



Provincial Point of View April 12, 2013

It is a privilege and honour to serve as your MLA in Saskatoon Silver Springs.

If you would like me to be attend a function or an event, please contact me and I will make every effort to attend.

Also, if you would like to see someone recognized in this e-newsletter or if you know of an event that you would like to see highlighted please don't hesitate to call or email me.

WATER STEWARDSHIP AWARD WINNER



I was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan at the 2013 Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds Conference on April 9. The theme of this year's event "Think Globally, Act Locally" set the stage to share information, successes and challenges each Watershed Association has experienced.

The main focus of the event was clean, safe drinking water for the province. This is a top priority for our government. Through the creation of the Water Security Agency and the 25 Year Saskatchewan Water Security Plan we will be able to guide our work to ensure a sustainable water supply to support our growth, a healthy environment and our high quality of life.

On behalf of Premier Brad Wall, I had the pleasure of presenting the 2013 Council of the Federation – Excellence in Water Stewardship Award to the Lower Souris Watershed Committee. Jim Cairns accepted the award on behalf of the Lower Souris Watershed Committee.

“It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to congratulate all the members of the Lower Souris Watershed Committee for the great work they do for this province. We are very fortunate to have organizations like this in Saskatchewan who put in many hours of hard work to ensure our lakes and rivers are some of the best in the world.”

The Lower Souris Watershed Committee received the "Excellence in Water Stewardship Award" for its strong leadership and innovation in implementing its source water protection plan.

[Minister Cheveldayoff Announces Water Stewardship Award Winner](#)

CENTENNIAL COLLEGIATE STUDENT HEADED TO OTTAWA FOR NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY COMPETITION

Congratulations to Saruul Uuganbayar, a student from Centennial Collegiate, who is one of the eight young Canadian scientists competing at a national biotechnology competition in Ottawa beginning April 15.

Saruul has had a lifelong dream of being able to find a cure for cancer. In order to achieve this dream she has been working alongside her mentor, Troy Harkness, at the University of Saskatchewan for the past year. Through her hard work, she has invented a type of molecular therapy for mutated cells. The invention led to the top spot at the provincial "Sanofi BioGENius Challenge Canada" allowing her to compete at the national level.

Saruul's research has narrowed on cell proteins and their effect of certain molecules on cell growth, which could help develop a cancer drug.

After graduating from Centennial Collegiate, Saruul plans on studying biotechnology before applying to medical school.

Your hard work and dedication is truly inspirational. Congratulations on your top spot in the province and good luck at the national competition!

NEW PENSION OPTION UNVEILED FOR SASKATCHEWAN WORKERS

On April 8, the Government of Saskatchewan introduced legislation to create an important new option to help provincial residents save for retirement.

The Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act will ensure all Saskatchewan workers are eligible to enroll in low-cost, tax-assisted pension plans, providing an alternative for those workers who currently do not have access to group pension plans. Amendments are also being introduced today to The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Act which will permit the trustees of the Saskatchewan Pension Plan (SPP) to apply to be a licensed Pooled Registered Pension Plan (PRPP) provider.

“Our government is pleased to provide Saskatchewan residents with additional opportunities to save for retirement,” Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant said. “These legislative changes will provide new and affordable pension options to employees of participating employers and the self-employed.”

[New Pension Option Unveiled for Saskatchewan Workers](#)

WATER SECURITY AGENCY RELEASES APRIL FORECAST



On April 8, as Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (WSA) I released the April forecast and update on the spring runoff. The month of March saw greater than normal amounts of precipitation in certain areas.

As a result, an above normal runoff is expected for a majority of the province, while the areas that have the potential for very high runoff and flooding have increased. These areas include Moose Jaw to Indian Head then south to Weyburn, and from Saskatoon to North Battleford extending north to Waskesiu Lake.

“With the additional snowfall in March, areas in the Souris River and Qu’Appelle River basins have been the most affected. To help prepare for the runoff, the Water Security Agency has been increasing the outflow of water from Rafferty and Alameda reservoirs as well as holding several meetings with municipalities to address their concerns and inform them of programs available.”

[Water Security Agency Releases April Forecast](#)

SASKATCHEWAN PROCLAIMS DAY OF PINK

Education Minister Russ Marchuk proclaimed April 10 Canadian Red Cross Day of Pink in Saskatchewan, in support of bullying prevention awareness.

“The best place to start with preventing bullying is through educating and empowering Saskatchewan’s students,” Marchuk said. “I want to commend the Canadian Red Cross for raising the profile of this important issue, and thank them for the work they do in inspiring a new generation of citizens to take a stand against bullying.”

Day of Pink began as Pink Shirt Day in 2007 when two high school students in Nova Scotia stood up to bullying. The students asked their peers to wear pink to school after they heard a male classmate had been bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

[Saskatchewan Proclaims Day of Pink](#)

COMPLIANCE AND FIELD STAFF MEETING



On April 10, I had the opportunity to speak to the Compliance and Field Services All-Staff Meeting in Saskatoon. It was indeed a pleasure to express appreciation on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan to the Conservation Officers and the other staff members

present.

As Minister of Environment, I know firsthand how passionate and hard working our front-line staff are. Delivering on the Ministry of Environment's mandate is no small task, it requires a great effort to ensure there is compliance with the regulations, policies and programs we administer. This group of individuals do an outstanding job in our province.

Our Compliance and Field Service Staff are an integral part of our transition and to the health and sustainability of our environment. I am truly grateful for their work in helping to make Saskatchewan the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

MORE HOUSING FOR SASKATCHEWAN FAMILIES

Through increased funding this year from the Government of Saskatchewan, approximately 89 Habitat for Humanity partner families will secure a better quality of life by realizing their dream of owning a safe, stable home.

The province is providing an additional \$2 million this year to help build 40 new Habitat for Humanity homes throughout Saskatchewan. With this funding, the government has committed a total of \$6.5 million to Habitat for Humanity since March of 2009. This year's funding is double the amount provided last year and leads the nation in percentage of increase. Over the past four years, government funding has helped Habitat for Humanity start 73 new homes in eight different Saskatchewan communities – a substantial increase compared to the 41 units built over the 12 year period between 1996 and 2008.

[More Housing for Saskatchewan Families](#)

SASKATCHEWAN BMO CLIENT RECEPTION



I had the pleasure of attending the Bank of Montreal Annual Client Reception on April 8 on behalf of Premier Brad Wall and the Government of Saskatchewan. It was great to see so many people from out of town and those from Saskatoon at this event.

As a government, we recognize that the people of the province play an important role in the success of Saskatchewan. The Bank of Montreal recognizes that our province is full of opportunities and business confidence.

The event was a great way to acknowledge the Bank of Montreal for their work to help create and maintain the Saskatchewan Advantage. Their success in the province benefits every business, every community, and every resident of Saskatchewan.

MORE FUNDING FOR PHYSICIAN TRAINING SEATS

Saskatchewan is increasing its investment in training physicians, as part of its broader effort to improve residents' access to physician services.

The province is investing \$17.8 million in post-graduate physician training seats at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Medicine in 2013-14 – an increase of \$2 million over last year.

“We know how important it is to improve access to physician services in communities across Saskatchewan,” Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. “This funding will help maximize training opportunities for physician graduates here at home. We believe it will increase the chances that they will stay in the province after completing their training.”

[More Funding for Physician Training Seats](#)

SASKWATER TABLES 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

SaskWater tabled its 2012 Annual Report – Celebrating 10 Years – in the Saskatchewan Legislature April 10. SaskWater traces its history back to 1966 but has operated exclusively as a commercial Crown corporation since 2002, creating value that supports growth through reinvestment in its infrastructure. Over the past ten years, SaskWater has grown significantly, more than doubling its asset base, annual revenues and the number of residents served.

SaskWater now provides professional water and wastewater services to 63 communities and more than 62,000 people in Saskatchewan.

As Minister Responsible for SaskWater, I was pleased to comment on the tabling of the 2012 Annual Report, “Throughout its 46 year history, the corporation has supported economic growth and the people of Saskatchewan. SaskWater’s commitment to providing safe and reliable water

services to residents, municipalities and industries has resulted in another successful year. I am very pleased to note, in a 2012 customer satisfaction survey that 92 per cent of its customers would recommend SaskWater.”

[SaskWater Tables 2012 Annual Report](#)

SASKJOBS.CA STRONG RESOURCE FOR BOTH JOB SEEKERS AND EMPLOYERS

Employment opportunities in Saskatchewan continue to be abundant as evident by the number of job seekers from Saskatchewan and around the world who continue to access saskjobs.ca for employment opportunities in the province. In March 2013, there were 1,113,954 visits to the website, up by 11.8 per cent from last March.

"Saskjobs.ca continues to be the job website Saskatchewan employers turn to when they need to fill much-needed positions," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "In March we saw postings from 353 communities across the province in virtually every employment category. For those looking for work, Saskatchewan continues to have abundant opportunities."

[Saskjobs.ca Strong Resource for Both Job Seekers and Employers](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

- The industries with the largest employment gains were health care and social assistance, professional, scientific and technical services and public administration.
- Public sector employment rose by 5,200, private sector employments rose 8,100, and those self-employed rose by 12,500.
- Aboriginal unemployment is down by 1,600 from one year ago, and aboriginal youth unemployment is down by 500 from one year ago.

JUST THE LINKS

- **April 8, 2013** - [Customer Growth, Industrial Demand and Increased System Integrity Spending Highlight SaskEnergy 2012](#)
- **April 9, 2013** - [Forum Focuses on Non-Profit Housing in Saskatchewan](#)

- **April 9, 2013** - [Saskatchewan Student Loan Forgiveness for Nurses and Nurse Practitioners Working in Rural Saskatchewan](#)
- **April 9, 2013** - [Saskatchewan Transportation Company Annual Report Released](#)
- **April 9, 2013** - [Briercrest College and Seminary Receives Degree Granting Authorization](#)
- **April 10, 2013** - [Record Number of Claims Staked Using New Online Registry](#)
- **April 10, 2013** - [2013 Provincial Flood Response Update, April 10](#)
- **April 10, 2013** - [Strong Financial Performance as SaskPower Continues to Invest in Electrical System](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jeans & Jewels Gala: in support of Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan

Date: April 20

When: 5:30 pm

Where: TCU Place

Saskatoon Prayer Breakfast

Date: April 20

When: 7:30 am

Where: Prairieland Park

Tickets: \$30

The Man Show

Date: April 26 to April 28

When: April 26: 400 pm - 10:00 pm; April 27: 12:00 pm - 9:00 pm; April 28: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Where: Prairieland Park

Saskatchewan Blue Cross MS Walk - Saskatoon

Date: April 28

When: Check in time 8:00 am, Start time 10:00 am

Where: Archibald Arena

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

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

"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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