



From a Provincial Point of View

July 13, 2012

Ken Cheveldayoff

HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO MY COLLEAGUE DAN D'AUTREMONT AND FAMILY

It is with great sadness that I pass along the news of the passing of Heather D'Autremont, wife of Dan D'Autremont. My deepest sympathy to Dan and his family during this difficult time.

THE GOVERNMENT APPROVES THE EARLY DESIGN OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF SASKATCHEWAN

I had the privilege of joining my colleagues, Hon. Dustin Duncan, Hon. Randy Weekes, and Hon. Don McMorris at the announcement of the early design of the Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan on July 12. Along with the approval, **the government has also boosted its investment by \$15.5 million to \$215.5 million.**



"The project team did a phenomenal job of helping patients, families, staff, and health professionals rethink how best to meet the health needs of our province's children and expecting mothers," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said at the unveiling of the facility's schematic design. "What we see today is a better, smarter, Lean design for an innovative hospital that puts patients first while enabling collaborative care in a teaching environment."

The Lean process helped teams find more efficient ways of providing services, while also improving the design and the hospital experience for patients and their families.



The result was savings of \$30 million from August 2011 estimates, with the new cost estimate now at \$222.9 million. In 2009, the provincial government provided \$200 million to the Saskatoon Health Region to plan and build the facility. The Health Region expects to earn \$13 million in interest through its investment of those funds. As well, \$1.4 million will be funded within the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan's capital campaign. The announcement of the government's additional commitment of \$15.5 million ensures the new maternal and children's hospital will become a reality.

In the fall, the Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan project team will take all the information it had gathered over late spring and summer and create the next design report, including an updated list of equipment and furnishings. This, along with the review and approval process, is expected to take until the end of 2012. Construction is scheduled to start in early 2014 and be completed in late 2016.

[Government Approves Early Design of Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan](#)

TOP TOURIST ATTRACTION IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

As we make plans for our summer vacations, we often forget the special spots in our own back yard. I had an opportunity to attend a meeting at the Forestry Farm and was reminded of the special place it is. There are always numerous summer camps and activities at the Forestry Farm and I encourage you to participate. July 22 is the Cameco Family Day at the Zoo. The event starts at 10:00am and the first 450 children through the gates will receive a plush bear. For more information go to

<http://www.saskatoonzoosociety.ca/news-events/events/cameco-family-day-at-the-zoo.html>

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

I had the pleasure of attending the Opening Ceremonies of this year's Optimist Canada Day in the Park. The organizers estimated approximately 40,000 people came to celebrate our great nation's birthday.

Saskatoon Silver Springs constituent and Canada Day Chair, Brad Sylvester, led the opening ceremonies which celebrated our unique privileges of being Canadian. We reaffirmed our Canadian citizenship, sang the anthem, and then were treated to the annual Canada Day Cake supplied by Canada's Safeway. As in past years, I was given the opportunity, along with other dignitaries, to help serve the cake to those in attendance.



Saskatoon Humbolt MP, Brad Trost, Minister Ken Cheveldayoff, and Minister Don Morgan

Congratulations to the organizers and volunteers of this fantastic annual event.

TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST WEST NILE VIRUS

Summer is here, and so are the culex tarsalis mosquitoes that carry West Nile Virus.

Health officials are issuing their annual reminder for Saskatchewan residents to take precautions to reduce their exposure to the insects.

[Take Precautions Against West Nile Virus](#)

NEW WEST PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES 2ND ANNIVERSARY



The governments of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia are celebrating the two-year anniversary and implementation date of the New West Partnership.

"Signing the New West Partnership cemented the strong relationship between our three provinces and highlighted our region's growth-friendly policies," said Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall. "I'm proud of our accomplishments and excited about the potential we're unlocking in the New West. This partnership supports the Saskatchewan Advantage."

[New West Partnership Celebrates 2nd Anniversary](#)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN SASKATCHEWAN CONTINUE TO GROW

Saskatchewan employers continue to seek new workers, with Saskjobs.ca posting 15,205 jobs in June, a 16.6 per cent jump compared to June 2011.

"These new numbers show job seekers have an abundance of choices when it comes to finding new employment opportunities," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "More individuals working will have a positive impact on the economy, as people will have the ability to spend their income on goods and services to continue our upward growth."

[Employment Opportunities in Saskatchewan Continue to Grow](#)

SASKATCHEWAN'S AVERAGE WAGE THIRD HIGHEST AMONG PROVINCES

Saskatchewan had the third highest average weekly earnings in the nation in April, according to Statistics Canada. Saskatchewan's average weekly wage for April was \$912.78, a 4.0 per cent increase over last year and the second highest percentage increase among the provinces."

This is all about Saskatchewan people having more take home pay every week, which means money that improves quality of life," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "The improvement in average weekly earnings is simply good news all around."

[Saskatchewan's Average Wage Third Highest Among Provinces](#)

THE TOURISM SASKATCHEWAN ACT PROCLAIMED

The Government of Saskatchewan proclaimed *The Tourism Saskatchewan Act* on July 1 and announced the new board of directors.

This follows the recommendations of the Tourism System Review made public in March 2012. The resulting changes will adjust and realign governance and operating priorities to better serve both the provincial industry and the people and businesses it supports.

The new direction for tourism in Saskatchewan brings with it a new board of directors.

"These changes help to move the industry forward," incoming Board Chair Jack Brodsky said. "The previous board and staff have our sincere gratitude for the excellent work and representation they have provided. Our new board members are dedicated to carrying on this work and to implementing our vision for this vibrant Saskatchewan industry."

The newly appointed board members include:

Jack Brodsky, Board Chair - Saskatoon;
Brian Simpson, Deputy Chair - Waskesiu;
Irene Seiferling - Saskatoon;
Dana Soonias - Saskatoon;
Sandra LeBarre - Naicam;
Lionel Tootoosis - Swift Current; and
Norm Beug - Regina.

The move of Tourism under the Ministry of the Economy is in recognition of the importance of the sector to the economy.

"Tourism is a growing \$1.7 billion industry in Saskatchewan, and we want that growth to continue," Minister Responsible for Tourism Tim McMillan said. "I am confident the collective expertise of this board will build on everything Saskatchewan has to offer."

SENIORS INCOME PLAN CAME INTO EFFECT JULY 1ST

In addition to being Canada's 145th birthday, July 1st was also the day some important changes came into effect that will assist seniors with lower incomes. Under the new Personal Care Home Benefit (PCHB), eligible seniors will receive monthly financial assistance to help cover the cost of living in a licensed personal care home, accounting to the difference between their monthly income and a threshold of \$1,800. Also on July 1st, seniors receiving benefits under the Seniors Income Plan (SIP) started receiving up to \$50 more each month. These two new programs are yet another way that the Government of Saskatchewan is committed to improving the quality of life for seniors, keeping the Saskatchewan Advantage strong.

LOCAL LACROSSE TEAM HEADING TO NATIONALS

Congratulations to the Saskatchewan Peewee Lacrosse Team for successfully qualifying for the 2012 Nationals! This year's national championships are taking place August 4th in Whitby, ON. Noah Gould and Jordan Boyenko, who live in the constituency, are two of the team members participating in the event.



If you or your business is interested in sponsoring this team in their pursuit of the National Title, please contact our office and we will pass on your information to the team Manager.

NOTICE OF PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

The Federal Government is working hard to implement Economic Action Plan 2012 – a prudent, long-term plan to grow Canada's economy, create jobs, and get back to balanced budgets.

As the Federal Government moves forward with the implementation of the Economic Action Plan 2012, they are also beginning preparations for the 2013 federal budget. As part of their pre-budget consultations, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance is asking Canadians for their input.

Small businesses, non-profit groups, industry organizations, and individuals are all invited to participate in this important process by making an online submission. I encourage everyone to make an online submission to have your voice reflected in the upcoming budget.

August 3rd is the deadline for submissions. Please visit <http://bit.ly/LyJ1fM> to submit your opinions on budget priorities.

SASKATCHEWAN LEGISLATURE LOOKING FOR TIME CAPSULE SUGGESTIONS

As part of the 100th anniversary of the Saskatchewan Legislative Building, a new time capsule is being produced. A committee is accepting suggestions from Saskatchewan citizens as to what should be

included in the time capsule before it is placed in the cornerstone on October 11, 2012. The deadline for suggestions is September 15, 2012.

For more information call (306) 777-9261 or visit www.opcc.gov.sk.ca/leg100

SASKATCHEWAN ORDER OF MERIT – HONOURING CITIZENS

Do you know someone who has enriched the lives of others and helped build a better society? These individuals deserve to be recognized for their achievements and contributions to the social, cultural, and economic well-being of the province and its residence.

For further information on the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, please visit the website at www.ops.gov.sk.ca/Protocol.

DID YOU KNOW?

- That Saskatchewan has more freshwater, by area, than Alberta and British Columbia combined
- That Wollaston Lake, in the province's northeast, is the largest lake in the world to drain naturally in two directions? The lake drains north to the Mackenzie River basin and east to Hudson Bay
- About 12% of Saskatchewan is covered by water; in all, the province has 328,345 lakes larger than one hectare
- The highest temperature ever recorded in Saskatchewan was 45°C at Yellow Grass and Midale on July 5, 1937 – this is also the hottest day ever recorded in Canada
- On average Saskatchewan gets an average of 2,206 hours of sunshine per year, more than any other province

JUST THE HEADLINES

- June 28, 2012 - [Province Helps Habitat for Humanity Build a Home for Three Partner Families in Saskatoon](#)
- July 3, 2012 – [Saskatchewan Communities Receive \\$1.7 Million in Gaming Grants](#)
- July 4, 2012 – [Government Supports FASD Awareness and Prevention](#)
- July 4, 2012 – [Regional Parks Receive More Than \\$1 Million in Funding From the Government of Saskatchewan](#)
- July 4, 2012 – [Sea of Green Watch for the Sea of Orange](#)
- July 5, 2012 – [Labour Legislation Submission Deadline Approaches](#)
- July 10, 2012 – [Government of Saskatchewan Funds Electrical Upgrades in Three Provincial Parks](#)
- July 10, 2012 – [Pilot Project Supports Mothers Against Drinking and Driving](#)
- July 13, 2012 – [Health Advisory on Air Quality](#)

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS IN SASKATOON

Taste of Saskatchewan

Date: July 10 – 15, 2012

Where: Kiwanis Park, South Saskatchewan River Bank

When: 11:00am to various closing times

RiverLights Festival

Date: July 13 – 15, 2012

Where: River Landing

When: Various times

For more information and schedules visit www.riverlightsfestival.ca

Saskatoon Futures Tennis Tournament

Date: Doubles Final – Friday July 13 Singles Final – Sunday July 15

Where: Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club

When: TBA

For more information call Michelle at 292-7912

Pion-Era

Date: July 14 -15, 2012

Where: WDM Saskatoon

When: all-day

2012 Junior National Diving Championship

Date: July 18 – 22

Where: Saskatoon

When: all day event

For schedule information please visit: www.saskatoondivingclub.ca

Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan

Date: July 4 to August 19, 2012

Where: Shakespeare Tent on the Saskatchewan

When: Various times

Saskatchewan Open – Dakota Dunes Canadian Open

Date: July 5 to July 8, 2012

Where: Dakota Dunes Golf Links

When: all-day

If you would like your event listed in Provincial Point of View, please contact me at ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Always think of what you have to do as easy and it will become so.

—Emile Corie

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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