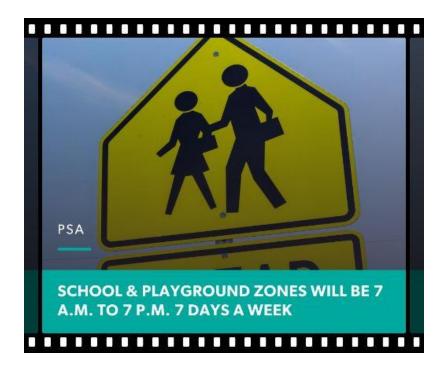
Check out what's happening in Saskatoon Willowgrove and throughout the Province!



## A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS!

It is an exciting time of year as teachers and students head back to the classroom. I wish everyone a great school year.

Please be aware of the new school zone speed limits and take extra caution everyone as kids head back to school.



I came across a few back to school tips for parents that I am happy to share: Of course, these won't be applicable to everyone.



1. Prepare and plan ahead of time

One of the most crucial back-to-school tips for parents is to first make a list of items that contains all of the necessary clothing, lunch boxes, backpacks, and materials that can be purchased ahead of time.

Make sure you don't go shopping at the last minute.

### 2. Plan bedtime and wake-up routine in advance

Starting a bedtime routine two weeks prior the start of school is an important back-to-school tip for parents. Preparing children for bedtimes will help them stick to a regular sleeping routine and will relieve you of one concern. Make sure your kid receives a minimum 8-10 hours of sleep each night.

#### 3. Prepare a weekly meal planner and to-do list

The easiest strategy to ensure a stress-free morning routine is to prepare a to-do list for an entire week including the meal preparation and your kids outfits, and keeping a watch on your kids weekly school time-table. This will save your and your kids last minute hustle bustle.

### 4. Prepare a safety first mindset

The safety first approach is a crucial aspect of preparing your children for the first day of school. Make sure your children are aware of the surroundings as well as their own physical safety. The parents should teach their younger ones their name, how to spell it, their phone number, and the phone number of a responsible adult.

#### 5. Communication is the key

Communicate with your kids to know their sentiments, and how you can offer help to make their first day of school a memorable one. This discussion will make your kid's back to school journey cheerful.

#### 6. Meet the new teachers

It is critical to visit your child's school at least one week before the start of the new school year. Allow your child to become acquainted with the new classrooms and new teachers. Try to find a way to meet with the teachers one-on-one.

#### 7. Discuss bullying with your children

Teach your kids to deal with bullies by reporting them to a teacher, counselor, or yourself. Explain to them the harmful effects caused by bullying. Make sure they respect their batch mates.

#### 8. Setup a storage unit

Setup a storage unit by choosing an appropriate location to store everything relevant to school, such as your kids outfits, bags, and school accessories. This method will help you and your kids to locate the things whenever needed. Allow your kids to stock the school materials and keep it clutter-free.

#### 9. Create a pleasant environment at home

It is very important to create a friendly and positive atmosphere for doing homework once school starts.

Set up a permanent study room for your kids which is free from distractions and provides a peaceful and positive learning environment.

### 10. Create a list of enjoyable after school activities for kids

Allow your kids to participate in innovative after-school activities in addition to their homework to keep them entertained. Playing board games, creating artwork etc. are some examples.

### SASKATCHEWAN ANNOUNCES AFFORDABILITY PLAN



August 23, the Government of Saskatchewan announced a four-point affordability plan to help people address the rising cost of living.

"Higher global commodity prices are driving growth in Saskatchewan's economy, creating jobs and improving our budget position," Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Donna Harpauer said, who

released the province's 2022-23 First Quarter Financial Report and four-point affordability plan today. "However, higher commodity prices are also driving up the cost of almost everything you buy. Saskatchewan people own the resources. Saskatchewan people should benefit when resource prices are high. That's why we're going to use higher resource revenues to help address rising costs and to retire up to \$1 billion of the province's debt."

**Point one** of the plan is the Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit payment. All Saskatchewan residents who are 18 years of age or older as of December 31, 2022, and who have filed a 2021 tax return as a resident of Saskatchewan will receive a \$500 Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit cheque this fall.

Saskatchewan residents who have not filed a 2021 tax return are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The cost to Government of the tax credit is estimated at \$450 million, with an estimated up to 900,000 cheques to be mailed.

**Point two** of the plan is the removal of fitness and gym memberships and some recreational activities from the planned October PST expansion on admissions, entertainment and recreation.

PST will not be charged to residents under 18 years of age participating in recreational activities including golf, curling, hockey, tennis, basketball and similar formal sporting activities where the individual participates in a league or service where a round, game or match are completed. These activities will be taxable for individuals 18 years of age and older.

PST will not be applied to fitness classes as well as personal training and other fitness activities offered through municipal recreational facilities. PST will not be applied to arts, cultural and sports programming and league of membership fees like gymnastics fees, art classes, or acting classes, for example.

Businesses that qualify as small suppliers for GST purposes will be exempt from collecting PST.

PST will be applied to ticket admissions to sporting events, concerts, trade shows, fairs, rodeos, movie theatres, professional water parks and entertainment admissions like escape rooms, batting cages and arcades.

This change will reduce PST revenue this year by an estimated \$3 million.

**Point three** of the plan extends the small business tax rate reduction, at 0 per cent retroactive to July 1, 2022 and delaying the restoration of the rate to 2.0 per cent to July 1, 2024. This will help small businesses as they continue to recover from the pandemic, while facing new challenges like inflationary pressures, interest rate hikes and supply chain issues.

It will save small businesses \$93.1 million over the next three years, on average \$3,000 for each small business. There are approximately 31,000 small businesses in Saskatchewan.

Point four is the retirement of up to \$1 billion in operating debt.

Debt is now forecast to be \$1.7 billion lower by fiscal year-end than projected at budget, the province's projected surplus provides the ability to retire up to \$1 billion in debt, and the province no longer needs to borrow for operations due to the improved financial position.

Debt retirement and lower borrowing results in lower financing charges due to an estimated \$49 million decrease in interest costs.

"Helping Saskatchewan people through a time of higher costs, as well as taking the prudent measure of retiring debt, strikes the right balance and helps our province move forward," Harpauer said. "That's growth that works for everyone."

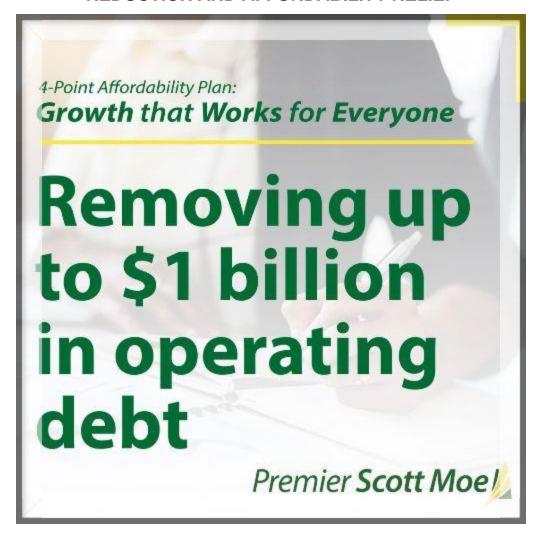
Information about the Saskatchewan Affordability Tax Credit (SATC) and PST changes is available online at <a href="www.saskatchewan.ca/affordability">www.saskatchewan.ca/affordability</a> and at <a href="mailto:Tax Information Updates">Tax Information Updates</a>. The Ministry of Finance tax information line is 1-800-667-6102 for information on the SATC and PST changes. Individuals can also email <a href="mailto:satc@gov.sk.ca">satc@gov.sk.ca</a> for information about the SATC.

### **UKRAINIAN DAY IN THE PARK**



This year, more than ever, it will be a special day at Ukrainian Day in the Park. Over the past months we've seen the community rally to support displaced Ukrainians abroad and through resettlement efforts in Saskatoon. It will be a great day on Saturday to attend Saskatchewan's largest Ukrainian outdoor festival, featuring performances, food, and children's activities.

# STRONG REVENUE RESULTS IN BUDGET SURPLUS, DEBT REDUCTION AND AFFORDABILITY RELIEF



A strong economy and higher resource prices have meant a significant improvement in the province's finances.

"That means we can balance the budget, pay down debt and help Saskatchewan residents with the rising cost of living," Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Donna Harpauer said today as she released the first quarter financial update. "That's growth that works for everyone."



At first quarter, Saskatchewan is forecasting a surplus of \$1.04 billion for 2022-23, a \$1.51 billion improvement from budget, largely due to higher revenue from non-renewable resources.

Harpauer announced a four-point affordability plan, using higher revenue from the resources owned by the people of Saskatchewan to help people address rising costs due to inflation and to reduce the province's debt.

"Strong resource prices have meant higher provincial revenues, and that's good news, but it also means the cost of almost everything you buy has gone up," Harpauer said. "That's why our government is using those higher revenues to help Saskatchewan people with the rising cost of living."

Strong Revenue Results in Budget Surplus, Debt Reduction and Affordability Relief | News and Media |
Government of Saskatchewan

## RECAP OF SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATURE



Saskatchewan continues to be a national leader in key economic categories, aligning with our Growth Plan 2030. We know our province has what the world needs, and getting it to market relies on our highways. To support our growing economy, our government has prioritized investing in upgrading our highways and improving their safety. Since 2008, our government has invested more than \$11.5 billion into our highways. Part of our Growth Plan is to improve 10,000 kilometres of highways over ten years, and I'm happy to say that we are on track to exceed that goal.

This summer will mark the completion of three major projects so far. One such project is the \$5.6 million bypass for Highway 21 at Unity, which will help future economic growth while improving safety. The project supports the efforts of North West Terminal, a world-class processing and transportation hub. It also addresses concerns about increased truck traffic in proximity to residential areas.

28 passing lanes and multiple intersection upgrades on Highway 16 have helped improve safety and product delivery along the busy transportation corridor. More than \$50 million was invested in the passing lanes, proven to be a safe and effective solution for heavy traffic volume areas.

To the west, a multi-year project on Highway 7 will be completed this summer. The investment saw about \$120 million worth of safety improvements, increased capacity and additional support for economic growth in the area. This stretch of highway is a busy interprovincial corridor and pivotal for travellers between the largest cities in

Saskatchewan and Alberta. In addition to 22 passing lanes, 31 kilometres of twinning were completed as part of the project.

By improving the conditions for economic development, businesses can expand, create more jobs and re-invest in the communities they call home. The proof is in the numbers; Saskatchewan continues to be a national leader in many economic categories, such as job growth. In the last year, our province has added 24,400 jobs setting a record high of 490,300 full-time positions. In July 2022, Saskatchewan's seasonally adjusted employment of 576,200 had surpassed pre-COVID February 2020 employment levels.

Saskatchewan's abundant natural resources and strong private investments have created an active job and export market. The growth continues with a June report from Statistics Canada that shows merchandise exports increased by 57 per cent compared to a year ago, the second highest among the provinces. The value of Saskatchewan building permits in June 2022 increased as well, by nearly 16 per cent compared to May 2022, second again among the provinces. Our province ranked first for building construction investment, a 63 per cent increase compared to June 2021. This confidence in our economy leads to more jobs and growth, on track with our strategy to attract more investment in Saskatchewan.

Most recently, we were pleased to announce nearly \$9 million for training and professional development for the early learning and childcare sector. The grants are in partnership with the Government of Canada through the Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. Collège Mathieu, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies and Saskatchewan Polytechnic will make Early Childhood Education training opportunities available at no cost. For more information visit Saskatchewan.ca

This funding is the latest piece of a much larger goal to improve and expand child care while bringing down average fees for regulated child care to \$10 a day by the end of March 2026. Starting September 1, 2022, parent fees for regulated child care will be reduced by an average of 70 per cent compared to March 2021. So far, that reduction means a family of an infant in full-time, regulated child care can expect to pay up to \$550 less per month than they paid in January of 2022.

Our government has committed to supporting economic expansion that benefits all Saskatchewan residents. Economic growth allows for these investments to drive down costs for families, create a bright future for our children, and strengthen our communities.

### LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE



I hope you enjoy our newsletter. If you are no longer interested in receiving this newsletter, please use the UNSUBSCRIBE button, located below.

## Thank you.

I appreciate the opportunity to make a positive difference in our 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.

9TH ANNUAL WARD 10 BBQ WITH ZACH JEFFRIES



You're invited to join Zach and your Ward 10 neighbours for a free BBQ. It will be a great opportunity to celebrate this wonderful community with food, entertainment, and lots of family fun.

9th Annual Ward 10 Community BBQ
Tuesday, August 30, 2022 from 4pm – 8pm
(Please arrive by 7:30pm for food)
Alice Turner Library (on the lawn)
Attridge Dr & Nelson Rd

- Free BBQ and food
- Balloon animals
- Bouncy castle
- Draws and prizes
- Face painting
- Entertainment
- Fire Truck

This event will take place rain or shine! In the event of rain, we will be moving everything inside. Please remember to bring a lawn chair and to park at the SaskTel Sports Centre instead of at the Library.

For more details or to volunteer to help out with the BBQ, please email zachbbq10@gmail.com

## PRESERVING AND PROMOTING DAKOTA LANGUAGE THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM



The Government of Saskatchewan is pleased to announce the addition of the Dakota language to the growing list of Indigenous languages curricula available in Saskatchewan. The Ministry of Education will work in collaboration with Dakota nations in Saskatchewan to develop Dakota 10, 20, 30 provincial curricula with anticipated implementation for the 2023-24 school year.

Preserving and Promoting Dakota Language Through High School Curriculum | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

# CIBC RUN FOR A CURE FUNDRAISER HELD AT STAR EGG COMPANY



I was pleased to join CEO Shawn Harman and Natashja Van Den Bergh at the Star Egg CIBC Run for a Cure Fundraiser August 24. All proceeds from the barbecue support CIBC Run for a Cure.

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! MAJOR TV PRODUCTION

APPROVED THROUGH THE CREATIVE SASKATCHEWAN

FEATURE FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION GRANT

PROGRAM



Creative Saskatchewan and the Government of Saskatchewan joined together to announce that a major television production will be coming to the province. *King of Killers: the series* is set to begin filming this fall and will benefit from increased funding to the Creative Saskatchewan Feature Film and Television Production Grant Program. This production is the first major project to receive funding approval since the Government of Saskatchewan increased investment to film and television incentives in the 2022-23 budget.

The TV series will be filmed at the John Hopkins Regina Soundstage and is based on an upcoming feature film of the same name to be released in 2023. *King of Killers: the series* tells the story of a group of international assassins who are contracted to take out the most dangerous killer in the world.

"Saskatchewan has the talent and skills that the world needs right now to meet the global demand for content, and this exciting news demonstrates our ability to attract large-scale productions," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Laura Ross said. "The positive benefits of projects this size are numerous and farreaching. Industries such as retail, hospitality and the trades will get a boost, and job opportunities for local designers, costumers, performers, and writers will strengthen Saskatchewan's creative sector."

<u>Lights! Camera! Action! Major TV Production Approved Through the Creative Saskatchewan Feature</u>
<u>Film and Television Production Grant Program | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan</u>

# SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS HOLD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



It was a pleasure to attend the Annual General Meeting of our Saskatchewan Roughriders.

Congratulations to Board Chair Barry Clarke, President and CEO Craig Reynolds, and General Manager Jeremy O'Day who is pictured above.

Thank you to retiring board member Arnle Arnott for 9 years of service on the Board.

The Saskatchewan Roughriders Board of Directors newly elected Regan Exner and Blair Ross. Eric Dillon, Terri Harris-Strunk, Dave Pettigrew (Vice-Chair), Greg Yuel (Lead Governor) had their Board

terms renewed for an additional three years and Barry Clarke (Chair), Rhonda Ekstrom, Doug Hodson, Mackenzie Kilshaw, Rob Vanderhooft will continue on in their current terms.

GO Riders!!!!

# SASKATOON FORESTRY FARM PARK & ZOOK CELBRATES 50 YEARS!



On September 1, 1972, the City of Saskatoon completed a \$160,000 renovation to expand the Sutherland Forest Nursery Station to include an animal park. Since then, a wide variety of exotic species and western Canadian animals have called the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo home.

"It's pretty amazing to look back and reflect on all of the animals that have become part of the Zoo family over the past 50 years," says Jeff Mitchell, Zoo Manager. "We have had some amazing animal ambassadors over the years, including grizzly bears Mistaya and Koda who have called the Zoo home for more than 15 years".

Since opening the expanded facility in 1972, the Zoo has become home to several species of animals. Some animals have incredible stories of survival like Sammis the pronghorn who was delivered via csection by a conservation officer after his mother was hit by a car. Sammis was brought to the zoo where he was bottle fed and is now thriving as part of the pronghorn herd. Many other zoo residents like the redtailed hawk, snowy owls and bald eagles sustained injuries preventing them from being able to survive in the wild, and several other species like the snow leopard and Goeldi's monkeys participate in important conservation research and education programs to ensure the survival of their species.

To celebrate the milestone, the Zoo will be organizing a variety of enrichment activities for the animals at the Zoo and will be offering a special 50th anniversary daily admission rate on Thursday, September 1, 2022. Daily admission rates will be \$5 for adults (18+), \$5 for youth (6-18) and \$10 for families (a group of up to seven individuals with a maximum of 2 adults). Children under 6 always receive FREE admission to the Zoo. Parking fees will remain in effect at \$4 per vehicle.

"Our animals will be very excited to see what our team has in store for them to mark the occasion," says Mitchell. "Our zookeepers have been working on a variety of enrichment activities that will promote mental and physical stimulation and also provide an opportunity for the animals to participate in the celebrations. We encourage everyone to come out and visit our species ambassadors and see some of the fun activities we have in store for them."

The Zoo is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Visit saskatoon.ca/zoo to plan your visit.

CROP REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF AUGUST 16 - AUGUST 22, 2022



Hot, dry weather allowed for tremendous harvest progress, especially in the southwest and west-central regions. Some areas in the east-central region received heavy rainfall once again, which has slowed down the maturation of crops or halted producers who are ready to begin harvest of early seeded crops. Harvest progress sits at 16 per cent, up from five per cent last week and right on par with the five-year average. An additional 12 per cent of the crop is now swathed or ready to straight-cut.

Harvest progress is most advanced in the southwest region where farmers have 45 per cent of their crop now in the bin, followed by producers in the west-central who have 19 per cent of their crop harvested. Farmers in the southeast have six per cent of crop off their fields, the east-central has completed four percent and both the northern regions have one per cent of their crop harvested. For many producers in the wetter areas of the province, harvest will not begin for another week or more as their crops have not matured yet.

63 per cent of the winter wheat, 36 per cent of the fall rye, 52 per cent of the lentils, 43 per cent of the field peas, 30 per cent of the durum, six per cent of the spring wheat and three per cent of the canola has been combined.

<u>Crop Report for the Period of August 16 To August 22, 2022 | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan</u>

# BABA'S CLOSET HELPING UKRAINIAN KIDS GET READY FOR SCHOOL



Global News: Baba's Closet helping Ukrainian kids get ready for school - Saskatoon | Globalnews.ca

As we hit the month of August, kids are getting ready to head back to school — among them, kids who are going to a Canadian school for the first time.

For Ukrainian refugees heading to school in the fall, Baba's Closet offers free backpacks filled with goodies.

"They will get gifts inside, gift cards, storybooks, teddy bears, supplies for school to start them with. Whatever's not in there they can come back tomorrow and the following week and pick up the rest of the supplies at the front," said Nettie Cherniatenski, Baba's Closet manager.

Click on the link above to read the entire story.

## READ ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS RELEASES BELOW



Government of Saskatchewan Extends Interim Provincial Education Plan for 2022-23 School Year | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

<u>Preserving and Promoting Dakota Language Through High School Curriculum | News and Media |</u>
<u>Government of Saskatchewan</u>

<u>Signage Unveiled for John Hopkins Regina Soundstage | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan</u>

Highway 12 Passing Lanes Officially Open | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

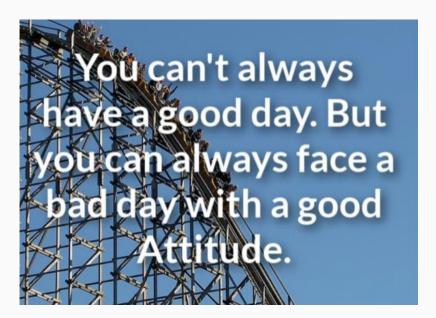
<u>Grand Opening of NorthWest Community Lodge Celebrated in Meadow Lake | News and Media |</u>
<u>Government of Saskatchewan</u>

Second Stage of Procurement Begins for Prince Albert Victoria Hospital | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

Administrators Appointed to Three Qualified Independent Schools | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

Anthrax Confirmed in Ruminant Species in the RM of Piapot #110 | News and Media | Government of Saskatchewan

### THOUGHT OF THE DAY



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Phone: 306-651-7100

Email: ken.cheveldayoff.mla@sasktel.net

