



Martensville Constituency News

Nancy Heppner, MLA

Spring 2012

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The 2011 Census told us what we already knew – that our communities continue to grow. Your Saskatchewan Party government is committed to meet the needs that come with that growth while making sure that our spending and programs are sustainable into the future. While many provinces face deficits and growing debt, we recently brought in another balanced budget. I am so pleased that the expansion for the Martensville High School was announced. The middle school in Warman announced last year has gone to tender and construction will begin soon. I will continue to advocate on behalf of the children and families in this constituency to make sure our school capital needs are met.

Our towns, RMs and city also need to keep up with the growth that they are experiencing. We continue to meet our promise to share one point (20%) of the PST. This budget included an additional \$20.6 Million in revenue sharing, for a record provincial revenue sharing of \$237.4 Million. We have increased revenue sharing with communities exponentially since taking office in 2007. This money goes directly to your community to help meet those growth challenges and opportunities. To see what your community is receiving and the increase over the past 5 years, please visit <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/revenuesharing>.

Saskatchewan is leading the country and we are working hard to make sure that we remain a leader. We are building and repairing roads; building schools and hospitals; increasing assistance to low-income seniors; providing programming and funding to persons with disabilities; reducing surgical wait times; and keeping income and education property taxes low. Saskatchewan has a bright future. Thank you for all you do to contribute to our communities and our province. It is an honour to represent you in the Legislature.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy".

(Photo courtesy of Rod Andrews, Saskatchewan Valley News)



KEEPING THE SASKATCHEWAN ADVANTAGE

The 2012-13 budget is about **Keeping the Saskatchewan Advantage...**

Keeping the budget balanced...

- We will end the 2012-2013 fiscal year with a \$15 million surplus. For the first time, this budget includes the Crown corporations, painting an extremely accurate picture of the province's financial situation.
- That includes putting another \$70 million into the Growth and Financial Security Fund - which will increase to more than \$750 million by the end of the fiscal year. This money can be used to deal with emergencies such as natural disasters.

Keeping spending sustainable...

- Overall government spending in the 2012-2013 Budget is up by less than five per cent.
- We are making minor adjustments to programs such as the Seniors' and Children's Drug Plan to ensure these programs are sustainable.
- Third parties, such as health regions, post-secondary institutions and school divisions, have been asked to look for efficiencies that do not affect the delivery of important services.

Keeping our economy growing...

- Overall provincial funding for municipalities will increase by \$349 million over the 2012-2013 fiscal year.
- The Budget also includes \$778 million to begin construction on seven previously announced Long-Term Care Centres, start 21 approved major school projects - including the continuation of the Warman Middle School and the new expansion of the Martensville High School - and inject a further \$581 million into highways.

And keeping our election promises.

- \$60.5 million for the Saskatchewan Surgical Initiative, to continue to reduce surgical wait times
- The Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship Program for new high school graduates
- An \$1,100 income tax credit for first-time homebuyers
- \$5.5 million for the STARS air ambulance initiative
- Further increases to benefits and programs for seniors
- Expansions of the Active Families Benefit and PST exemption on children's clothing
- \$113 million to expand benefits under the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability program - expanding the number of clients from 3,000 to 10,000

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