living spaces.

College Quarter is located off-campus on University of Saskatchewan property, south of College Drive, north of 14th Street and east of Cumberland Avenue in Saskatoon.

[Read more . . .](#)

WHOLESALE TRADE UP MORE THAN THREE TIMES THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

The robust economy in Saskatchewan translated into busy warehouses this summer according to wholesale trade numbers released by Statistics Canada today.

"Consumers and businesses have increased demands for products and services in the province, which translates into wholesalers stocking up to keep the economy moving," Enterprise Minister Jeremy

Harrison said. "Wholesale trade has been up significantly this year, which is good news and signifies that our economy continues to expand, creating new jobs and business opportunities."

Wholesale trade increased by 30.3 per cent in July 2011 when compared to July 2010, the best increase among the provinces (seasonally adjusted) and more than three times the national average of 9.0 per cent.

"Saskatchewan's wholesale trade numbers have been well ahead of other provinces in the first half of 2011," Harrison said. "July's report is another example of how confident consumers and businesses are as Saskatchewan continues to lead the country."

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN SASKATOON KICKOFF UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN



Michael San Miguel (United Way Loaned Red from SGI), Jill Buechler, Dawn Weber (BBQ Chair), Minister Ken Cheveldayoff, Minister Rob Norris, Don Beazely, Minister Don Morgan, Chris Broten, Angela Schmidt (Provincial Employees Campaign Chair), Audrey Felske, Gail Karoly, Debbie McGowan, Leanne Priel

The provincial government employees in Saskatoon are targeting to increase their contributions to the United Way this year by 36% to at least \$75,000.

The United Way of Saskatoon is aiming to raise \$6.2 million this year to help fund 34 important community organizations. The Government of Saskatchewan supports the United Way's mission to improve lives and build community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action.

A great community must be great for everybody.

There were many sponsors including New Food Classics for donating hamburgers, Innovative Residential, Mulberry's, Husky House, and Sobeys, TCU Place, Persephone Theatre, Credit Union Centre, and Express Air provided prizes they donated as part of the Provincial Employees United Way campaign.

It was a beautiful Saskatchewan day to help with such a great cause. Congratulations to the organizers and volunteers who work so hard to make this fundraiser such a success.

The Government of Saskatchewan Employees in Saskatoon held a barbecue lunch on Thursday, September 22, 2011 to kick off their United Way campaign. I joined colleagues the Honourable Don Morgan, Q.C., Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Honourable Rob Norris, Minister of Advanced Education, Employment, and Immigration. We were glad to have the opportunity to help the Provincial Government United Way Leadership Team serve lunch to 240 people, raising over \$800 for the United Way.



Ken with Minister Don Morgan and Minister Rob Norris

SOD-TURNING SIGNALS START OF CONSTRUCTION AT SASKATOON'S COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH

Justice Minister and Attorney General Don Morgan kicked off construction on the expansion and renovation of the Court of Queen's Bench Court House in Saskatoon by participating in a sod-turning ceremony.

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing \$13.8 million in funding for the first year of a three-year project that will further the government's commitment to the safety of Saskatchewan communities, while improving the efficiency of court houses.

The additional space created by this renovation will allow the Family Law Division to be moved under the same roof as the rest of the Court of Queen's Bench services. Currently, the Family Law Division is located two blocks away in the First Nations Bank building. The move will also help ensure the safety of judges, court staff, witnesses and the public.

Construction on the new facility is expected to begin in the next few weeks.

SASKATOON HOSTS NHL PRE-SEASON GAME



Over 12,000 fans had the opportunity this past Wednesday at Credit Union Centre to enjoy the pre-season game between the Edmonton Oilers and the 2010 Stanley Cup champions the Chicago Blackhawks.

What a fantastic opportunity, especially for the many children who attended to see NHL right here in Saskatchewan.

Despite the loss, Blackhawks captain Jonathan Toews enjoyed the Western Canadian hospitality.

Ken with Steve Tambellini, General Manager Edmonton Oilers and Troy Murray Broadcaster with Chicago Blackhawks.

SASKATCHEWAN ENTERING PARTNERSHIP TO ADVANCE MS RESEARCH

Health Minister Don McMorris announced that Saskatchewan is finalizing a partnership with U.S researchers and is prepared to fund the participation of Saskatchewan patients in a multiple sclerosis (MS) clinical trial in Albany, New York.

The province is working with a research team led by Dr. Gary Siskin, a vascular and interventional radiologist at Albany Medical Centre.

Once the partnership is finalized, Saskatchewan MS patients will be advised how and when they can apply to participate. It is anticipated that between 80 and 90 Saskatchewan MS patients would be involved in the clinical trial. The province is setting aside approximately \$2 million to cover costs and patient expenses.

In October 2010, Saskatchewan became the first jurisdiction in Canada to commit funding for clinical trials of the Liberation Therapy as a treatment for MS. The province enlisted the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) to form an expert advisory panel and issue a call for research proposals that would lead to clinical trials conducted in the province. That process did not result in a suitable research proposal.

In July 2011, the federal government announced that the Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR) would proceed with early-stage pan-Canadian research into the Liberation Therapy. McMorris said Saskatchewan still intends to support the CIHR process.

The MS Society of Canada, Saskatchewan Division, is encouraged by the continuing support by the provincial government for MS research activities and we look forward to positive developments from clinical trials regarding venous angioplasty. As always, our first concern is that people living with MS have options when it comes to treating and managing their MS.

[Read more . . .](#)

ENHANCED PREVENTIVE DENTAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AT RISK

The Government of Saskatchewan is taking steps to improve children's oral health by increasing access to dental care, particularly preventive services for children at risk. Enhancements to regional preventive dental health services, for pre- and post-natal mothers, preschool and school-age children, are rolling out across the province starting this fall.

The Enhanced Preventive Dental Services Initiative will focus on disease prevention and health promotion and target early childhood tooth decay in at risk populations. The enhanced services will include oral health assessments, referral and follow up, fluoride varnish and dental sealants.

Oral health assessments will be provided to all preschool children in the province. Children from six months of age to five years, who are at risk of early childhood tooth decay, will be provided two fluoride varnish applications a year. Dental sealants will be offered to students attending schools with populations at risk in a phased in approach.

The enhanced dental services will include consultations with pre- and post-natal mothers to promote good oral health and ensure a healthy pregnancy and healthy development of their baby's teeth.

The Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative's goal is to provide sooner, safer, smarter surgical care through improved access to key health services, and where possible, to reduce the need for surgery through proactive and preventive measures. The Initiative is focused on transforming the surgical patient experience, and ensuring that by 2014, no surgical patient in Saskatchewan waits more than three months for surgery. More information about the Surgical Initiative is available at www.health.gov.sk.ca/saskatchewan-surgical-initiative.

[Read more . . .](#)

SASKATCHEWAN EXPORTS GO INTO OVERDRIVE

Saskatchewan's global exports have accelerated by 48 per cent with \$75.7 billion in sales from 2008 through 2010. Enterprise Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership provide periodic updates on Saskatchewan trade activity and today released statistics comparing the past three years to the previous three-year period.

Enterprise Saskatchewan and STEP calculated the province's long term trade growth from 2008 through 2010 in comparison to the years 2005 through 2007 in the following categories:

- Agriculture exports grew by 67 per cent for a total of \$22.4 billion.
- Mining, oil and gas exports grew by 55 per cent for a total of \$41 billion.
- Manufacturing exports grew by 12 per cent for a total of \$12 billion.
- Total Saskatchewan exports grew by 48 per cent for a total of \$75.7 billion.

In the past three years, the Government of Saskatchewan and STEP have embarked on trade missions to Ireland, Norway, Denmark, India, Turkey, Syria, Switzerland, Kazakhstan, China and Japan.

Saskatchewan also targeted key American markets, including Washington, New York, San Diego and Minneapolis.

[Read more . . .](#)



SASKATOON BLADES KICK OFF REGULAR SEASON

The Blades play host to the Prince Albert Raiders tonight at Credit Union Centre. Game time is 7:05 pm.

Opening night festivities includes remembrance to former Saskatoon Blades Brad McCrimmon and Wade Belak. You can also enter your name in a draw contest for an opportunity to shoot for \$25,000.00.

ANOTHER DROP IN THE NUMBER OF EI RECIPIENTS

The number of Saskatchewan people receiving Employment Insurance dropped significantly in July, decreasing by 2,940 (-23.1 per cent) compared to the same month last year (seasonally adjusted). This is the 16th consecutive month of year-over-year decreases.

"This latest drop in the number of EI recipients is yet another positive indication of Saskatchewan's strong and steady economy," Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration Minister Rob Norris said. "With the lowest unemployment rate in the country, a rising population and the tightest labour market in Canada, there is good reason to be optimistic about the province's future."

When expressed as a percentage of the total labour force population, Saskatchewan has the second fewest number of people receiving EI benefits in Canada at 1.2 per cent (tied with Manitoba). Alberta is the lowest at 1.1 per cent.

"While we continue to see improvement, we are focusing on doing what we can to keep the Employment Insurance numbers moving in the right direction," Norris said. "Our 19 Can-Sask Career and Employment Services offices are ready to provide assistance in matching job seekers with opportunities."

Norris added that with more than 10,000 jobs available today on www.saskjobs.ca, opportunities are available right now across the province.

RETAIL SALES CONTINUE TO GROW

Retail sales picked up in Saskatchewan during the month of July according to a report released by Statistics Canada today.

"The growth of an economy is dependent upon confidence," Enterprise Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "The Saskatchewan economy has been a top performer in the nation, and as a result, families are feeling confident to make purchases that help support economic growth."

According to Statistics Canada, retail sales were up by 7.6 per cent in July 2011 over July 2010. That percentage increase was the second highest in Canada, and surpassed the nation average which posted an increase of only 3.9 per cent.

"The economic reality is that Saskatchewan has one of the best, if not the best economy in Canada right now," Harrison said. "With sound financial management by this government and positive forecasting for the future, consumers are feeling confident about their own financial situation and can afford to purchase goods and services that improve their quality of life."

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"In oneself lays the whole world and if you know how to look and learn, the door is there and the key is in your hand. Nobody on earth can give you either the key or the door to open except yourself."

Jiddu Krishnamurti

JUST THE HEADLINES – www.gov.sk.ca/news

Sep. 23, 2011 - [ESSENTIAL SKILLS DAY REINFORCES THE IMPORTANCE OF SKILLS TRAINING FOR SASKATCHEWAN WORKERS](#)

Sep. 23, 2011 - [FIRST PHASE OF 2012 HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION TENDERS RELEASED](#)

Sep. 23, 2011 - [SASKTEL DELIVERS FASTER HIGH SPEED INTERNET SERVICE TO 13 COMMUNITIES](#)

Sep. 23, 2011 - [22,000 RIDER PLATES AND COUNTING](#)

Sep. 22, 2011 - [MINISTER OFFICIALLY OPENS SASKATCHEWAN'S 12TH SHORTLINE RAILWAY](#)

Sep. 22, 2011 - [THE WEEKLY PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE](#)

Sep. 22, 2011 - [PROVINCE COMMITS AN ADDITIONAL \\$34 MILLION FOR FLOOD COSTS](#)

Sep. 20, 2011 - [GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN DONATES \\$250,000 TO RED CROSS FOR EAST AFRICA RELIEF](#)

Sep. 20, 2011 - [GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN AND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY COMPLETE WOMEN BUILD HOUSING PROJECT](#)

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS IN SASKATOON

[\(If you would like your event listed in Provincial Point of View, please contact \[ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net\]\(mailto:ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net\)\)](#)

Please check my website at www.cheveldayoff.com for additional information.

8th Annual Aboriginal Music Festival

When: Sep 23, 2011

Where: TCU Place, 35 - 22nd St E, Saskatoon

Details: Festival highlights Canadian and Saskatchewan Aboriginal talent in a variety of musical genres. Other activities include traditional instrument workshops, craft exhibits, fashion show, media exhibits, prizes and one of Saskatoon's largest youth career fair and leadership workshop. Begins 9 am. All ages welcome.

Sep 22, 2011 to Sep 23, 2011.

Family Day in Saskatoon

When: Sept 25, 2011

Where: Gordie Howe Bowl

Details: Sponsored by Hilltop Football Club and Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon. Saskatoon Hilltops vs Edmonton Wild Cats. Game time 1:00 pm. Free admission tickets for elementary school age children

available at the MLA office.

The Word on the Street - National Book and Magazine Festival

When: Sep 25, 2011

Where: Saskatoon Market Place

Details: National, annual one day book and magazine festival in celebration of reading. The festival offers author events, literacy activities and a large marketplace. Visit website for details on locations and activities.

Zumba® For Lung

When: Sep 25, 2011

Where: Silverspring School 610 Konihowski Road, Saskatoon

Details Besides an invigorating workout, each participant will receive a free haircut from Enigma Salon (a \$40 value), a one month pass to Mawson Fitness and an opportunity to win great door prizes!

As tickets are only \$25 we encourage all participants to register early and to raise pledges. Bring in \$100 in pledges and receive a Breathe tank top. Plus for every \$100 you raise, receive one entry into the draw for a Romance Retreat donated by the Sheraton Cavalier (valued at over \$200)!

Go Loco collecting pledges and you could win:

Top Fundraiser – A one year Mawson Fitness Zumba® pass

2nd Place – A ClubMynx “Girls Night Out” Dance Party for you and 9 of your closest friends

3rd Place – An electronics package

12th Annual Seniors Walk

When: Sept 28, 2011

Where: Legion Hall, 606 Spadina Crescent West

Details: Presented by The Saskatoon Council on Aging, In Motion and the Saskatchewan Seniors Fitness Association. To register or for further information, please contact the Saskatoon on Aging office @ (306)652-2255.

Premier - Saskatchewan's Wine, Spirits and Specialty Food Show

When: Oct 1, 2011

Where: TCU Place, 35 - 22nd St E, Saskatoon

Details: Sample fine wines and spirits from around the world and taste gourmet Saskatchewan-made foods prepared by our province's leading chefs. The festival supports Autism Services. Click here for more information.

Sep 29, 2011 to Oct 01, 2011.

3rd Annual Lows in Motion

When: Oct 1, 2011

Where: Prairieland Park, Hall A

Details: This year's event is proud to host comedian Gerry Dee. For more information visit www.lowsinmotion.com

Living Well with Lupus

When: October 1st & 2nd, 2011

Where: Smiley's Buffet & Catering, Banquet Room B 702 Circle Drive E. Saskatoon SK

Details: A symposium designed to address the needs of youth and adults with lupus. Contact information: Irene Driedger at 1-877-566-6123 or idriedger@sasktel.net or Marianne Weber 306-693-6368 or lupus@lupus.sk.ca

“DRESS for the CAUSE”

When: Oct 28, 2011

Where: All over Canada

Details: Dress for the Cause is an annual event, held this year on Friday, October 28th, to celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Breast Cancer Society of Canada is asking companies, schools, organizations and clubs to participate in this event by recruiting their employees, clientele, teachers, students and members to donate to the Breast Cancer Society of Canada and *Dress for the Cause!* This year we are asking participants to show their support by wearing our "support bra" t-shirts. While our ultimate goal is to see breast cancer eliminated, our short term goal is to see as many men and women wearing pink bras in support of the cause. So let's get dressed and *let's get fundraising!*
Visit: dressforthecause.ca

Provincial General Election

When: Nov 7, 2011

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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“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 – 115th 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.