

Check out what is happening in Saskatoon Silver Springs and throughout the province!"



Provincial Point of View

December 6, 2013

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.

~ Nelson Mandela (1918 - 2013)



REFLECTION - PROVINCIAL POINT OF VIEW - DECEMBER 14 , 2007 AND
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY

As we come to the end of the 2013 fall legislative session and look back to **Provincial Point of View - December 14, 2007**, I will reflect on some significant highlights and accomplishments as well as share with you a message from 7 years ago!

The following was in my e-newsletter sent December 14, 2007:

Growth and opportunity. Security and compassion. Keeping your word.

Those are the values of Saskatchewan people and those will be the values of the new Saskatchewan government, as outlined in this week's Speech from the Throne opening the first session of the Twenty Sixth Legislature.

Premier Brad Wall said the Saskatchewan government will be committed to a growth agenda, but that growth is not an end in itself.

"We need a growing population and a growing economy to secure the future," Wall said. "That means more opportunity for Saskatchewan people, but it also must mean a better, safer and more secure life for everyone in Saskatchewan."

What you just read was the vision of the Premier and our government in 2007 and I am proud to say we have worked with you, the people of Saskatchewan to ensure that vision has become reality.

- Our province continues to grow and meeting the challenges of this growth will continue to be a priority of our government. We will continue to invest in healthcare, infrastructure, education and housing to ensure you have the services you and your family need.

- We continue to have the lowest unemployment rate in the country showing our economy is diversified and strong. Manufacturing sales continue to increase and building permits are up 14% over last year.

- It was an incredible harvest with this year's bumper crop 48% higher than the 10 year average.

- Work continues on highways and infrastructure. Over \$576 million was budgeted for improving 464 kilometers of provincial highways this year. The twinning of the highway between Saskatoon and Prince Albert was completed this year.
- Skills Training saw 1,000 new training seats, including 300 new apprenticeship seats and 700 new Adult Basic Education seats.
- In education we see a new Students First approach in education that will include wide-ranging consultations with students, teachers, parents and administrators. There are new anti-bullying measures in place and improvements made to internet access and speed in all schools through SaskTel's CommunityNet program. Of special interest to constituents of Saskatoon Silver Springs was the announcement of nine new joint-use schools to be built using an innovative P3 Bundling approach; one of these schools will be right here in Evergreen.
- Our government is supporting SIAST as it evolves into a polytechnic institution. This transition combines the practical approach of a college education with the depth of study usually associated with a university program.

GOVERNMENT FOCUSED ON MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF GROWTH DURING FALL SESSION

December 5 marked the final day of the fall legislative session which focused on meeting the challenges of a growing province, according to Premier Brad Wall.

"Saskatchewan has grown by more than 100,000 people in just six years," Wall said. "That creates many new opportunities and it also creates many new challenges. Our government is working hard to meet the challenges of a growing province."

Wall said two of the biggest challenges are building infrastructure and addressing the labour shortage.

"Over the past six years, our government has more than doubled investment in infrastructure projects like hospitals, schools and highways," Wall said. "Still, there is more to be done and we have to look for ways to ensure taxpayers' dollars are going further by exploring new and innovative approaches to building these kinds of projects."

"That's why this fall, our government announced that nine new joint-use schools will be built using an innovative P3 bundling approach."

Wall said Saskatchewan's economy remains on track and is more diversified than ever.

[Government Focused On Meeting The Challenges Of Growth During The Fall Session](#)

HOLIDAY TRAIN VISITS SASKATOON



On Wednesday, December 4 many families enjoyed the opportunity to watch the 15th annual Canadian Pacific (CP) holiday train as it made its way through Saskatoon.

Each CP locomotive had 14 brightly decorated rail cars with thousands of holiday lights and a modified boxcar that had been retrofitted into a travelling stage. CP's holiday train program is travelling across North America raising money and awareness for hunger this holiday season.

Thanks to the many people who took non-perishable food items or donations to support the Saskatoon Food Bank.

SASKATCHEWAN ORDER OF MERIT - JOHN V. CROSS

John Cross celebrates Saskatchewan's potential and advances its innovation by bringing agriculture, business and bioprocessing research. He was the founding executive director in 1975 of POS Pilot Plant Corporation, which saw clientele expand from one country in its first year of operation to more than 40 countries today. He is truly a model Saskatchewan entrepreneur, by laying the foundations that led to the development of "World Firsts" of canola processing and deheated mustard.

He co-founded one of Saskatchewan's earliest biotechnology companies Philom Bios with two partners, and at the same time created inoculants, which allowed farmers to increase productivity without chemicals. Products such as *JumpStart* and *Tag Team* helped to increase farmers' income in Western Canada, and created hundreds of jobs, and millions in royalty payments for Canadian researchers.

Mr. Cross has served on the board of directors of various research-related organizations, including Saskatchewan Research Council, the National Research Council, Ag-West Bio and many more. He was also involved in Agri-Vision, which fostered innovation for the rural economy.

Mr. Cross is the recipient of the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 1995 and 2004, the Abex Award, New Saskatchewan Product of the Year Award, and many other amazing distinctions. Thank you John for all you have done for this province in agriculture, without your innovations we would not have had the bumper crops that we had this year and in the years past. You are an inspiration for new and upcoming researchers in the field of agriculture. Congratulations!

SASKATCHEWAN MARKS NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Saskatchewan residents are joining with all Canadians today to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Events are held across the country every December 6, to mark the anniversary of the 1989 murders of 14 female engineering students at Montreal's l'École Polytechnique.

"Violence against women and girls has no place in our society," Social Services Minister and Minister responsible for the Status of Women June Draude said. "We need to work with our community partners across the province to tackle this issue head-on. Saskatchewan women and girls deserve to live their lives without having to fear for their safety."

[Saskatchewan Marks National Day Of Remembrance And Action On Violence Against Women](#)

LONG-TERM CARE FUNDING TO IMPROVE SENIORS' CARE

Province Allocates Urgent Issues Action Fund

Residents of Saskatchewan's long-term care facilities will benefit from improved quality of care and quality of life.

Health Minister Dustin Duncan today announced the allocation of the Urgent Issues Action Fund to address priority issues identified by health regions stemming from CEO tours of long-term care facilities earlier this year.

"We are committed to making improvements that place the needs of our long-term care residents first," Duncan said. "Today we are providing funding to the health regions to address issues that improve quality of care for seniors. This is an important step in the transformation of our long-term care system."

[Long-Term Care Funding To Improve Seniors' Care](#)

DID YOU KNOW...

...The new Traffic Safety Amendments will strengthen the penalties for impaired driving.

...For the 3rd year in a row Canada ranked #1 in Movember fundraising around the world, with participants in Saskatchewan raising \$847,418!

...Saskatchewan's population is at an all-time high of 1.1 million.

...Saskatchewan's population has grown by more than 100,000 in just the last six years.

JUST THE LINKS

December 2, 2013 - [Government And RCMP Team Up To Reduce Time Spent On Traffic Tickets](#)
December 3, 2013 - [Rapid Response Teams Will Assist Workers Affected By Layoffs](#)
December 3, 2013 - [Government Of Saskatchewan Recognizes International Day Of Persons With Disabilities](#)
December 3, 2013 - [Saskatchewan Students Improve In Science, Reading And Math](#)
December 4, 2013 - [Saskatchewan's Record Crop Exceeds 2020 Growth Plan Target](#)
December 5, 2013 - [Nearly 14,000 Jobs Listed On SaskJobs.ca](#)
December 6, 2013 - [Equity Crowdfunding Available In Saskatchewan](#)
December 6, 2013 - [A Statement From The Premier Wall On The Passing Of Nelson Mandela](#)
December 6, 2013 - [New Job Numbers Show A Strong And Diversified Saskatchewan Economy](#)
December 6, 2013 - [Building Permits Set Record In October](#)

COMING EVENTS

Spirit of Christmas on Broadway 2013

Date: December 7

Where: Broadway Avenue

When: 12 pm - 4 pm

Enchanted Forest Light Tour

Date: November 23 - January 11

Where: Forestry Farm Park and Zoo

When: 5:30 pm - 11 pm

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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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