

"Check what's going on in Saskatoon Silver Springs and throughout the Province!"



Provincial Point of View

November 1, 2013

PATIENTS RECEIVING SURGERY SOONER

With just over six months to go in the four-year Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative, the latest provincial wait times numbers show that, as of August 31, 80 per cent of patients received their surgery within three months of their referral from a surgeon and 91 per cent received it within six months.

The number of people waiting more than three months for surgery has dropped 59 per cent from 15,345 in March 2010 to 6,264 at the end of August 2013.

The Saskatchewan health system is on track to provide 89,000 publicly-funded surgeries in the 2013-14 fiscal year. Patients have received 35,185 surgeries in the first five months of the fiscal year, up from 32,957 performed in the same period last year.

Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region has had 11 straight months of improved surgery wait times, showing a 32 per cent drop in the number of people waiting more than three months -- from 5,692 on September 1, 2012 to 3,859 on August 31, 2013.

However, in Saskatoon Health Region, the number of patients waiting more than three months on August 31 had increased from the previous month by 188 to 2,082. The health region has seen demand for surgery grow by about 700 cases more than estimated this year, and is working with its surgeons and the Ministry of Health to find ways to meet the demand.

Information about the Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative is available at www.sasksurgery.ca. The website also features the Specialist Directory, which empowers patients and their primary care providers to compare options for surgical care.

[Patients Receiving Surgery Sooner](#)



As Minister of Environment, I had the opportunity to attend a MLA reception hosted by the Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program (SWEEP) and a national organization, Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA).

It was a pleasure on behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan to bring greetings at the reception and acknowledge the outstanding contributions made to our province by SWEEP and EPRA.

SWEEP is now operating as part of EPRA, and is responsible for managing the industry-led electronic products recycling programs available for consumers and businesses in Saskatchewan. SWEEP is instrumental in encouraging us to get rid of our end-of-life electronics and “sweeping” them to SARCAN.

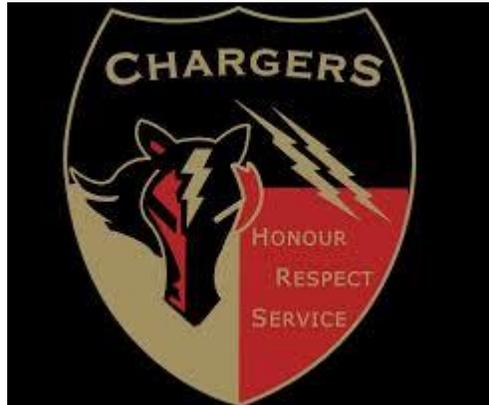
For the second year in a row, SWEEP has collected and recycled over 3,000 metric tonnes of end-of-life electronics in Saskatchewan. Since its inception in 2007, more than 15,000 metric tonnes of end-of-life electronics has been diverted from our landfills. Those are amazing numbers!

We have a responsibility to protect our environment and maintain the quality of life we have come to expect in Saskatchewan and the SWEEP recycling program helps us make good choices when it comes recycling and protecting our environment.

I am proud that Saskatchewan has some of the most effective and successful recycling programs in the country and our government is committed to ensuring the availability of effective recycling programs in the province, recognizing the role these programs play in a strong economy, and the contributions they make to a healthy environment.

We are grateful to SWEEP for their efforts and we look forward to continuing that positive collaboration with EPRA.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FINALS



The Senior Boys High School Football 4A Semi Final Playoffs took place Wednesday, October 30. The Centennial Chargers made a valiant attempt to defeat the Holy Cross Crusaders. With just over two minutes left in the game the Chargers scored a touchdown to tie the game. The Crusaders came back with a punt that gave them the winning point.

Congratulations to the Centennial Chargers for a great game and a great season! Congratulations as well to the St. Joseph Guardians for a great year of exciting fun filled football action! Good luck next year. We will be there to cheer you on!

SHERCOM INDUSTRIES OF SASKATOON WINS ABEX AWARD



Congratulations to Saskatoon Silver Springs constituents from Shercom Industries for being recognized at the 30th annual ABEX Awards Dinner held at TCU Place on October 26.

Shercom Industries has been in the business of tire recycling since 1993. Since the company's

inception, millions of pounds of scrap tires have been converted into value added product and put to beneficial use.

As a world class, fully integrated tire recycler, they collect and process rubber tires and manufacture high quality recycled rubber products for their customers at their plant in Saskatoon. As Minister of Environment, I have had the opportunity to meet with this outstanding business on numerous occasions and am grateful for the work they do transforming tires from an environmental hazard into a usable product allowing their customers to participate in the environmental sustainability of our planet.

For the first time in the 30 year history of celebrating business excellence in Saskatchewan, two businesses received the Business of the Year Award at the annual ABEX Awards Dinner. Humboldt's Diamonds of Detroit and Alliance Energy Ltd. of Regina shared the award. Approximately 800 people from across the province attended the event to celebrate Saskatchewan's best and brightest businesses.

Congratulations to all nominees. The businesses represented have all demonstrated exceptional accomplishments and have made a positive economic impact on their region and our province.

SASKATCHEWAN PARKS SET NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD IN 2013

Saskatchewan Provincial Parks had another record year in 2013, breaking the 2012 visitation record by 3.3 per cent. Saskatchewan provincial parks had an estimated 3.7 million visits. This is a 21.6 per cent increase in visitation since 2007.

“It is great to see that we continue to have an increase in visitors to our parks,” Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said. “Our parks are an extraordinary asset to our quality of life and an important contributor to Saskatchewan’s economy. As our province continues to grow and prosper, our government will continue to look for ways to enhance our parks and improve on the experience for our visitors.”

[Saskatchewan Parks Set New Attendance Record in 2013](#)

CELEBRATING NEWLY-TWINNED LANES BETWEEN SASKATOON AND PRINCE ALBERT

A major milestone to support Saskatchewan growth was reached on October 25, as the last section of twinned lanes on the busy Highway 11 corridor between Saskatoon and Prince Albert opened to traffic.

Prince Albert MP Randy Hoback and Prince Albert Carlton MLA Darryl Hickie on behalf of Highways and Infrastructure Minister Don McMorris were on site near MacDowall today to officially open the last remaining 13 kilometre section of Highway 11.

“The Government of Canada is proud to have invested in this important job-creating initiative to twin Highway 11,” said Hoback. “This project will have long-lasting benefits for the communities and businesses along this heavily-used highway, as well as for the Saskatchewan economy at large. These improvements will also help reduce collisions and will make driving safer for everyone in the region.”

[Celebrating Newly-Twinned Lanes Between Saskatoon and Prince Albert](#)

LOW'S IN MOTION



This is your last chance to get your tickets for "Low's In Motion" to be held this Saturday, November 2 at Prairieland Park.

Please help support this group that is raising money for the Parkinson's Foundation.

Tickets are still available at www.lowsinmotion.com

AUGUST EARNINGS SECOND HIGHEST IN CANADA

Average weekly earnings in Saskatchewan during the month of August were \$955, second highest among the provinces behind Alberta.

“Higher wages indicate the on-going strength of our labour market and economic success,” Economy Minister Bill Boyd said.

[August Earnings Second Highest in Canada](#)

MCMORRIS & MCMORRIS - NEW CANADIAN DOCU-SERIES PREMIERES TODAY, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

MTV is airing a new eight episode Canadian Docu-Series called McMorris & McMorris. The series follows brothers Mark and Craig as they travel around the world competing in professional snowboarding.

It will showcase the passion and pressure that goes along with the professional snowboarding circuit. These boys are the sons of the Honourable Don McMorris, Minister of Highways and Infrastructure.

Mark is also competing in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia in 2014, in Snowboarding Slopestyle.

Saskatchewan will join with countries around the world as we cheer Mark on!

CITIZEN CONSULTATION TEAM MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

Team Will Lead Consultations on the Development of Province-Wide Disability Strategy

The Government of Saskatchewan has announced the 15 members of the Citizen Consultation Team (CCT) that will play a key role in the development of a province-wide Disability Strategy. The members of the team will provide advice on the public consultation process, priorities and content of the Disability Strategy. The group was selected from more than 100 candidates who submitted online applications.

“This is another important step forward in the development of Saskatchewan’s Disability Strategy,” Social Services Minister June Draude said. “I am confident that the members of the CCT will provide leadership and direction in ensuring that we hear from as broad a cross-section of Saskatchewan residents as possible during the upcoming consultation process.”

[Citizen Consultation Team Members Announced](#)

GAMING GRANTS PROVIDE \$292,430.12 TO SASKATOON & \$2 MILLION TOTAL TO SASKATCHEWAN COMMUNITIES

The Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) is providing more than \$2 million to more than 900 organizations across the province as part of SLGA’s charitable gaming grant program.

“Whether it’s a service club working to raise funds for a new facility, a parent coaching a children’s hockey team or a volunteer fire department serving during a crisis, our communities are stronger because of volunteers,” Minister responsible for SLGA Donna Harpauer said.

“Our government is pleased to support the efforts of charities across the province by providing financial support through these grants.”

[Gaming Grants Provide \\$2 Million to Saskatchewan Communities](#)

JUST THE LINKS

October 28, 2013 - [Government Introduces Student First Advisors](#)

October 28, 2013 - [Saskatchewan's Best Summer Job Just Got Even Better](#)

October 28, 2013 - [2013 Council of the Federation Literacy Award Presented](#)

October 29, 2013 - [\\$20.3 Million Dalmeny Access Road Opens](#)

October 29, 2013 - [Business for the Arts Awards \\$330,000 in Matching Incentives and Sponsorship Training to 32 Arts and Culture Groups in Saskatchewan](#)

COMING EVENTS

McMorris & McMorris - Docu - Series on MTV

Date: November 1

Where: MTV

When: 7 pm

Saskatoon Fall Fair

Date: November 1 & 2

Where: Prairieland Park Ag Centre

When: 9 am - 8 pm

Low's In Motion

Date: November 2

Wher: Prairieland Park

When: 7 pm - 2 am

See Your Future Education and Career Fair

Date: November 4 & 5

Where: Teachers' Credit Union Place

When: Daily

S3 - Style Shopping Spirits

Date: November 8 & 9

Where: Teachers' Credit Union Place

When: Daily

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Date: November 11

Where: Credit Union Centre

When: 9 am

Saskatoon Parent and Tot Expo

Date: November 17

Where: Prairieland Park

When: 10 am - 5 pm

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

**“Finish each day and be done with it.
You have done what you could;
some blunders and absurdities have crept in;
forget them as soon as you can.
Tomorrow is a new day;
you shall begin it serenely
and with too high a spirit
to be encumbered with your old nonsense.”**

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

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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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