



Ken Cheveldayoff

## From a Provincial Point of View

December 2, 2011

### SWEARING IN CEREMONY- NOVEMBER 30



There are now 15 new Saskatchewan Party MLAs officially on the job.

All 49 government MLAs were sworn in during the official ceremony at the Legislature.

The 49 Saskatchewan Party MLAs elected earlier this month officially took their oath of office today at a



swearing-in ceremony at the Saskatchewan Legislature. On November 7, 2011, the majority of Saskatchewan people voted for a vision that would continue to move the province forward, by electing 15 more Saskatchewan Party MLAs to represent them in the Legislature.

"We are humbled by the trust placed in us by the people of Saskatchewan," said Premier Brad Wall. "We will honour that trust by continuing to build on our record of keeping promises. We will stick to the simple formula that guided us through the last four years – doing what we said will do."

"This coming Monday Saskatchewan Party MLAs, many for the first time, will take their seats in the Legislative Assembly for the Speech from the Throne. In the speech, our government will move forward with the plan we outlined in the election - management of a growing economy, responsible, affordable spending and targeted measures to make life more affordable for students, seniors, families and persons with disabilities," Wall said.

Of the 49 government MLAs, 15 are new – representing constituencies where either a long-serving Saskatchewan Party member decided to step down or, in many cases, to replace Opposition members.

Wall added, "Whether someone has served seven terms like Moosomin MLA Don Toth, or are entering public life for the first time, like many of our new MLAs, the Saskatchewan Party government has been entrusted by the people of Saskatchewan with an opportunity to build for the future - because the only day better than today in Saskatchewan is tomorrow in Saskatchewan."

The fall session of the Saskatchewan Legislature will begin with the Throne Speech on December 5, 2011.

## **PREMIER CALLS NEW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO MEET ON DECEMBER 5**

Shortest Time Ever Between Election and Start of Session

Premier Brad Wall today announced that the first session of the newly-elected Legislative Assembly will begin on Monday, December 5.

That will be the shortest period of time - 28 days - between a provincial election and the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly in Saskatchewan history, breaking the previous record of 33 days set by the current government in its first term following the 2007 election.

The session will begin with the election of the Speaker in the morning followed by the Throne Speech in the afternoon of December 5. Wall said the Throne Speech will reflect government's plan to keep the commitments it made during the recent election campaign.

"Our government will keep Saskatchewan moving forward with the vision and the plan we outlined in the election - a growing economy, responsible, affordable spending and targeted measures to make life more affordable for students, seniors, families and persons with disabilities," Wall said. "We are honoured and humbled by the trust Saskatchewan people have placed in our government and we will work every day to be worthy of that trust."

## **FESTIVAL OF TREES – FATHER & DAUGHTER GALA**



I was very proud to take my daughter to this great event. Paige and I had the privilege of attending the Father Daughter banquet sponsored by SaskTel on Nov 21. I joined many other proud fathers who had the opportunity to enjoy this special evening with their daughter(s).

Thank you to the City Hospital Foundation for planning such an incredible event and for the wonderful work they do throughout the year.

## **DRIVING DOWN WAIT TIMES FOR SASKATCHEWAN PATIENTS**

*Surgical Initiative Continues To Build Momentum*

More patients are receiving surgeries sooner in Saskatchewan, as health regions advance Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative projects that promote sooner, safer, smarter care.

"Patients are increasingly seeing the benefits of the many Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative projects that are underway," Health Minister Don McMorris said. "We're supporting system changes in all aspects of surgical care - from diagnosis and specialist referral through surgery and recovery. That big picture approach is starting to pay off."

Saskatchewan hospitals have provided more than 41,100 surgeries in the first six months of 2011-12, eight per cent more than during the same period last year.

Wait Time Goals:	Surgeries completed (at Sept 30, 2011):
Surgery within 18 months	99 per cent
Surgery within 12 months	96 per cent
Surgery within 6 months	87 per cent
Surgery within 3 months	76 per cent

[Read more . .](#)

## **ENTREPRENEURS HONOURED AT THE 28<sup>th</sup> ABEX AWARDS**

Once again, Saskatchewan companies are celebrating outstanding successes! Those attending the ABEX Awards November 19, celebrated the accomplishments of businesses honoured at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual 2011 Achievement in Business Excellence Awards. I commend the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce for celebrating business excellence in Saskatchewan and recognizing the achievements of so many fantastic businesses.

"People are prepared to stand up and say, 'Our business has done well,' " said Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce CEO Steve McLellan. "And that reflects on our awards. Now everybody is celebrating success - not bragging, but proud in the sense they are celebrating staff success, their new training, new clients. We need to be proud of their success. These people are our neighbours, our friends, our employers, our suppliers and there is so much to celebrate."

The evening was about Saskatchewan. It was about the young entrepreneurs, companies, large and small, and the menu was even a reflection of Saskatchewan grown products.

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate all of the nominees and winners of the ABEX Awards.

Business of the Year - Magna Electric Corporation  
TIA New Saskatchewan Product Award - Text2Car  
New Venture Award - Canalta Hotels  
Community Involvement Award - Knight Archer Insurance  
Environment Award - Canada North Environmental Services Limited Partnership  
Marketing Award - Bath Fitter  
Service Award - Terry Ortynsky's Royal Ford  
Growth & Expansion Award - Magna Electric Corporation  
Export Award - Crestline Coach  
Business Leader of the Year Award - Gerald Grandey, former CEO of Cameco Corporation  
Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award - Justin Yawney, Yorkton Plumbing & Heating  
Aboriginal Business Partnership Award - Points Athabasca Contracting Limited Partnership

## **FULL-TIME JOB GROWTH IN SASKATCHEWAN**

Statistics Canada reports today that November's full-time employment in Saskatchewan increased by 7,800 jobs compared to November 2010.

Total full-time employment at 435,600 is the highest on record for the month of November as a result of part-time jobs changing to full-time employment opportunities.

"Saskatchewan workers have a wide range of employment opportunities," Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration Minister Rob Norris said. "Today there are more than 9,300 positions posted on SaskJobs.ca."

[Read more . . .](#)

## **MD AMBULANCE CELEBRATES 35 YEARS**

Congratulations to MD Ambulance, a company proudly celebrating 35 years of outstanding service to Saskatoon and surrounding areas. Mike Dutchak started the service in 1976 with only one Ambulance and 3 employees. Today we see MD Ambulance as one of the most diverse EMS Services in Canada. MD Ambulance currently employs a dedicated staff of 147.

I agree with the comment made by Dave Dutchak, MD Ambulance President and CEO, "35 years is truly a milestone for this organization, we wouldn't be here today without the partnerships we have developed over the past 35 years".

For more information on the highlights of this tremendous company please contact Troy Davies at 227-2446.



## **SANTA CLAUS DAY PARADE**

I had the pleasure of participating in the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Saskatoon Santa Claus Day Parade on Sunday, November 21. This year's theme was "A Rock N Roll Christmas" and for such a chilly Saskatchewan day we still had hundreds of people lining the streets of downtown. That's our Saskatchewan spirit!

The parade is a wonderful tradition and a great kick off to the Christmas season.

## **MANUFACTURING WEEK HIGHLIGHTS STRENGTHS OF SASKATCHEWAN'S GLOBAL BRAND**

As Saskatchewan continues to set the pace for Canada's continued economic growth, Manufacturing Week begins today, acknowledging some of the largest drivers and enablers behind that prosperity.

"Saskatchewan is becoming renowned as a place where innovation and enterprise meet to produce results," Enterprise Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Saskatchewan is developing a global brand and much of that is thanks to the hard work and success of our manufacturers."

[Read more . . .](#)

## **2011-12 MID YEAR REPORT**

The government remains on track to balance the provincial budget, despite increased flooding expenses and an uncertain global economy.

The Mid-Year Report anticipates a pre-transfer surplus of \$25 million and a balance in the Growth and Financial Security Fund of \$694 million at year end.

Overall expenses are expected to be up \$246.8 million to \$10.926 billion, while revenues are expected to be up by \$156.8 million to \$10.951 billion, leaving a \$25 million surplus. Flooding costs are estimated to be in excess of \$240 million, offset by approximately \$109 million in federal contributions.

"We are extremely fortunate that we have the resources to respond to a second consecutive year of extensive flooding," Finance Minister Ken Krawetz said. "Our government has ensured we have an appropriate reserve in the Growth and Financial Security Fund and it remains in place to respond to such challenges."

[Read more . . .](#)

## **NOW HIRING! STUDENTS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR SUMMER JOBS**

The Government of Saskatchewan is encouraging students to apply now for summer positions with the public service.

"We're opening our application process earlier this year to accommodate those students who like to apply for jobs well in advance," Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission June Draude said.

"There is a wide range of exciting opportunities available for students, they really play an important role in ensuring services continue to be provided as regular employees take summer holidays."

In 2010, the province hired more than 750 students to work in various ministries, and in positions across the province. Jobs ranged from highway crew members and park gate attendants to researchers and office relief workers.

[Read more . . .](#)

## **CONGRATULATIONS BRIAN TOWRISS**



Ken, Brian Towriss, Hugh Vassos

Brian Towriss, Head Coach of the U of S Huskies was recognized at the Vanier Cup Breakfast as the coach with the most wins in CIS history. He is posing with a special football presented by the CIS and Wilson.

## **REPORT FORECASTS IMPRESSIVE GDP GROWTH FOR SASKATCHEWAN**

The Conference Board of Canada released its Autumn 2011 Provincial Outlook Executive Summary today and is forecasting Saskatchewan will have the best GDP growth in Canada this year with real GDP expected to rise by 5.1 per cent.

"Saskatchewan is experiencing its strongest growth, both economically and population-wise, in history," Enterprise Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Much of the growth is due to our resource sector, which is investing in Saskatchewan for the long-term."

[Read more . . .](#)

## **SASKATCHEWAN'S WEEKLY EARNINGS SECOND HIGHEST IN CANADA**

Saskatchewan's average wages are the second highest in the country for the first time since records have been recorded and, for the first time, passed Ontario in weekly earnings. Average weekly earnings were \$906.22 in September 2011, the second highest among all provinces, behind Alberta, and above the national average of \$872.75.

"Saskatchewan continues to offer competitive wages for its workers in comparison with the rest of Canada," Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration Minister Rob Norris said. "The fact that our average weekly earnings are second highest in the country speaks to our strong economy and why this is a great time to be working in Saskatchewan."

[Read more . . .](#)

## **RETAIL SALES NEARLY DOUBLE NATIONAL AVERAGE**

September's retail sales shot up 8.1 per cent over the same month in 2010, the highest percentage increase among the provinces and almost double the 4.2 per cent recorded nationally on a seasonally adjusted basis.

"As incomes in Saskatchewan rise we are seeing that translating into busy stores across the province," Enterprise Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "This is excellent news for our economy as we approach Christmas."

On a monthly basis, Saskatchewan's retail sales were up 1.7 per cent in September 2011 over August 2011, the fourth-highest increase in Canada. Nationally, retail sales were up just 1.0 per cent.

"This is another sign of the confidence and optimism people in Saskatchewan have for the future," Harrison said. "With so many jobs and opportunities available, consumers are able to enjoy a higher quality of life in our province."



## **WE'RE ON THE MOVE**

We have moved to 1106A Central Ave, Saskatoon, SK S7N 2H1 on December 1, 2011. The phone number and fax number remain the same.



## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“One of the secrets in life is to make stepping stones out of stumbling blocks”

Jack Penn

## JUST THE HEADLINES – [www.gov.sk.ca/news](http://www.gov.sk.ca/news)

Dec. 2, 2011 - [DECEMBER 3 IS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES](#)  
Dec. 1, 2011 - [SASKATCHEWAN DEPUTY MINISTER ONE OF CANADA'S TOP 100 WOMEN](#)  
Dec. 1, 2011 - [SASKGAMING PRESIDENT AND CEO AMONG TOP 100 WOMEN](#)  
Dec. 1, 2011 - [HEALTH MINISTER MARKS WORLD AIDS DAY](#)  
Nov. 30, 2011 - [PREMIER TO ADDRESS IMPORTANT MEETING OF U.S. LEGISLATORS](#)  
Nov. 28, 2011 - [PROVINCE RENEWS FUNDING FOR IMMIGRATION GATEWAYS](#)  
Nov. 28, 2011 - [NEW MINERAL RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS 42ND ANNUAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OPEN HOUSE](#)  
Nov. 24, 2011 - [SASKATCHEWAN REMEMBERS HOLODOMOR](#)

## 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](http://www.cheveldayoff.com) for additional information.

### **Persephone Theatre Presents A Christmas Story**

When: November 23-December 11, 2011

Where: Frank & Ellen Remai Arts Centre

Details: Buy tickets online, by phone or in person. Call 384-7727 or visit [persephonetheatre.org](http://persephonetheatre.org)

### **Sundog Arts & Entertainment Faire**

When: December 2, 3 and 4, 2011

Where: Credit Union Centre

Time: Friday – 5 to 10 pm; Saturday – 10 am to 10 pm; Sunday – 11 am to 5 pm

Details: Over 200 amazing artisans and specialty food producers from across Canada. 44 new exhibitions in addition to regulars and much more. Admission is \$8/ or 2 day pass for \$12. Free for children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Free bus service from the downtown terminal.

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

When: November 18, 2011-January 8, 2012

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park, 1903 Forestry Farm Park Drive

Time: 5:30 pm-11:00 pm nightly

Details: A spectacular forest drive-through Christmas light show featuring illuminated evergreens and computer animated character light displays on a 2.5km route. \$6.00 per person, \$25.00 per car, 3 and under free.

## 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](mailto:ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net) or writing Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA Saskatoon Silver Springs, 1106A Central Avenue Saskatoon, SK S7N 2H1. **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.