



## From a Provincial Point of View

May 25, 2012

Ken Cheveldayoff

### SAVE THE DATE!

We are busy planning another "PICNIC IN THE PARK". I hope everyone can join us at the Forestry Farm June 20 from 4 – 8 p.m.  
Watch for further details.

### PREMIER RE-ORGANIZES CABINET, GOVERNMENT

New Structure Designed To Better Reflect Government's Growth Agenda

Premier Brad Wall today announced a major re-organization of cabinet and government ministries designed to better reflect the government's growth agenda.

"We want to ensure the economic growth in Saskatchewan continues and that our government is meeting both the challenges and the opportunities of a growing province," Wall said.

The biggest change is the creation of a new Ministry of the Economy which brings together a number of economic functions of the government, including Enterprise Saskatchewan, Innovation Saskatchewan, Tourism Saskatchewan, employment, immigration, trade, energy and resources.

Bill Boyd becomes the new Minister of the Economy and Minister responsible for SaskPower. Boyd remains Minister responsible for the Global Transportation Hub.

Tim McMillan becomes Minister responsible for Energy and Resources, Tourism Saskatchewan and Trade within the Economy ministry. McMillan also becomes Minister responsible for SaskEnergy.

After four and a half years as Minister of Health, Don McMorris becomes the new Minister of Highways and Infrastructure and Minister responsible for SaskTel, Saskatchewan Transportation Corporation, Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation and Information Services Corporation. McMorris will also be the Minister responsible for SaskBuilds, a new government agency that



will lead the planning, design, funding and implementation of significant infrastructure projects for the government and for government-funded third-party projects like schools and hospitals.

"We have made record investments in our highways system but this area remains a top priority for our government," Wall said. "Don McMorris has been one of the most effective and innovative Health Ministers in the country and I am asking him to bring that same commitment and innovation to improving Saskatchewan's highways."

Only two Ministers retain their current responsibilities in the new cabinet. Ken Krawetz remains Deputy Premier and Finance Minister, while June Draude continues as Minister of Social Services and Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

Dustin Duncan becomes the new Minister of Health while Randy Weekes enters cabinet for the first time as the new Minister responsible for Rural and Remote Health under the Health ministry.

Three other MLAs enter cabinet for the first time:

- Gord Wyant becomes Minister of Justice and Attorney General (which now includes corrections and policing);
- Russ Marchuk becomes Minister of Education; and
- Kevin Doherty becomes Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport and Minister responsible for the Provincial Capital Commission.

Three former ministers return to cabinet:

- Lyle Stewart becomes Minister of Agriculture and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation;
- Christine Tell becomes Minister responsible for Corrections and Policing under the Justice ministry; and
- Nancy Heppner becomes Minister of Central Services, which will become a new agency to manage government operations, replacing the Ministry of Government Services. Heppner will also be Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission, Minister responsible for Information Technology Office and Minister responsible for the Lean Initiative.

Other ministers assigned new responsibilities include:

- Ken Cheveldayoff becomes Minister of Environment and Minister responsible for SaskWater;
- Don Morgan continues as Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety and becomes Minister of Advanced Education;
- Donna Harpauer becomes Minister of Crown Investments and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance and the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority; and
- Jim Reiter becomes Minister of Government Relations and Minister responsible for First Nations, Metis and Northern Affairs.

The number of ministers remains at 18, including the Premier. The size of cabinet has not changed since the current government took office in 2007.

Jeremy Harrison will continue to serve as Government House Leader outside of cabinet while Justice Minister Gord Wyant will continue to serve as Deputy House Leader.

Greg Ottenbreit becomes Government Whip while Gene Makowsky becomes Deputy Whip.

Wayne Elhard will continue to serve as Provincial Secretary. Rob Norris has been named Legislative Secretary to the Premier for First Nations Engagement.

Scott Moe becomes Deputy Chair of Public Accounts - the legislative committee that reviews all government spending. Corey Tochor becomes the Deputy Chair of Committees in the Legislative Assembly.

Wall thanked the members who are leaving cabinet and said they will all continue to play important roles in the government.

## **SPRING AND SUMMER IN SASKATOON SILVER SPRINGS**

Now that the spring session of the legislature ended, I am anxious to spend time in our community and welcome the opportunity to consult with the public, stakeholders and elected bodies to hear opinions and concerns regarding our province. The confidence you placed in me as your elected representative is very important to me and I look forward justifying the trust you have placed in me to serve as your Member of the Legislative Assembly. I welcome your ideas on how you would like to see Saskatchewan move forward. Long-term planning is key – together we will continue to build a strong province.

Maintaining long-term growth and the benefits that come from that growth is important to realizing your Saskatchewan Party's vision of a debt-free province with a population of more than 1.1 million people. That's where you come in. We want to know where we want to go – we need you to tell us how to get there.

In the coming weeks I invite you to call, email, or visit the office and let me know how you would like to see the province grow and what ideas you have to make the province better. I always appreciate hearing from my constituents and it is your ideas that will form the strong foundation on which we will build Saskatchewan's future – together. With your help, we will keep the Saskatchewan Advantage.

I hope to see many of you at our annual Picnic in the Park on June 20 at the Forestry Farm.

## **PREMIER WALL WELCOMES PRINCE OF WALES AND DUCHESS OF CORNWALL TO SASKATCHEWAN**

Government Establishes New Scholarship in Honour of Diamond Jubilee Visit

Premier Brad Wall welcomed the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall to Saskatchewan during a ceremony at the province's Legislative Building Wednesday May 23.

Attending the event as special guests were the 10 recipients of the 2012-13 Prince of Wales Scholarship, who travelled from across the province and were recognized for their academic success.

In honour of the Diamond Jubilee visit of Their Royal Highnesses, Premier Wall announced the scholarship will be renamed the "Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall Fund", and will be awarded to an additional 10 students each year.

"Queen Elizabeth and Their Royal Highnesses, through their actions and words, remind us of the importance of community and the necessity of providing opportunity to all," Wall said. "In that spirit of generosity, I am pleased to announce the expansion of this scholarship as we renew our relationship with the Crown."

The Government of Saskatchewan created the scholarship in 2001, when the Prince of Wales last visited the province. Intended to ease the financial burden some students face, the scholarship provides recipients with two installments of \$250 while they attend Grade 12. Since its inception, the scholarship has disbursed \$50,000 to 100 students across Saskatchewan.

Premier Wall, on behalf of the people of Saskatchewan, also presented a second gift - the creation of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Scholarship, which will be established to assist Grade 12 students attending community schools, to transition into post-secondary studies at a University or technical institute. This new scholarship will be worth \$1,000 and will be awarded to six Grade 12 students.

"This scholarship will help ensure everyone can benefit from the Saskatchewan Advantage, which is sustained by the skills, ambition and vision of our young people," Wall said.

## **PUBLIC EXHIBITS LAUNCHED AS PART OF ROYAL VISIT TO SASKATCHEWAN'S CAPITAL**

Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall were the first to see two new exhibits during their visit to Regina on May 23.

While at the Legislative Building in the morning, they viewed the contents of the Legislative Building time capsule, placed in the building's cornerstone in 1909 by Governor General Earl Grey during a public ceremony celebrating the construction of the building. The contents were removed by former Lieutenant Governor Dr. Gordon Barnhart and Premier Brad Wall in December 2011.

Their Royal Highnesses viewed the artifacts in the Legislative Library and unveiled a plaque commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Legislative Building. A virtual display of the artifacts will be made available to the public at [www.opcc.gov.sk.ca/leg100](http://www.opcc.gov.sk.ca/leg100). They will be placed on public display in the Cumberland Gallery later this summer.

[Public Exhibits Launched as Part of Royal Visit to Saskatchewan's Capital](#)

## **SURGICAL INITIATIVE CONTINUES TO TACKLE WAIT TIMES**

Saskatchewan patients are benefiting from improved access to surgery and new processes and safety practices, according to a new report released today. The Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative (SkSI) Year Two Progress report shows steady progress in improving patient experiences and reducing surgical wait times.

Provincially, 97 per cent of surgeries in Saskatchewan were completed within the SkSI's Year Two target of 12 months. Seven of the ten health regions that provide surgeries succeeded in reaching the target for 100 per cent of surgeries they provide. The two tertiary health regions, Saskatoon and Regina Qu'Appelle, provided 95 per cent of surgeries within one year.

Surgical data updated to March 31, 2012 shows that since 2007, there has been a 91 per cent drop in the number of patients waiting more than 18 months for surgery, and a 82 per cent decrease in the number waiting longer than 12 months. The number waiting over six months and over three months have dropped 58 per cent and 41 per cent respectively.

"We're proud of the progress made so far on our ambitious but attainable goal of providing sooner, safer, smarter care for patients," Health Minister Don McMorris said. "I thank all of our health system partners for their support and encourage them to maintain the momentum that's building. Their efforts are resulting in better care for patients and a more sustainable, efficient and patient-centred surgical system."

"We know that to be successful, we have to work on all aspects of surgical care - the 'safer' and 'smarter' initiatives as well as providing surgeries sooner," Surgical Initiative physician leader Dr. Peter Barrett said.

"We're listening to what patients are telling us, and the result is projects like streamlined patient pathways to standardize care, medication reconciliation and surgical safety checklists, all of which will make a tremendous difference to patient care."

"Two years into this ambitious initiative we are really seeing results from all the hard work that our dedicated Saskatoon Health Region team has put into the Surgical Initiative projects," Saskatoon Regional Health Authority Chair Jim Rhode said. "Their commitment to a patient-first focus has meant an improved health care experience for all the surgical patients in our care."

By 2014, the Surgical Initiative's goal is to provide all patients with the opportunity to have surgery within three months, while improving the experience of surgical patients. By the end of 2012-13, the target is to reduce all surgical wait times to less than six months.

[Surgical Initiative Continues to Tackle Wait Times](#)

## **APPOINTMENTS TO REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY BOARDS**

Health Minister Don McMorris has announced the appointment of board members for Saskatchewan's 12 regional health authorities.

"We continue to make meaningful transformational changes in the health system to put patients first," McMorris said. "Regional health authority board members are integral to making that change happen. As I announce the appointment of 116 board members, I am pleased to say that 83 of them are being reappointed, which will enable continuity and continued progress toward our goal of more patient- and family-centred care."

Sixty-six of the appointees are men and 50 are women, with 16 people also self-identifying as First Nations or Métis.

Board members are responsible for overseeing the organization, management and delivery of health services for all residents in their health regions, primarily through the CEO of the health region. Board members are accountable to the Minister of Health.

"I want to also thank former board members for their years of service to the people of Saskatchewan," McMorris said.

[Click for a list of the new appointments.](#)

## **COLD A LONG TIME**

Duncan MacPherson, was a talented Saskatoon hockey player who played junior hockey with the North Battle Barons (1981-82) and the Saskatoon Blades (1982-86); he was ultimately drafted by the New York Islanders. When his contract with New York was not renewed in 1989, he went on a brief tour of Europe and vanished without a trace.

His parents spent fourteen years looking for their son. Fourteen years later, Duncan's body was found at a popular ski resort in Austria. There was never a proper investigation to find out what happened to their son, in order to help heal, they enlisted author John Leake to help with their ongoing search for answers.

Cold a Long Time: An Alpine Mystery, is the book that has come out of this search. Congratulations Mr. Leake and Lynda and Bob MacPherson, Duncan's parents, on the Independent Publisher Award the book has won as well as top seller at McNally Robinson for the past four months.

I encourage everyone to purchase the book and keep the memory of Duncan MacPherson alive.

## **3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SASKATCHEWAN SENIOR VOLUNTEER AWARDS**

Seniors are the backbone of the community; they built the province up to what it is today. Because of this it is important to celebrate their leadership and commitment to the community.

Saskatchewan Senior's Mechanism is holding their annual Senior Volunteer Awards, with the Honorary Patron this year being Her Honour, The Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan. The Banquet will be held Sunday September 30, 2012 in Regina.

Nominees must: be +55, reside in Saskatchewan, be a volunteer, and actively contribute to their community.

This year's deadline for the nominations is **June 15, 2012 12:00pm**.

To receive a nomination package or for more information you can contact the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism at (306) 359-9956 or [www.skseniorsmechanism.ca](http://www.skseniorsmechanism.ca)

## **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS - PICNIC IN THE PARK**

If you have some time to help out with the Picnic in the Park June 20, 2012 please stop by our office at 1106A Central Avenue or contact Megan at 651.7100 or email: [cheveldayoff.mla.assistant@sasktel.net](mailto:cheveldayoff.mla.assistant@sasktel.net).

Our committee looks forward to hosting another great family picnic and we welcome your participation.

## **DID YOU KNOW?:**

- The introduction and passage of the Saskatchewan Advantage budget, led to Canada's only balanced provincial budget
- The strong economy enabled the government to keep virtually all of its 2011 election promises while still maintaining a balanced budget
- The introduction of a new "Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship" will provide up to \$2,000 over four years for new high school graduates and will reduce the cost of post-secondary education in Saskatchewan
- We have created 500 new childcare spaces
- We have increased the Seniors Income Plan (SIP) benefit by \$600 a year

## **JUST THE HEADLINES**

- May 17, 2012 – [Government Commends SIIT on Impressive Increase to Enrolment and Completion Numbers](#)
- May 18, 2012 – [Residents are Advised to Take Precautions Against Hantavirus](#)
- May 18, 2012 – [Groundbreaking for New Affordable Housing in Saskatoon](#)
- May 22, 2012 – [Mining Week Recognizes Industry's Investment in Saskatchewan's Future](#)
- May 23, 2012 – [Grading, Paving, Patching, and Bridgework Ramps Up on More Than 50 Saskatchewan Highways](#)
- May 25, 2012 – [Senior Government Officials Named as Part of Government Restructuring](#)

## **SOME UPCOMING EVENTS IN SASKATOON**

### **Grand Opening of Sun Life Financial**

Where: Sun Life Financial 6 – 50 Kenderdine Road

When: Saturday, May 26, 2012

Time: 11:00am to 4:00pm

Bring your family and enjoy a loonie BBQ, a bouncy castle, face painting, games, and door prizes.

### **GOLFUN**

Where: Saskatoon Golf and Country Club

When: May 31, 2012

Time: Registration 12:00pm Scramble Start 1:00pm

If more information is required please contact Committee Chair Hugh Vassos at (306) 222-5392

**SilverSprings School Pancake Breakfast**

Where: SilverSprings School

When: June 1, 2012

Time: 7:30am to 8:15am

**Motorcycle Ride for Dad – On the Move Against Prostate Cancer**

When: June 16, 2012

Where: Western Development Museum

Time: Registration 8:00am to 10:00am Parade leaves at 10:45am

**Saskatoon Silver Springs Picnic in the Park**

When: June 20, 2012

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm

Time: 4:00pm – 8:00pm

**Board Governance Workshops**

If you are interested in board governance, I encourage constituents to consider the following opportunity to participate in workshops on June 19.

You can learn from experienced directors about: the role of a director, how to excel in the boardroom, how to get on boards, and networking skills.

For additional information contact: Dani vanDriel, 653-0488 or [dani.vandriel@sasktel.net](mailto:dani.vandriel@sasktel.net)

**SaskTel Saskatchewan's Jazz Festival**

When: June 22 to July 1, 2012

Where: Various venues all over Saskatoon as well as the Free Stage, Friendship Park

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

**THOUGHT OF THE DAY**

“Children will not remember you for the material things you provided but for the feeling that you cherished them.”

Richard L. Evanas

**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.

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Please check my website at [www.cheveldayoff.com](http://www.cheveldayoff.com) for additional information.

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