

MLA Report

**Spring
2008**



Nancy's Role in Government:

**MLA for Martensville
SASKATCHEWAN PARTY**

**Minister of Environment
Minister Responsible for
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority**

**Also serves on the Standing
Committee on Crown and Central
Agencies**

A Note from "The Leg."

It has been a busy first few months for your new government. In the first 6 months of our mandate, we have kept over 60 of our campaign promises. I believe that Saskatchewan people deserve and expect a government that does what it says it will do. We are working hard to do just that. Among our list of promises kept is increased revenue sharing with municipalities, property tax rebates, funding the cancer drug Avastin, tuition rebates for post-secondary graduates, launching a review of the Crop Insurance program, and providing additional training seats for doctors and nurses. Saskatchewan is experiencing unprecedented economic growth and all the residents of Saskatchewan should share in that prosperity. We are looking to the future. We are ensuring that Saskatchewan is Ready for Growth through a \$1 Billion infrastructure fund for roads, schools and hospitals.

It is an honour to serve the people of the Martensville constituency. I am also honoured to serve Saskatchewan as Environment Minister. While my duties keep me busy, I want to ensure you that my door is always open and I look forward to hearing from you. As summer is quickly upon us, I am also looking forward to meeting and chatting with many of you during the summer events held throughout the constituency.

Nancy Heppner, MLA Martensville

What You'll Find in Nancy's Spring Newsletter...

- ◆ 2008 Budget Information
- ◆ Contact Information
- ◆ What Has Nancy Been Up To?
- ◆ Promises Made, Promises Kept
- ◆ Upcoming Events

The 2008 - 2009 Provincial Budget



THE SASKPARTY PLAN

- **\$20,000 for post-secondary graduates who stay in Saskatchewan.**
- **\$1 billion Ready For Growth for infrastructure upgrades and improvements, including highways and hospitals.**
- **\$156.6 million for property tax REBATES for homeowners and farmers.**
- **An \$80 million nursing recruitment and retention program.**
- **A 15 per cent increase in municipal revenue sharing. That amounts to \$10.4 million, and keeps tomorrow's promise today**



Nancy at the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund announcement in Osler on February 1, 2008.

What has Nancy been up to?

Upon the swearing-in of our new government on November 21, 2007, I was honoured to have been asked by Premier Brad Wall to serve this province in the new Saskatchewan Party cabinet as the Minister of Environment. While this appointment has kept me very busy and has required me to spend much time in Regina, I have also been very busy attending to meetings and events in this constituency.

In December, I attended the opening of the new Ranch Ehrlo Society facility east of Martensville along with the Hon. Donna Harpauer, Minister of Social Services. This home delivers residential treatment and programs for troubled children and adolescents.

I have met individually with town mayors and councils as well as joint meetings with RM reeves and mayors to discuss their concerns and the challenges facing our rapidly growing communities. Following the meetings, I have worked to advance those issues with our new government and achieve positive outcomes.

I met with officials from Bethany College in Hepburn to tour their campus and to discuss the need for a municipal water distribution system to be brought to Hepburn. While there, I had the opportunity to speak with the students at Bethany about the need for their involvement in public affairs.

I attended fundraising dinners for The Zone youth centre in Hague and to support efforts to establish a Martensville high school football team; and a walk-a-thon for the Warman Mennonite Special Care Home.

I have attended a board meeting for the Prairie Spirit School Division and discussed concerns about funding for education and the need for new schools in Martensville & Warman.

I met with Dalmeny High School students to congratulate them on their fundraising initiatives to provide new clothing for school girls in Afghanistan.

I was very pleased to attend the sod-turning ceremony for the new Warman Sports & Cultural Village. This is an ambitious and wonderful project that will help Warman to continue its impressive growth and to be a leader in providing recreational opportunities to residents of the town and surrounding area.

I have also attended the annual Valley Trails wildlife supper at the Brian King Centre; long service recognition ceremonies for local housing authority members; and the graduation ceremony for Prairie West Regional College in Warman.

I have attended public and private meetings involving the new Inter Valley Water utility in efforts to support the project to bring clean water to residents in the north Corman Park area.

I also meet regularly with constituents to discuss their own personal issues of concern to them, and I invite any of you to call my constituency office anytime if you need to meet with me or my constituency assistant Whitney Friesen. We are here to help and pleased to provide any assistance we can.

Promises Kept

- Protecting public safety in the event of a strike by introducing essential services legislation
- \$156.6 million to increase property tax rebates for homeowners and farmers
- \$20 million over four years for food banks and community-based organizations
- \$2 million over four years for community schools for school lunch and anti-hunger programs
- Strengthening support for cancer care, through doing things like funding the drug Avastin
- A tuition rebate program for post-secondary graduates worth up to \$20,000 per graduate.
- Increased municipal revenue sharing by 15 per cent.
- A smaller cabinet
- Eliminating the PST on used cars
- Cancelling the DOMTAR memorandum of understanding on the P.A. pulp mill that cost taxpayers \$100 million
- Getting tough on repeat drunk drivers
- The creation of a private-public partnership called Enterprise Saskatchewan to facilitate and promote economic growth
- Fixed election dates
- Strengthening the partnership with First Nations
- Keeping prescription drug costs fair for seniors and children
- Expand the number of drugs covered under the provincial formulary
- Elimination of the "wiener roast" tax on campfires
- Provide an insurance discount for the drivers of hybrid and fuel-efficient vehicles
- Review the Crop Insurance Program
- New training seats for doctors and nurses
- Help families with the costs of their children taking part in cultural, sport or recreational activities
- Interest-free loans to assist municipalities develop lots
- Paying down the provincial debt by \$250 million

For a complete list of the Promises Kept go to:
<http://www.gov.sk.ca/premier/promises-kept/>

Putting People First

Your Saskatchewan Party government's focus is on putting people first by ensuring your security and safety in the event of a strike.

You shouldn't have to worry about whether there will be a nurse at the emergency room or if the highways will be cleared when there's a blizzard.

Our government's essential services legislation is about your safety and security.

Mandating the employer and the union to negotiate which employees are essential 90 days before the end of a contract addresses that.

Being able to vote without someone else knowing how you cast your ballot is often taken for granted. You do not get a secret ballot when voting on whether to unionize in Saskatchewan.

Your Saskatchewan Party government's Amendments to the Trade Union Act introduces the secret ballot to the union certification process. The amendments will also make it possible for employers to talk to employees during the certification process.

These changes do two things: ensure your safety and security and make the workplace more democratic.



Nancy being sworn-in as Minister of Environment on November 21, 2007

ENSURING ALL FAMILIES BENEFIT

Your Saskatchewan Party government is committed to ensuring **all** families benefit from the current economic prosperity.

Our government has committed \$500,000 to school lunch and child hunger programs. For many inner city children, school is the only place they get fed regularly.

Your Saskatchewan Party government is allocating more than \$50 million in federal funding to affordable and aboriginal housing programs.

We are providing \$5 million in funding to food banks and community based organizations. Children will get healthy meals, and parents can receive life-skills training that will help them improve their family's situation.

Your Saskatchewan Party government provided \$400,000 to SaskPork for the processing of thousands of swine. The meat will supply food banks for more than ten months.

Addictions treatment is important in breaking the cycle of poverty. We are providing \$5.1 million in funding for 88 new addictions treatment beds.

Our government's commitment to families also includes \$1.1 million in new funding for transitions houses and sexual assault treatment centres.

***I want
to hear
from you.***

Nancy Heppner MLA Martensville



Nancy at the sod-turning ceremony for the new Warman Sports & Cultural Village on May 13, 2008.

Nancy Heppner Constituency Office Contact Information

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CONSTITUENCY ASSISTANT:
Whitney Friesen

*Please feel free to contact my
constituency office with any
concerns or comments.*

Upcoming Events

Martensville Buster Days → June 6-8

Warman Diamond Rodeo & Family Days → June 6-8

Dalmeny Family Days → June 13-15

Hepburn Fair Days → June 20-21

Osler Sports Days → June 20-22

Hague Summer Blast → June 20-22

Waldheim Summer Street Fair → June 21

A&W Martensville 100 Street Stock Invitational → June 21

To invite Nancy to your local event, please contact our constituency office.

Saskatchewan Party Caucus

CONTACT INFORMATION

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