

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



Provincial Point of View

January 31, 2014

SASKATCHEWAN POSTS LARGEST SALARY INCREASES IN NOVEMBER

Average weekly earnings in Saskatchewan took a jump in November 2013, up 4.7 per cent over last November, the highest increase among the provinces and well ahead of the 2.5 per cent increase nationally.

Saskatchewan's average weekly earnings were \$967.45 in November 2013, the second highest in the nation. On a monthly basis, wages were up by 2.3 per cent between October 2013 and November 2013, the second highest percentage increase in Canada.

"Clearly, Saskatchewan's workforce is benefiting from the province's strong economic growth," Economy Minister Bill Boyd said. "Rising wages are leading to increased spending, further stimulating growth and diversifying our economic base, and more importantly has a positive impact on quality of life."

"Having the highest annual wage growth in the country is an enviable position to be in," Boyd said. "It helps us attract the skilled workforce needed to maintain our economic growth and is good news for workers right here, right now."

[Saskatchewan Posts Largest Salary Increases in November](#)

GOVERNMENT HELPS LOW-INCOME CITIZENS ACCESS JUSTICE SERVICES

The province is providing financial support that will assist low-income individuals in accessing justice services in Saskatoon.

As part of a funding agreement between the Government of Saskatchewan and the Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City Inc. (CLASSIC), the Ministry of Justice will provide a total of \$300,000 between 2013-2016. Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant presented CLASSIC with a cheque for \$90,000 today in Saskatoon.

“The purpose of this funding agreement is two-fold,” Wyant said. “It will support legal assistance for those who need it most and give Saskatchewan’s next generation of lawyers the opportunity to learn hands-on about the legal community’s responsibilities to equal access to justice.”

The agreement provides funding for CLASSIC’s Legal Advice Clinic, which provides direct legal assistance to low-income individuals in inner city Saskatoon. It will also be used to support the Walk-in Advocacy Clinic, which pairs College of Law students with practicing lawyers to provide advice, assistance, and representation to clients.

The Ministry of Justice has provided CLASSIC with financial support since the organization began operating in 2007.

[Government Helps Low-Income Citizens Access Justice Services](#)

ANOTHER RECORD YEAR FOR SASKATCHEWAN'S OIL PRODUCTION

Saskatchewan’s oil patch set new records in 2013, in some categories surpassing benchmarks established just the year before.

The province’s oil production for the calendar year just ended is 177.9 million barrels (487,400 barrels per day), up from the previous record of 172.9 million barrels (472,500 barrels per day) set in 2012. Drilling activity was robust, with a total of 2,433 horizontal oil wells drilled in 2013, a new record that surpasses the 2,036 horizontal oil wells drilled in 2012.

“These records reflect the hard work of the men and women employed in Saskatchewan’s oil industry” Energy and Resources Minister Tim McMillan said. “The importance of the oil industry cannot be understated, as a top employer and exporter it contributes positively to communities throughout our province.”

A total of 3,371 oil wells were drilled in 2013, the third best year ever for oil well drilling. This figure ranks behind only 2011 (3,528 oil wells) and 1997 (3,608 oil wells). The Lloydminster and

Kindersley/Kerrobert areas accounted for almost two-thirds of all drilling in 2013.

Saskatchewan is ranked as the number one jurisdiction in Canada for oil and gas investment policies, according to The Fraser Institute's annual Global Petroleum Survey.

[Another Record Year for Saskatchewan's Oil Production](#)

DID YOU KNOW...

... Canada holds the record for the most gold medals ever won at the Winter Olympics.

... Saskatchewan's oil patch set new records in 2013 by producing 487,400 barrels of oil per day.

... The average weekly wage in Saskatchewan is \$967.45 - second highest in Canada.

JUST THE LINKS

January 27, 2014 - [Red Tape Awareness Week Proclaimed in Saskatchewan](#)

January 28, 2014 - [Saskatchewan Disappointed COOL Remains in U.S. Farm Bill](#)

January 29, 2014 - [Government Signs MOU on Post-Secondary French Language Education](#)

January 29, 2014 - [New Agricultural Operator Program Launched in Saskatchewan](#)

January 29, 2014 - [Charitable Groups Across the Province Receive Almost \\$1.4 Million in Gaming Grants](#)

January 31, 2014 - [Government of Saskatchewan Declares 2014 Archives Week](#)

COMING EVENTS

Potash Corp WinterShine Festival

Date: January 25 - February 2

Where: Saskatoon's Farmers Market at River Landing

When: Mon - Fri 4 pm - 8 pm; Sat 12 pm - 8 pm; Sun 10 am - 8 pm

Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan Meets

Date: February 1

Where: W.E. Office (108 - 502 Cope Way)

When: 10 am - 11:30 am

Heritage Festival of Saskatoon

Date: February 2

Where: Western Development Museum

When: 12 pm - 5 pm

Saskatoon Wellness Expo

Date: February 7 - 9

Where: Prairieland Park

When: Fri. 5 pm - 9 pm; Sat. 10 am - 6 pm; Sun. 12 pm - 5 pm

Saskatchewan Equine Expo

Date: February 14 - 16

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 10 am - 8 pm

5th Annual Chef's Gala and Showcase

Date: February 15

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 5:30 pm

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

**"Happiness consists of living each day
as if it were the first day of your honeymoon
and the last day of your vacation."**

~ Leo Tolstoy

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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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