

# FALL LEGISLATIVE SESSION DELIVERS ON COMMITMENTS TO STAND UP FOR SASKATCHEWAN



Premier Scott Moe said the government ended the fall sitting of the legislative session by delivering on priorities for the economy and people of Saskatchewan.

"During this fall session, we outlined our commitment to balance the budget in the spring, continued the fight against the federal carbon tax and invested in the services and infrastructure necessary for the people of this province," Moe said. "Over the past seven weeks, our government became a leader in the country through legislation to expand Workers'

Compensation coverage for firefighters, create the longest maternity leave in the nation and become the first province in Canada to introduce Clare's Law to help those at risk of intimate

partner violence."

As the threat of a federal carbon tax continues to face Saskatchewan, the Government of Saskatchewan is implementing Prairie Resilience, the made-in-Saskatchewan climate change plan supported by industry. This includes legislation introduced this fall to establish intensity-based performance standards for large emitters as well as the new Climate Resilience Measurement Framework, the first of its kind in Canada, with 25 different measures to monitor and enhance Saskatchewan's resilience to climate change.

"Even as our province continues to face trade, transportation and economic challenges, this session we saw a year-over-year employment increase of 9,400 jobs – the largest job gains since 2014," Moe said. "We will continue to stand up for our province locally, national and internationally to continue this job growth and fight the Trudeau carbon tax, which will kill jobs and make our industries less competitive."

Safety was also a focus of the fall session with the introduction of mandatory minimum training requirements of 121.5 hours for commercial semi drivers, a proposed enhancement to rural policing to allow municipalities with populations under 500 to join regional police services and amendments to trespassing legislation which will afford rural land owners the same requirements for land access as urban land owners.

To help Saskatchewan people who may need time off from work to care for family members, changes to The Saskatchewan Employment Act will create a new critically ill adult leave, expand parental leave and add an additional week of maternity leave. More people who face health challenges because of their jobs will be covered through changes to The Workers' Compensation Act, making Saskatchewan a leader in the country for the number of occupational diseases firefighters will have presumptive coverage for.

Saskatchewan announced plans to be the first province in Canada with Clare's Law, legislation to provide police services with a framework to disclose information about someone's violent past to intimate partners who may be at risk. Interpersonal violence leave will also be expanded to include sexual violence of any kind, allowing Saskatchewan residents to take time off to seek medical attention or access supports.

This session, the government announced a commitment to apologize to those in our province affected by the Sixties Scoop. Sharing Circles, led by the Sixties Scoop Indigenous Society of Saskatchewan, took place across the province to help inform the apology.

Infrastructure investments continued with Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford nearing

completion, the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital reaching 92 per cent completion, working on rural cellular service with another 50 communities to see better coverage by the spring and the opening of new bridges, passing lanes and intersection improvements across the province.

Bilateral agreements were signed with the federal government this fall to provide nearly \$900 million for infrastructure projects over the next decade and more than \$5 million to improve access to treatment for people with opioid or crystal meth dependencies.

The next sitting of the Legislative Assembly is scheduled to begin March 4, 2019.

## PROVINCE AND NUTRIEN RENEW COMMITMENT TO STARS AND NEW HELICOPTER FLEET



The Government of Saskatchewan is committing to renew its 10-year agreement with Shock Trauma Air Rescue Service (STARS) beyond 2020 to provide helicopter air medical service in Saskatchewan. The province will also fund one of the three new helicopters needed in Saskatchewan as part of the organization's plan for fleet renewal.

"We are pleased to announce our government's renewed agreement with STARS," Rural and Remote Health Minister Greg Ottenbreit said. "This agreement demonstrates our commitment to timely access to emergency medical services for the residents of Saskatchewan, particularly those in rural and remote areas. Thank you to STARS for their continued service to the people of Saskatchewan, and to Nutrien for their ongoing support."

Nutrien announced its renewed support for STARS in Saskatchewan, committing funding toward the purchase of a new H145 helicopter. The first H145 will arrive in Saskatchewan in 2019, with the others being phased in under STARS' renewal plan by 2023.

The financial support from Nutrien has been instrumental in ensuring the success of the STARS air medical service in the province. In addition to providing a helicopter, Nutrien also provides the hangar used as STARS' Saskatoon base.

"Nutrien is proud to renew its long-term support of STARS and ensure this vital service can be enhanced for the people of Saskatchewan," Nutrien Vice-President of Sustainability and Stakeholder Relations Candace Laing said. "We have operations that span the province and we know the importance of having access to emergency care for our communities."

To read the entire news release, click here.

SASKATCHEWAN HAS SHORTEST WAIT TIMES, SAYS SURVEY



Saskatchewan patients have the shortest total wait times in the country to see a specialist, according to the Fraser Institute's annual survey of Canadian specialists.

The median wait time for Saskatchewan patients receiving specialist services was estimated at 15.4 weeks. The longest median waits were in New Brunswick estimated at 45.1 weeks. Saskatchewan was one of only two provinces that did not show an increase in the number of procedures that patients are waiting for.

"Since 2007, our government has recruited 487 new specialists an increase of 62 per cent," Health Minister Jim Reiter said. "We are pleased that the survey indicates patients are getting to see specialists sooner, but we recognize there is still more work to do."

Read the entire news release here.

**DID YOU KNOW?** 



Premier Scott Moe, "Saskatchewan job creators continue to outperform, in spite of economic headwinds facing our province. Congratulations to our workers and businesses on creating over 16,000 jobs over the last year, the best rate of job growth in western Canada."

- Vehicles sold from vehicle dealers are not allowed to be "as is", and successful bidders
  who purchase vehicles "as is" may pursue claims for breaches of the warranty
  provisions of The Consumer Protection and Business Practices Act.
- In 2017, Saskatchewan remained the world's largest potash producer and second-largest uranium producer, with total mineral sales of \$6.7 billion.
- Saskatchewan's oil and gas industry support approximately 35,000 direct and indirect jobs.

MORE OPTIONS FOR A SAFE RIDE HOME: RIDESHARING REGULATIONS APPROVED



Government has approved regulations that will open the door for rideshare companies to begin operating in the province, as long as they follow requirements set out by the municipality in which they operate. Regulations will take effect on December 14, 2018.

"After extensive consultation with numerous stakeholders – including rideshare and taxi companies, municipalities and law enforcement – SGI has developed a provincial framework that strikes a good balance between public demand and safety," Minister Responsible for SGI Joe Hargrave said. "Ridesharing will provide Saskatchewan residents more ways to get around in the province, and another option for planning a safe ride home."

"Saskatchewan has some of the strongest impaired driving legislation in the country, but in addition to having effective legislation and strong penalties, it is crucial to ensure the availability of safe, convenient and reliable transportation options," MADD Canada Regional Manager Michelle Okere said. "By establishing provincial rules to enable ridesharing, the Government of Saskatchewan is providing a framework for an industry that will provide more safe rides and be an effective partner in the effort to end impaired driving."

Read the entire news release here.

## SASKATCHEWAN ANNOUNCES WATERFLOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

The Government of Saskatchewan announced a program today designed to improve the petroleum industry's long-term operating environment, sustain jobs, and increase investment activity in our province.

The Waterflood Development Program will incentivize the conversion of producing wells into waterflood injection wells or the drilling of new dedicated waterflood injection wells. At maximum uptake, the program will support \$375 million in new investment over the next five years and 500 new permanent jobs. Over 10 years, the program will lead to an estimated \$245 million in new provincial royalties. The program will also enhance the competitiveness of Saskatchewan's energy industry by facilitating an economically sustainable increase of production capacity by an estimated 72 million barrels over the course of the next 35 years.

"Waterflooding is a proven enhanced oil recovery strategy that is good for sustainability and good for the environment," Energy and Resources Minister Bronwyn Eyre said. "In the face of a rapidly changing global market, Saskatchewan is addressing competitiveness by supporting our province's largest economic sector with a cost-effective policy that encourages long-term capital investment."

Read the entire news release here.

## WCB COVERAGE EXPANDED FOR SASKATCHEWAN FIREFIGHTERS



Photo credit Saskatoon Firefighters Facebook page

Saskatchewan firefighters were in the legislature today when an amendment to include six new cancers for presumptive coverage under *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2013* was announced.

Fire fighters will be able to file a Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) claim for prostate, skin, breast, cervical and ovarian cancer, as well as multiple myeloma under the occupational disease presumption. This addition makes Saskatchewan a leader in Canada for the number of occupational diseases firefighters have presumptive coverage for.

"Firefighters are running toward danger as others run away, and face great risks when performing

their duties in often challenging situations," Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Minister Don Morgan said. "They also face the potential of dealing with occupational diseases related to their chosen profession."

Read the entire news release here.

# THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU EMBARK ON YOUR NEXT VACATION



If you are planning a trip and thinking about purchasing travel insurance, the Financial and Consumer Affairs authority (FCAA) wants to make sure you understand coverage options as well as the exclusions and pre-existing condition clauses.

"Travel insurance can protect you in case of unexpected medical emergencies and other related expenses that you may incur while you are travelling," FCAA's Insurance and Real Estate Division Director Jan Seibel said. "If you choose to purchase travel insurance, it's important to understand the coverage you may already have and the coverage you may want to add before you leave."

To see some tips to consider if purchasing travel insurance, click here.

## NEW MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PHYSICIANS LAUNCHED IN SASKATOON

A new training program that will better equip physicians to assess and treat mental health conditions in children and youth is launched last week in Saskatoon.

The REACH Institute's Patient-Centered Mental Health in Pediatric Primary Care program is being presented by the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Division at the University of Saskatchewan, with \$400,000 of funding from the Government of Saskatchewan.

"Mental health is a priority for our government," Health Minister Jim Reiter said. "This training program will better equip doctors to meet the mental health care needs of children and youth."

During the three-day training session, 25 physicians from across Saskatchewan will participate in 16 hours of interactive course work to build their skills in diagnosing and treating mental health conditions in children and youth. Following this, participants will take part in a six-month case-based distance learning program to continue to advance their knowledge and skills in this area.

Read more here.





Saskatoon Transit is encouraging shoppers to take the Jingle Bell Express during the holiday shopping season. The Jingle Bell Express, which began as a pilot last year, provides customers with easy access to Saskatoon malls without having to worry about holiday traffic or full parking lots.

"The Jingle Bell Express removes the hassle of driving and parking, but also provides users with access to malls they may not otherwise have the opportunity to visit," says Jim MacDonald, Director of Saskatoon Transit.

Learn more about the Jingle Bell Express and their special routes <u>here.</u>

# DECEMBER 2018

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
GIVE SOMEONE A HUG OR COMPLIMENT	LET SOMEONE IN FRONT OF YOU IN LINE	BUY A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE COFFEE	HOLD THE DOOR OPEN FOR SOMEONE	GIVE A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE YOUR FULL ATTENTION
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
DONATEA CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO A CHARITY	TELL A JOKE TO MAKE SOMEONE SMILE	DO SOMETHING KIND FOR YOURSELF	HIDE A HAPPY NOTE FOR SOMEONE TO FIND	DONATE UNWANTED BOOKS TO CHARITY
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
TAPE SOME MONEY ON A VENDING MACHINE	SMILE AT A STRANGER OR 2, OR 15	GET IN TOUCH WITH AN OLD FRIEND OR RELATIVE	LET A CAR IN FRONT OF YOU IN TRAFFIC	WRITE OR SEND A THANK YOU NOTE TO SOMEONE
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
SMILE AND THANK SOMEONE WHO SERVES YOU	TELL SOMEONE YOU LOVE THEM	PAYFOR A STRANGER'S COFFEE	OFFER TO HELP SOMEONE	FEED ANIMALS (BIRDS, DEER, ETC.)
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.
DONATE UNWANTED CLOTHES TO CHARITY	DO SOMETHING UNEXPECTED FOR SOMEONE	GIVE A TREAT TO YOUR POSTAL CARRIER	DO SOMETHING KIND FOR YOURSELF	REFLECT AND RECORD HOW MUCH JOY THIS SEASON BROUGHT YOU

## **ADVENT OF KINDNESS**



Last week I featured an advent calendar for the food bank ... today I'm happy to share the Advent of Kindness! Please participate!

# HAVE YOUR SAY ON SASKATCHEWAN'S OUTFITTING REGULATIONS



Have your say on Saskatchewan's outfitting regulations.

Share your feedback and experiences with the province's outfitting and guiding regulations and policies to help reduce red tape, eliminate barriers, and enhance the outfitting experience in the province.

Visit <a href="http://www.saskatchewan.ca/.../outfitter-and-guide-regulations">http://www.saskatchewan.ca/.../outfitter-and-guide-regulations</a>.

HIGHEST RATE OF JOB GROWTH IN WESTERN CANADA



Saskatchewan's year-over-year employment increased by 16,300 jobs in November according, to Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey released today. This is the largest job increase since 2013 and marks the fourth consecutive month of strong job gains for the province.

Saskatchewan had the highest rate of year-over-year job growth in Western Canada at 2.9 per cent, ranking second nationally, behind Prince Edward Island.

Full-time employment increased by 10,200 jobs and part-time increased by 6,100 jobs since this time last year. On a monthly basis, seasonally adjusted employment increased by 5,500 jobs from October 2018.

"The fourth consecutive month of year-over-year job increases shows a positive trend for our economy," Immigration and Career Training Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "In spite of headwinds that our economy faces from outside of our borders, job creators are choosing Saskatchewan as the best province in Western Canada to invest and create jobs in. Our government will continue to stand up for our province's economy and resource sector to ensure further growth in order for Saskatchewan to remain the best place in the nation to invest, work, play and to raise a family."

Read the November highlights here.

NEARLY 150 MORE LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTRE SPACES
ALLOCATED



Crown Investments Corporation Minister Joe Hargrave on behalf of Deputy Premier and Education Minister Gordon Wyant, joined students and staff at St. Catherine Catholic School and Children's Choice Child Development Co-operative in Prince Albert to announce that nearly 150 additional child care centre spaces have been allocated in Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon and Swift Current.

Children's Choice will be receiving 54 of these spaces. Funding is being provided through the Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement.

"We are very excited to be able to allocate more licensed child care centre spaces," Hargrave said. "Today's announcement brings our total allocation to nearly 1,200 new spaces across the province this year. Access to affordable, high-quality child care is important to families across Saskatchewan and we are very pleased to make child care accessible for more families in Prince Albert."

Read more about the spaces allocated here.

**FALL SESSION LEGISLATIVE REPORT** 



As session wrapped up Thursday, December 6th, our government thanked the thousands of SaskPower, SaskEnergy, SaskTel, emergency service workers, and many working across government Ministries for their tremendous response and their work through a major power outage affecting nearly one-third of SaskPower customers. Together their actions showcased the very best of Saskatchewan and that effort deserves recognition.

We remain committed to standing up for you and our great province of Saskatchewan. This was our focus as we delivered on priorities for the economy and people of Saskatchewan throughout the fall sitting of the legislature. We outlined our plan to balance the budget in the spring, to fight the federal carbon tax, and to invest in services and infrastructure across the province.

To recap what has been outlined in previous newsletters:

- Our government continues to face trade, transportation and economic challenges, this
  session saw a year-over-year employment increase of 9,400 jobs the largest job gains
  in four years. We will keep standing up for our province locally, national and
  internationally to see this continue while fighting the Trudeau carbon tax, which will kill
  jobs and make our industries less competitive.
- we are taking action on climate change through the implementation of the Prairie
  Resilience Climate Change Strategy. This includes the introduction of new legislation to
  establish intensity-based performance standards for large emitters as well as the new
  Climate Resilience Measurement Framework, the first of its kind in Canada, with 25
  different measures to monitor and enhance Saskatchewan's resilience to climate change.
- Over the past seven weeks we also became a leader in the country through legislation to
  expand Workers' Compensation coverage for firefighters; by creating the longest
  maternity leave in the nation; and by becoming the first province in Canada to introduce
  Clare's Law to help those at risk of intimate partner violence. Interpersonal violence leave
  will also be expanded to include sexual violence of any kind, allowing Saskatchewan
  residents to take time off to seek medical attention or access supports.

- To help Saskatchewan people who may need time off from work to care for family members, changes to The Saskatchewan Employment Act will create a new critically ill adult leave.
- Safety was a significant focus of the fall session with the introduction of mandatory
  minimum training requirements for commercial semi drivers; a proposed enhancement to
  rural policing to allow municipalities with populations under 500 to join regional police
  services; improved trespassing legislation; and new regulations to allow ridesharing
  companies to operate and provide more options for safe rides home.
- Our infrastructure investments continued with Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford nearing completion; the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital reaching 92 per cent completion; continued work to improve cellular service in rural Saskatchewan; and the opening of new bridges, passing lanes, and intersection improvements across the province.
- Bilateral agreements were signed with the federal government this fall to provide nearly \$900 million for infrastructure projects over the next decade and more than \$5 million to improve access to treatment for people with opioid or crystal meth dependencies.
- A recent report has found that the wait time for patients receiving specialist services in Saskatchewan was the shortest in Canada.

At the conclusion of the fall legislative session, and as we approach a new year, our commitment to always stand up for the people of Saskatchewan and the interests of our province remains the same. While we face many challenges in our province, one thing is certain: Saskatchewan people are determined, resilient and resourceful. Our government will always reflect those qualities as it stands up for our province and works to build a stronger Saskatchewan.

CELEBRATE 12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY SAFETY

# Lights burning brightly Only buy CSA-approved lights and throw out any damaged strings!

To ensure you and your family stay safe this December, Ministry of Government Relations urges you to take part in their 12 Days of Holiday Safety campaign.

Saskatchewan

"The holiday season is a time of joy and a few common sense decisions can keep your celebrations safe," Government Relations Minister Warren Kaeding said. "By following these safety tips, you'll be able to identify and reduce the risk of common fire and safety hazards in your home."

Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Safety Duane McKay agrees. "It only takes seconds for a fire to start because of lit candles left unattended, over-taxed electrical cords or a boiling pot left unwatched," McKay said. "The gift of a safe celebration in your home may be the most important gift your family and friends receive this year."

Follow the 12 Days of Holiday Safety campaign to learn more about:

saskatchewan.ca

- Day 1: Christmas Tree Care
- Day 2: Safe Use of Christmas Lights
- Day 3: Smoke Alarm Installation and Testing
- Day 4: Home Fire Escape Planning
- Day 5: Safe Use of Extension Cords
- Day 6: Fireplace and Wood Stove Safety
- Day 7: Matches and Lighters

- Day 8: Unattended Lit Candles
- Day 9: Carbon Monoxide Alarm Installation and Testing
- Day 10: Careless Smoking
- Day 11: Fire Risks from Space Heaters
- Day 12: Distracted Cooking

Click here to read the entire news release.

## APPLY NOW = HOUSE OF COMMONS PAGE PROGRAM



If you're interested in politics, please consider the opportunity to participate in the House of Commons Page Program. I was fortunate to be a Page in the House of Commons and it was a positive life changing experience for me.

Each year, 40 students graduating from high schools and CEGEPs are selected from across Canada to participate in the Page Program. Pages are undergraduate students who are registered as full-time students at one of the four universities in the National Capital Region. They work on a part-time basis during their first year of study.

In the Chamber and around Parliament Hill, Pages live and breathe the history and action of one of Canada's oldest political institutions. They are responsible for a wide range of tasks directly related to Chamber activities, and have the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of Parliament by playing a role in the rich traditions of the Canadian parliamentary system.

You are invited you to explore this site to learn more about the Page Program, and how you too, can become part of this incredible experience. Click <u>here</u> for additional information.

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

December 6, is the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada. The day commemorates the deaths of 14 female engineering students who were targeted and killed at Montreal's Ecolé Polytechnique in 1989, because they were women.

"December 6 provides us with a day to remember the women who have lost their lives through violence, or who face violence in their lives today," Minister Responsible for the Status of Women Tina Beaudry-Mellor said. "It is crucial that we as a province work together to prevent violence against women and girls in our communities."

Today in the Legislature, MLAs will wear a white ribbon to show their support to end and prevent violence against girls and women. The white ribbon campaign was launched in 1991 to raise awareness about and condemn gender-based violence, and to promote gender equality.

Read more here.

## ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES



GOVERNMENT HOUSE HOSTS SASKATCHEWAN WALL OF HONOUR
POLICE AND CRISIS TEAM LAUNCHED IN YORKTON

DECEMBER PUBLIC OFFERING GENERATES LARGEST REVENUE SINCE JUNE 2017

THREE COMMUNITIES RECOGNIZED AS ACHIEVING AGE-FRIENDLY STATUS IN SASKATCHEWAN

MINISTER ORDERS INSPECTION OF NORTHERN VILLAGE OF PINEHOUSE SASKATCHEWAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MARKS 70 YEARS AT GEOLOGICAL OPEN HOUSE

BUYING A VEHICLE AT AN AUCTION? KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT

## **COMING EVENTS**

# IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WOULD LIKE US TO HIGHLIGHT IN THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE LET US KNOW!

Provincial Point of View is a great way to connect with our community. We appreciate the opportunity to share the successes we see in our constituency and highlight the many events happening in our community. If you have a suggestion for items you would like highlighted in this newsletter, please email: ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net



**BHP Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour** 

When: Now - January 4th

Where: Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo

Click here for details



Lions Clubs of Saskatoon and Pow City Kinsmen Club

1st Annual Sutherland Christmas Concert

When: Sunday, December 16

Where: Sutherland Hall, 1112 Central Avenue

Tickets available at St. Paul's United Church, McNally Robinson, Central Ave Venice

**House and Picatic** 



# GREATER SASKATOON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENT CENTRALIZED PROCUREMENT

When: December 17, 11:30 am
Where Radisson Hotel
Join Deputy Premier Gord Wyant
Click here for information



### **ERINDALE ALLIANCE CHURCH**

When: Christmas Eve - 6:30 - Candlelight Service

December 30, 10:30 am - Family Service

Call 306.249.3393 for information



\_Saskatoon Evergreen Community Association Activity

When: Tuesdays from 10 am - 11 am

Where: Evergreen Community Resource Room

Click here for additional information.



**THOUGHT OF THE DAY** 

Smiling is infectious You catch it like the flu

When someone smiled at me today I started smiling too

> I walked around the corner And someone saw me grin

When he smiled I realised I had passed it on to him

I thought about the smile And then realised its worth

A single smile like mine Could travel round the earth

So if you feel a smile begin Don't leave it undetected

Start an epidemic And get the world infected.

friend on Facebook | forward to a friend

## **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 Willowgrove. 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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