



Constituents protest outside of MP Kelly Block's Saskatoon office.



Outrageous pamphlet boasts of eliminating health care for vulnerable refugees.

Pensions

Harper's spring omnibus budget moves the age of eligibility for OAS benefits from 65 to 67, starting in April 2023.

This hurts seniors with poor health, particularly workers who do manual labour.

Service workers, construction workers, laundry and cleaning personnel, waitresses, truckers, farmers – all those citizens whose knees or backs or feet or shoulders are aching at the end of a work day are targeted for two more years at the job after they've reached 65.

Your Electoral District NDP Executive

- President: Grant McMurray
- Vice President: Carole Sutherland
- Financial Agent: Nathan Schneider
- Secretary: Carla Fehr
- Members-at-Large: Kathleen Aikens, Joy Crawford, Carmel Dodd, Cathy King, Don Kinzie, Francine Lyons, Jim Robbins, Lois Schrader, Gary Smith, Nancy Stevens, Nettie Wiebe

Please email submissions or questions to: grant.mcmurray@sasktel.net



New Democrats Provide Strong Opposition and Sound Alternatives

New Democrats across Canada are watching our caucus and our new leader, Thomas Mulcair, with increasing pride and confidence.

Our Official Opposition in parliament is providing sound, open, compassionate and courageous leadership. They are taking on the Harper government, opposing their destructive and unfair cuts to services and their lack of transparency and accountability. They are proposing policies to improve food safety, protect endangered environments (including waterways), enhance health care and education, and improve financial accountability.

In their first year of majority government, the Conservatives have brought down two omnibus budget bills that include drastic and harmful long-term policy changes. Pensions, environmental assessments, food safety regulations, employment insurance and many other important issues have been packed into these "monster bills" and rammed through without proper scrutiny.

Canada has never had such a secretive, underhanded, disrespectful and uncaring government before. This needs to change.

In this riding and communities across the country, New Democrats continue to fight against the erosion of our democracy with positive alternatives. We are engaging in building a better, fairer, safer future for all Canadians, not just those who are in Harper's inner circle. And *we are preparing for the election in 2015 that could be the change we need.*

Holiday Greetings to all!





Harper Government Abandons Care for Land, People and the Environment

Among the many unhappy surprises embedded in the Harper government's March omnibus budget is their decision to unload the tree farm at Indian Head and the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) pastures.

This is not just a problem for farm families. It affects all Saskatchewan citizens. All of us are hurt by these heightened environmental risks.

For more than 100 years, millions of trees from Indian Head have helped to shelter land and farm yards. We learned from the droughts of the 1930s that preventing soil erosion (and dust storms) with shelterbelts was a public good. The public investment in tree plantings cut down environmental risks for all of us. But the Harper government is walking away from its responsibility to the public and the environment by privatizing the tree farm.

The government is also unloading almost 2 million acres of crown land pastures, used by 3,100 cattle farmers and ranchers. The Community Pasture Program was created in the 1930s to reclaim land that was badly eroded and fragile. With public backup, these lands have been restored to ecologically healthy, diverse, and beautiful places.

But the Harper government doesn't care about such public benefits. Nor do they care about the families, livelihoods, and communities they are destroying as they rush to privatize these lands.

We all live in this prairie ecosystem. The Harper government's indifference to the environment is eroding our province and our future.



End of Year Financial Appeal

Dear Friends and New Democrats in SRB,

It is the time of year for me to again extend Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for 2013 to you from the Executive of your Electoral District Association. As we close in on the end of 2012, there are also a few things I would like to point out.

We are in for a busy year in 2013. There will be a convention in Montreal in April to which we hope to send a good delegation. We also expect final word from the Boundary Commission in spring about changes to electoral boundaries in Saskatchewan. Late in the year or early in 2014 we will likely be holding founding conventions on the adjusted boundaries.

The backdrop to all of that, of course, will be ongoing preparation for the next election expected in October of 2015. The nomination of candidates will follow the founding conventions, but until this reorganization, your Executive hopes to work to get our message out into the public eye. And we hope to continue to build the financial resources to do this pre-election work and to fund successful campaigns in 2015.

To this end, I ask that you take good advantage of the Federal Political Tax Credit in the 2012 tax year. Contributions eligible for the Tax Credit in 2012 must be received by December 31st, 2012. See the details below for more information.

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support and wish you peace and good health in 2013.

Grant McMurray
President

- To make a contribution for the Tax Credit in 2012, send a cheque with enclosed donation form and envelope to be received before Dec. 31st.
- To start a regular monthly contribution, complete and return the PAC Donation side of the form with a "void" cheque.
 - Send to: Saskatoon Rosetown Biggar NDP at PO Box 7064, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 4J1
 - Make an online contribution at www.srbndp.ca

Federal Tax Credits

75% of the first \$400

50% of the next \$350

33% of the next \$525

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