



Provincial Point of View January 18, 2013

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF SASKATCHEWAN DESIGN UPDATE



The Saskatoon Health Region has now completed the design development for the new Children's Hospital of Saskatchewan and is moving through the review process with the Ministry of Health.

This phase of the design process took four week-long sessions with their design teams and equipment planners. The Saskatoon Health Region consulted with groups of staff, physicians, and patients and families to gain ideas of how each room should be set up, including family rooms. The groups also developed a list of equipment and furniture needs. A detailed design of this plan is expected to be unveiled early this year.

To ensure that the hospital is going to be a true reflection of Saskatchewan as a whole, the project team also reached out provincially this past spring and summer. The team visited classrooms in Stony Rapids, La Ronge, Ile a la Crosse, Meadow Lake, and Kerrobert. They worked with more than 250 students to capture some of their ideas of what the rooms should look like as well. The team was also able to get ideas from children and teenagers throughout the

province by mail-in response.

As the team continues to move through the normal review process of a government funded capital project, they are preparing to work with architects and design teams on the hospital's construction document. This work is expected to take most of 2013.

The construction of the new hospital is scheduled to begin in early 2014 with construction completion in late 2016.

SURGERY WAIT TIMES STATS SHOW GRADUAL GAINS

After an earlier stall in progress, November showed the second consecutive month of modest gains toward the goal of providing all surgeries within six months by April 2013. Statistics for November 30, 2012 show that there were 299 fewer people waiting more than six months for surgery than the month before.

In November 2007, there were 10,635 people waiting more than six months for surgery. Efforts across the province have reduced that number by 60 per cent to 4,271 people.

"Surgical teams in Saskatchewan are working together to achieve more timely surgeries for patients while improving safety," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said.

[Surgery Wait Times Stats Show Gradual Gains](#)

LOWER GENERIC DRUG PRICES COMING IN APRIL

The recent announcement that Canadian provinces and territories are moving forward on price setting for six generic drugs will realize an estimated annual savings of close to \$10 million for Saskatchewan residents, private insurers and the provincial government.

The price setting announcement was made today by Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall and Prince Edward Island Premier Robert Ghiz through the Council of Federation. The two premiers led the Health Care Innovation Working Group, which recommended action on generic drug prices last summer.

"Saskatchewan is pleased to collaborate with other provinces and territories to realize significant cost savings on important drugs that patients rely on," Health Minister Dustin Duncan said. "By working together, we can do more to bend the cost curve."

[Lower Generic Drug Prices Coming in April](#)

NON-RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY INCREASES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2012

Non-residential construction in Saskatchewan rose 17.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2012, the highest year-to-year increase among the provinces, according to Statistics Canada. Construction totalled \$462.4 million in the province during the fourth quarter. On a national basis, building permits were up only 2.1 per cent over the same period.

"Saskatchewan's economy is undergoing a period of prosperity which has triggered more construction across the province," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "Non-residential construction has been experiencing a spike in activity as commercial projects and potash mine expansions come on stream which is good in terms of job creation and other spin-off benefits."

[Non-Residential Construction Activity Increases in the Fourth Quarter of 2012](#)

SASKATCHEWAN MANUFACTURING SHIPMENTS SECOND HIGHEST IN CANADA

The province's manufacturing shipments are maintaining a leading position in Canada for 2012 and continuing to set monthly records.

Manufacturing shipments were up 4.7 per cent in November 2012 over November 2011, according to Statistics Canada. Nationally, Saskatchewan had the second highest increase among provinces in terms of percentage change, and set a record once again for the month of November.

"Saskatchewan's manufacturing sector continues to have a solid performance for 2012," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "Not only are we second among all provinces, but results for November are more than nine times the national average of 0.5 per cent."

[Saskatchewan Manufacturing Shipments Second Highest in Canada](#)

SWINGING WITH THE STARS GALA



Saskatoon's very first Swinging With the Stars Gala is going to be held on January 26 at TCU Place. Navacare is partnering with GMG Jewelers to present this event that will be sure to be a great night. Modeled after TV's Dancing With the Stars, the event features eight local celebrities facing off in a dance competition raising money for the Prairie Hospice Organization.

The brave dancers include: Lisa Dutton (Global TV Morning News Anchor), Heather Morrison (Magic 98.3 Radio Host), Kaylyn Kyle (2012 Summer Olympic Medalist), Christian Braid (President of the Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce), Maura Davies (CEO of the Saskatoon Health Region), Clarke Wilm (NHL Player - Calgary, Toronto, Nashville), Tom Sargent (Saskatoon Hilltops Head Coach), and Glen Wig (Chair of the Saskatoon Hospital Foundation).

The event will include dinner, performances by Saskatoon Salsa and Alpha Kidz, and of course the competition.

I encourage you to purchase a ticket for this event, which not only will be a great time, but will also provide funding for the growth of the Prairie Hospice Organization.

BRADY SCHARBACK RINK SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS THEIR PROVINCIAL JUNIOR MENS TITLE



Congratulations to Brady Scharback and his rink who successfully defended their Provincial Juniors title! The Sharback rink defeated Cole Tenetuik 9-2 in the final on Monday morning to go undefeated in the tournament winning seven straight games.

SASKATOON ZONE 1 HUSTLER FASTBALL

Hustlers Fastball registration takes place February 12 at Roland Michener School from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and February 13 at Silverspring School from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

For those who may be a bit rusty, Skills Clinics are available for \$20, February 9 at Evan Hardy High School and February 10 at Tommy Douglas High School. Squirts from 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Pee Wee from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, and Bantam and 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. Instruction will be provided by the Outlaws Women's team.

Tryouts will take place from February 24 to March 3.

The Hustlers are also looking for people to fill some executive positions, they are looking for a Tournament Co-Ordinator and a Member-at-Large. If you are interested in participating with the Hustlers Executive Board, please contact any one on the Board.

For all of the contact information, to register for the Skills Clinics, and for a full schedule for the tryouts please visit www.saskatoonzone1hustlers.ca

MINI PACKS FOR THE MASTERCARD MEMORIAL CUP 2013



Although May is still a little over 4 months away, it will sneak up on us fast. The MasterCard Memorial Cup is taking place from May 16 to 26 and will feature the best of the best in junior hockey in Canada.

Two-game mini-packs go on sale today, January 18, for those of you who can't make it to every game. The preliminary round mini-packs start at \$59 and the playoff round mini-packs start at \$89.

For a full list of mini-packs available or to purchase tickets visit www.mastercardmemorialcup.ca.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Saskatchewan job numbers closed out 2012 with a monthly record high marking the 13th consecutive month where records have been set
- Saskatchewan's year over year employment growth rate of 3.1% was the third highest among the provinces and well ahead of the 1.8% posted nationally.

- Private and public investment intentions in 2013 are expected to top \$20 Billion for the first time.
- For 2013, the average forecast for Saskatchewan's growth is 2.9%, second among the provinces and above the 2.0% national rate.

JUST THE LINKS

- January 17, 2013 - [Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan Support Aboriginal Skills Development](#)
- January 17, 2013 - [Premier and U.S Governors Urge President Obama to Approve Keystone XL Pipeline](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Xtratime Sports Soccer Locker Grand Re-Opening with Christine Sinclair and Kaylyn Kyle

Date: January 20

When: 2:00 pm autograph session

Where: 477 2nd Ave. North

Hope for Malawi: Bringing Hope to Life Book Launch

Date: January 23

When: 7:00 pm

Where: McNally Robinson, Travel Alcove

PotashCorp WinterShines

Date: January 26 to February 10

When: 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm weekdays, 10:00 am to 8:00 pm Saturdays, and 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm Sundays

Where: Various Saskatoon Locations

<http://potashcorpwintershines.ca/>

Wounded Warriors Presents "The Heart of Country" Fundraiser Concert

Date: February 15

When: 8:00 pm

Where: Broadway Theater

<http://www.picatic.com/theheartofcountry>

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"Some men have thousands of reasons why they cannot do what they want to, when all they need is one reason why they can."

Mary Frances Berry

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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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