



## Season's Greetings from the SRB Executive and Election Planning Team!

The steady stream of tax-payer funded pamphlets I get in my mail box from Conservative MP Kelly Block range from uninformative to misleading to downright nasty. MPs' communications budgets are supposed to be used to inform constituents.

But one of the most recent pamphlets "Are parents criminals?" distorts the issue of appropriate child discipline so far out of shape that it would be funny if it wasn't so mean, nasty and deliberately misleading.

If a Senator's initiative against keeping the parental 'right to spank' in the Criminal Code amounts to making "loving moms and dads into criminals", does being in favour of hitting children make Kelly Block an advocate for violence against children? Is she pushing for the wide distribution of child beating rods when she quotes the "Spare the rod, spoil the child" advice in her pamphlet? Would she want this to be included in the Conservatives' economic stimulus spending? Would "Conservatives Reinstate Public Flogging" be a fair headline?

MPs distorting issues with such blatantly biased formulations is a public disservice. It doesn't inform citizens or enhance discussion. And it certainly doesn't model fairness and responsibility for our children.  
--Nettie Wiebe



### Your NDP Local Executive

President: Grant McMurray

Vice President: Carole Sutherland

Financial Agent: Nathan Schneider

Secretary: Carla Fehr

Members-at-Large: Joy Crawford, Carmel Dodd, Ehren Klane, Francine Lyons, Clare Pattison, Eric Pooler, Jim Robbins, Lois Schrader, Nancy Stevens, Nettie Wiebe

Please email submissions to: [carlajfehr@gmail.com](mailto:carlajfehr@gmail.com)

### New Democrat's Push for Better Pensions:

Increasing the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) to end poverty among seniors.

Strengthening the **Canada Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan**, in consultation with the provinces, with a **goal of doubling benefits.**

Developing a national pension insurance program, funded by employer pension plans, that will guarantee pensioners up to \$2,500/ month in the event of bankruptcy and plan failure.

Creating a national entity to adopt workplace pension plans of companies in bankruptcy or in difficulty and keep them operating on a going-concern basis.



## A Message From Nettie Wiebe

Greetings! I am very pleased and proud to have been chosen to be the New Democrat candidate for our riding again. Thank you!

I know from experience that this takes a lot of work and commitment. But I also know that it is a very important responsibility and a great honour.

Although I would love to join the NDP caucus in Ottawa as soon as possible, I, like many Canadians, welcome Jack Layton's valiant efforts to try to make government work rather than going for an early election. This is a tall order given the cynical, partisan and mean-spirited nature of the Harper government.

But our New Democrat MPs have wrung some important measures out of a reluctant Harper government on Employment Insurance, getting employment benefits more quickly and for a longer period. It's not nearly enough in the face of rising unemployment, but it's a start.

New Democrats have also led the way on one of the biggest issues facing Canadians – PENSIONS. I believe that after a life time of work, whether it be waged labour, raising a family, farming, public service or private businesses, everyone should be assured of an adequate retirement income.

Just as the CCF/NDP led the way in getting health care for everyone, we are now leading the way in fighting for fairness for all seniors.

The current economic downturn has made good government more important than ever. The billions of tax-payer dollars being spent on an economic stimulus package needs to be fully accounted for. A better economy is about more than hockey rinks and highway signs. It's about ensuring that children are taken care of and that good housing, education, health care, a clean environment and security are there for everyone.

Let's continue to work together for the changes we dream of.

I wish you all a good, safe, holiday season!





## President's Message

By Grant McMurray



It is a pleasure to report to you that our numbers have increased! There are now some 40% more members in Saskatoon Rosetown Biggar than there were a year ago and the circulation of *Our Voice* has increased to about 860 households. The provincial leadership race and the efforts of our new MLA in Saskatoon Riversdale provincial constituency, Danielle Chartier, contributed to this increase. As well, a sense of urgency to have our electoral district represented in Ottawa by a New Democrat has added to our numbers. With this new strength we hope to see our newly nominated candidate, Nettie Wiebe, finish on top in the next election. In this pre-election period of undetermined length we want to raise the issues important to SRB as well as the profile of our candidate. All members, and especially new members, are invited to join us!

In August this electoral district had eight delegates attend the Federal Convention in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was a very exciting time to meet in a province that had just elected its first New Democratic government. There were many inspiring speakers including the new Nova Scotia Premier, Darrell Dexter, and the former Premier of Manitoba, Gary Doer. We also heard from some of the key people in U.S. President Obama's campaign. It was good to meet fellow New Democrats from across the country and to discuss new policy for our party.

I would like to close with something that recently lifted my spirits. Columnist and commentator Lawrence Martin recently wrote in *www.theglobeandmail.com* that "On many issues, the NDP have been on the mark." He asked "What party is getting it right? Not on the political scoreboard, which is the journalistic obsession, but on the criteria that really count – policies that affect the country." Martin went on to list the areas where the NDP have led the way: employment insurance system reform, opposition to a military settlement in Afghanistan as well as a missile defence system, support for regulations that would have controlled the excesses of capitalism and saved the world's economy from its recent upheaval, calls for stimulus spending – not to bail out corporations but to protect people, leadership on the environment, and the list goes on.

We must spread the message that on these and other files the NDP Members of Parliament have been the only effective opposition and have constantly worked for Canadians' best interests. We desperately need more NDP Members of Parliament, especially Nettie Wiebe from SRB!



### HELP NEEDED!

Nettie and her team need someone with the interest and some skills to help maintain our website before the next election and possibly as a staffer during the next campaign. If interested, please contact Grant McMurray at [grant.mcmurray@sasktel.net](mailto:grant.mcmurray@sasktel.net)



## Financial Appeal



**Please consider making a year end contribution now!**

Many of you have contributed earlier in the year. We ask that you now re-evaluate your total 2009 contribution to building the future of the NDP in Saskatoon-Rosetown-Biggar. The December 31st deadline to top up your contribution and to take maximum advantage of the tax credit is fast approaching.

We need your on-going financial support in order to elect Nettie. We are poised to win in the next election but will need your generous contributions to make that happen.

Consider making a monthly financial commitment or a one time donation by filling out the enclosed form.

**Please give as much as you can! Thank you!**

**Send donations to:  
Saskatoon Rosetown Biggar NDP  
P. O. Box 7064  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 4J1**

**Federal Tax Summary:**  
75% of the first \$400  
50% of the next \$350  
33% of the next \$350

These tax credits are direct deductions on your payable tax at the end of the year.

**"A \$400 donation will cost you only \$100 after the tax credit!"**