

Check out What's happening in Saskatoon Silver Springs and throughout the Province!



Provincial Point of View

November 26, 2015

Emotional farewell speeches from colleagues in the legislature today

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND DON MORGAN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RECEPTION FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST, PREMIER BRAD WALL



The Honourable Don Morgan, MLA, Saskatoon Southeast is hosting a Christmas Reception Tuesday, December 15 from 5 pm - 7 pm at Prairieland Park. Special guest this year is Premier Brad Wall. To reserve your tickets call 306.975.7145 or email r.neil.mackay@gmail.com.

HEARTFELT FAREWELL MESSAGES FROM COLLEAGUES AT THE LEGISLATURE TODAY



The final day of the fall legislative session today heard farewell words from members who will not be seeking election next spring. The farewell speeches were heartfelt and bittersweet. However, they all had one commonality ... everyone serving in this legislature was passionate about their service to the people of their constituencies and to the province of Saskatchewan. Premier Brad Wall expressed sincere gratitude to the members for their dedicated service to their communities and our province.

I sincerely thank Ken Krawetz, June Draude, Rob Norris, Doreen Eagles, Bob Bjornerud, Bill Hutchison, Wayne Elhard, Don Toth, Yogi Huyghebaert and John Nilson for their mentorship and for building a better province and a brighter future for everyone.

I feel fortunate and privileged to have had the opportunity to work with and learn from all of these incredible colleagues. I wish them health and happiness in their future endeavors. They leave a lasting legacy as great contributors to the success of this province.

It was a historic day today and it was wonderful to see the many guests including former colleague, Rod Gantefer, join us.

As Government House Leader I had the opportunity to provide closing remarks and thank all those involved in the legislative assembly as we end the last session prior to the next provincial election.

LAST SESSION BEFORE ELECTION FOCUSED ON KEEPING SASKATCHEWAN STRONG

Premier Brad Wall said the fall legislative session that wrapped up today focused on keeping Saskatchewan strong and moving forward.

“Even with the challenges facing our resource sector, Saskatchewan is still growing and creating jobs, thanks to our diversified economy,” Wall said. “That’s a far cry from a decade ago when any sort of an economic slowdown would drive people, jobs and investment out of Saskatchewan.”

During the session, the government passed a number of pieces of legislation, including:

- A new essential services law to protect Saskatchewan people in the event of a public sector strike;
- A new farmland ownership law to clearly define who can purchase farmland in Saskatchewan and prevent pension plans from buying farmland;
- A new conflict of interest law for municipalities;
- A new procurement law to ensure Saskatchewan taxpayers receive the best value for money when government contracts are awarded; and
- New legislation to give patients the option to pay for a private Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan in Saskatchewan

This was the last legislative sitting before the provincial election on April 4, 2016. To read the entire news release, click [here](#)

FESTIVAL OF TREES FATHER - DAUGHTER GALA



It is always a special evening to attend the Festival of Trees Father Daughter Gala with my daughter Paige. We have had the privilege of attending this memorable event for almost a decade and every year is as special as the last.

I joined colleague Paul Merriman and his beautiful daughter Courtney. Paul brought greetings on behalf of SaskTel and the Government of Saskatchewan.

It was a fantastic evening and it was great to see the many proud fathers and daughters enjoying themselves.

**FESTIVAL OF TREES ON DISPLAY THIS WEEK AT THE
WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM**



I encourage you to head out to the Western Development Museum and enjoy the spectacular displays at the Festival of Trees. Dozens of glittering Christmas trees and displays decorated by local designers are sure to get you in the holiday spirit. All items on display are for sale.

I had the opportunity to see the trees following the Father / Daughter banquet Tuesday. Paige and I look forward to this event every year. It is definitely a highlight of the Christmas season.

Click [here](#) for additional information.

THOUSANDS BENEFITTING FROM THE SASKATCHEWAN ADVANTAGE SCHOLARSHIP

More than 16,000 students have received the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship this year, totalling nearly \$8 million from the Government of Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship reduces tuition for students entering post-secondary programs in Saskatchewan. It provides all Grade 12 graduates \$500 per year to a lifetime maximum of \$2,000.

“We want to keep post-secondary education accessible and affordable for Saskatchewan students,” Advanced Education Minister Scott Moe said. “This scholarship is helping thousands of students pursue post-secondary education in our province.”

Click [here](#) to read more about eligibility

PROVINCE REMEMBERS HOLODOMOR



Saskatchewan-Ukraine Relations Legislative Secretary Ken Krawetz helped light a memorial candle at the Saskatchewan Legislative Building to remember the millions of victims of Holodomor, a man-made famine that devastated Ukraine in the 1930s.

“Holodomor is an important historic event that I hope all Saskatchewan residents take a moment to reflect upon,” Krawetz said. “I also encourage everyone to visit the Bitter Memories of

Childhood statue, which serves as a permanent reminder of this tragedy and can be seen on the grounds of Wascana Centre in our provincial capital. People needlessly suffered and perished in Ukraine during this terrible time in our world's history. Let us never forget this horrific event so that it may never be repeated.”

Read more about this special service [here](#)

GOVERNMENT REWARDING SAFE DRIVERS WITH GREATER DISCOUNTS ON AUTO INSURANCE

Government has approved a number of recommendations put forward by Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) for changes to its Safe Driver Recognition program.

The changes are in response to customer input and analysis undertaken by SGI over the past few years.

“Throughout the review of the Safe Driver Recognition program, there was a common theme we kept hearing – safe drivers deserve higher rewards and risky drivers deserve tougher penalties,” Minister responsible for SGI Don McMorris said. “Well, you asked and we listened. The changes increase vehicle insurance discounts for the safest drivers and toughen penalties for unsafe driving.”

Click [here](#) to read more about the changes!

SASKATOON MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY DECEMBER 6



The Saskatoon Menorah Lighting Ceremony will take place Sunday, December 6 at 5 pm at the former Mendel Art Gallery.

While Chanukah is a Jewish celebration, this event has gained tremendous popularity and support beyond the Jewish community due to its symbolizing the universal message of freedom ..freedom of expression and freedom of religion. It is truly a community celebration.

LIGHTHOUSE STABILIZATION AND WELLNESS CENTER **OFFICIALLY OPENS IN SASKATOON**

An innovative wellness center at The Lighthouse Supported Living (Lighthouse) officially opened November 20 in Saskatoon. The shelter will provide an alternative for manageably intoxicated individuals who are unable to access other shelter services.

Part of the funding is also being used to renovate 59 existing units in the Dubé Lighthouse that provides housing for close to 70 individuals. The Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. operates the Dubé Lighthouse facility.

“Our government is proud to work with Lighthouse to help vulnerable citizens in this community have improved access to a safe place to live with supports in place if required,” Social Services Minister and Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Donna Harpauer

said. "This aligns with a number of priorities outlined in our Provincial Housing Strategy, which includes supporting individuals and families in greatest housing need. These two initiatives are examples of that vision in action."

Read the entire news release [here](#)

PROVINCE ESTABLISHES REFUGEE SETTLEMENT CENTRE

Premier Brad Wall November 19 announced the Saskatchewan government will establish a Refugee Settlement Centre to co-ordinate the arrival of Syrian refugees into the province.

Wall said while the province continues to have serious concerns about the December 31 deadline for the arrival of 25,000 Syrian refugees into Canada, it's important to ensure that refugees who come to Saskatchewan make a successful transition to life in Canada.

"No one should doubt our desire to help refugees," Wall said. "We need to ensure their settlement in our province is successful. I remain concerned that a rushed political deadline could compromise the success of the refugee resettlement effort."

"That said, we need to be ready to welcome the refugees whenever they start to arrive. The Refugee Settlement Centre will bring together the appropriate government ministries to work with municipalities, settlement groups and other community-based organizations to ensure the best possible outcomes for these new Saskatchewan residents."

Read the entire news release [here](#)

MORE UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN MEDICAL GRADUATES CALLING SASKATCHEWAN HOME

Thirty new University of Saskatchewan (U of S) family medicine graduates are practising in Saskatchewan, adding to a growing physician workforce, delivering health care services to residents of the province.

Overall, the retention rate of family medicine graduates trained at the University of Saskatchewan

has jumped by 17 per cent over the past two years – from 58 per cent to 75 per cent.

“I’m delighted these medical graduates are choosing to stay and practise in Saskatchewan,” Rural and Remote Health Minister Greg Ottenbreit said. “We value our locally-trained physicians, and we want patients right here in Saskatchewan to benefit from their training and expertise.”

Read the entire news release [here](#)

COMING EVENTS

Festival of Trees

When: November 22 - 28

Where: Western Development Museum

Click [here](#) for information and attractions

SUNDOG Arts and Entertainment Faire

When: December 4 - December 6

Where: SaskTel Centre

Click [here](#) to additional details, times and admission costs

BHP Enchanted Forest Light Show

When: November 21, 2015 - January 09, 2016, 5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. nightly

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo, 1903 Forest Drive

Click [here](#) for additional information

Ecole Forest Grove School Annual Christmas Shopping Event

When: November 28, 10 am - 4 pm

Where: Ecole Forest Grove School, 501-115th Street

Over 30 vendors with cash and carry items along with a bake sale and concession

Saskatoon Menorah Lighting Ceremony

When: December 6, 5 pm

Where: Former Mendel Art Gallery

For additional information email info@JewishSask.com

Jingle Bell Lunch Supporting Junior Achievement of Saskatchewan

When: December 9, 11:45 am

Where: Saskatoon Travelodge Hotel

Tickets: www.picatic.com/JBLSaskatoon

Children's Wish Luncheon featuring Lisa Dutton and Kevin Stanfield as MC's

When: December 17, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Where: Travelodge Hotel, Galaxy A

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Fundraiser Benefit for Kayden Kot

When: January 23, 5 pm - 10 pm

Where: Cathedral of the holy Family Hall, 123 Nelson Road

For tickets or information contact: smfortier@hotmail.com or ps.kot@sasktel.net or call/text 306-381-8873

Watch for further details in this e-newsletter

[Click here to read additional government news releases](#)

remove all text to make image "gallery" sections, or do the opposite and remove images for text-only blocks!

THOUGHT OF THE DAY



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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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