

# Martensville Constituency News

Nancy Heppner, MLA

Spring 2011



Saskatchewan's time has come.

Some might say this is because our province is expected to lead the country in economic growth this year. Or, because our population has grown by more than 50,000 people over the last three years and is now at a record high. Or, because there are thousands of new jobs and an increase in housing starts in our urban centres of more than double the national average. While all of these things are helping to move Saskatchewan forward, our time has come because of the incredible people and families who live right here in our province. Our time has come because of you, your neighbours, your co-workers, your fellow volunteers who work tirelessly to better the lives of others, and the teachers in your kids' schools.

All of you are helping to build the new Saskatchewan that is home to what our government likes to call the "Saskatchewan Advantage." The Saskatchewan Advantage is about more than just dollars and cents and pie graphs and statistics. It is ultimately about quality of life, which is why our government will continue to pursue growth throughout the spring session of the Saskatchewan legislature.

We will continue reaching out to those who are vulnerable by creating more affordable housing, improving quality health care and announcing a \$22 million program that will help communities prepare for possible spring flooding. We will balance the budget, continue to pay down the provincial debt and keep our promise to increase municipal revenue sharing to the equivalent of a full point of the PST, which means our cities, towns and RMs will finally have a stable, long-term source of provincial funding. We will also further reduce education property taxes on farmland, which will allow farm families to keep more of their hard earned money in their pockets. Our government is taking action to ensure Saskatchewan not only remains competitive, but that society's most vulnerable also benefit from our province's newfound prosperity. There is still much that needs to be done, but we will continue working for and with you – the people of this great province, to maintain the Saskatchewan Advantage and move our province forward.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Heppner". The signature is stylized and cursive.



Nancy (left) and Dustin Duncan, Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy, (right) present the SaskEnergy Hockey Day in Saskatchewan volunteer award to Irv and Neomi Dirks for their tireless efforts supporting hockey in Waldheim.

## LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Our population is at an all time high: 1,049,701 and is the fastest growing province in Canada.

Record employment numbers for January 2011 show 7,400 more people working here than a year ago.

Our unemployment rate now stands at 5.6 per cent - the second-lowest in Canada.

Average weekly earnings increased by 5.1 per cent in 2010 compared to 2009 - the highest increase among the provinces.

Royal Bank of Canada predicts we will have the second-highest rate of economic growth in the country both this year and next and that employment will grow by about 10,000 jobs this year.

## IMPROVING HEALTH CARE

### Reducing surgical wait times:

- \$40.4 million in additional funding was provided for the new Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative, which will allow health regions to accelerate increases in surgical and diagnostic imaging capacity. This means an additional 5,550 surgeries will be performed this year alone.
- Allowing for greater use of private clinics to perform surgeries, which are paid for within the public system, to cut wait times for surgeries.

### Long term care facility funding:

- A change in the capital funding formula will see the provincial share of new projects increase to 80 per cent from 65 per cent and the community share decrease from 35 per cent to 20 per cent.

\$200 million has been provided for the construction of a new Children's Hospital in Saskatoon.

Since 2007, 830 more nurses and 200 more doctors are now working in Saskatchewan.

## SAFER ROADS AND BETTER HIGHWAYS

Dalmeny Access Road (Dalmeny Access between Highway 16 and Dalmeny including the realignment of the intersection with Highway 16) is scheduled to be rebuilt this year.

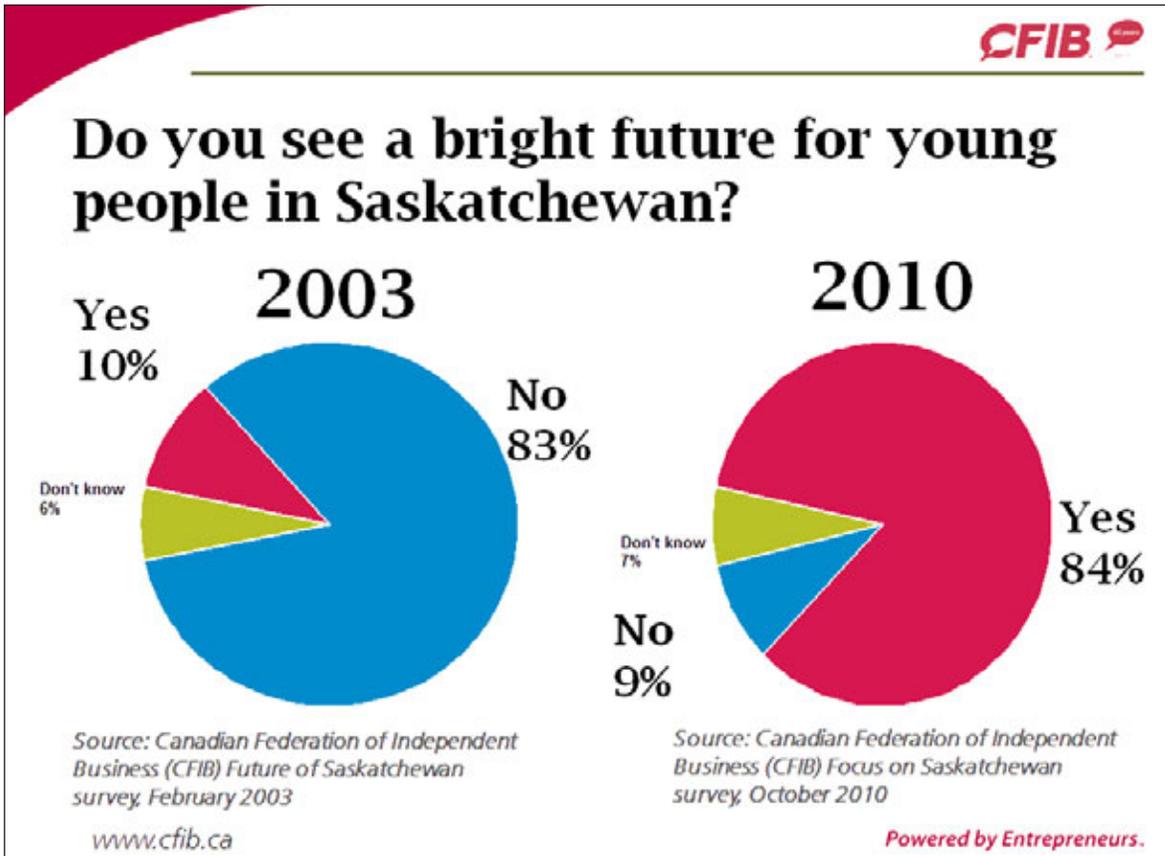
Turning movements at the Martensville South Access will be restricted to "right in/right out" only. The intersection of the east service road and Lutheran Road will be realigned further to the east to reduce the impact of the traffic using the service road on the operations at the Hwy 12/Lutheran Rd intersection.

Work is expected to begin this year on building new Highway 305 between Warman and Highway 12.

Twinning Highway 11 between Saskatoon and Prince Albert - the section between Hague and Rosthern will be open later this year with the entire project to Prince Albert planned to be completed by the end of 2012.

# BRIGHT FUTURE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

For too many years, Saskatchewan exported our most precious commodity – our young people – to other parts of Canada and the world, in search of better opportunities. Today, we have reversed that trend. Saskatchewan is increasingly being seen throughout Canada as the place to be, rather than the place to be from. This change in attitude is remarkable and is highlighted in the graphs below. These graphs are the result of a member survey done by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, first in 2003 and then again in 2010.



## EDUCATION FUNDING FOR MARTENSVILLE

Our government announced more than \$60 million in additional funding for school renovation and improvement projects across the province. This constituency is receiving more than \$4.6 million for a new school and school renovation projects in the Prairie Spirit School Division. This \$4.6 million will go towards:

- More than \$3.8 million for the new Warman Middle Years School;
- \$230,000 for a roof replacement of Hague Elementary;
- \$450,000 for a roof replacement at Dalmeny High School;
- \$22,700 for a roof replacement at Prairie View Elementary in Dalmeny; and
- \$62,800 for Phase 2 of the roof replacement project at Hepburn School.

Our government is committed to strengthening the education system across the province and here in Martensville. As many of our cities and towns continue to show tremendous growth, we are taking steps to ensure that our school facilities and equipment keep up with increasing demands while also helping our children learn and succeed.



Nancy (center) at the grand opening of the new SARCAN depot in Martensville.  
-Photo Courtesy of Martensville Messenger



Martensville MLA Nancy Heppner and Premier Brad Wall  
Moving Saskatchewan Forward.

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